

TOUCH IT NEVER.

Children, do you see the wine
In the crystal goblet shine?
Be not tempted by its charm.
Children, hate it!
Touch it never,
Fight it ever.

Do you know what causeth woe
Bitter as the heart can know?
'Tis that self-same ruby wine
Which would tempt that soul of thine.
Children, hate it!
Touch it never,
Fight it ever.

Never let it pass your lips,
Never even let the tips
Of your fingers touch the bowl;
Hate it from your inmost soul.
Truly hate it!
Touch it never,
Fight it ever.

Fight it! With God's help stand fast
Long as life or breath shall last,
Heart meet heart, and hand join hand,
Hurl the demon from our land.
O, then, hate it,
Touch it never,
Fight it ever

LESSON NOTES.

FIRST QUARTER.

WORDS AND WORKS OF JESUS AS RECORDED
IN THE GOSPELS.

LESSON VIII.—FEBRUARY 25.

JESUS' POWER TO FORGIVE.

Mark 2. 1-12. Memorize verse 5.

GOLDEN TEXT.

The Son of man hath power on earth to
forgive sins.—Mark 2. 10.

THE LESSON STORY.

Jesus' power to heal the sick had got
noised about, so many brought their sick
friends to be cured. Jesus' preaching also
brought many to hear him. One time the
house was so crowded four men with a
sick friend could not get anywhere near
Jesus. They had such faith in him as the
Divine Healer, they knew if they could
but get their friend to Jesus he would heal
him. As they could not get the sick man
in through the door they took him on to
the flat roof, and made a hole so as to let
him down just above Jesus, who, perceiv-
ing their faith, said to the palsied man,
"Son, thy sins be forgiven thee." This
remark offended the scribes, and they said
nobody could forgive sins but God. They
forgot that Jesus was the Son of God, and
had that power. To prove it was so he
told the poor palsied man who had been
helpless for years to "rise up and walk."

This he did with joy, and great was the
amazement of all who saw him. Then
were the people sure that Jesus really had
power from God.

QUESTIONS FOR THE YOUNGEST.

1. Who was let down through the roof
before Jesus? A man sick of the palsy.
2. Why had his friends done this? Be-
cause they had faith that Jesus would
cure him.
3. Did Jesus reward their faith? Yes.
4. What did he say? "Son, thy sins
are forgiven thee."
5. What did the scribes say? That
only God could forgive sins.
6. What did Jesus then say? "Arise
and walk."
7. What did this prove? That he had
power of God.

LESSON IX.—MARCH 4.

JESUS TELLS WHO ARE BLESSED.

Matt. 5. 1-16. Memorize verses 3-6.

GOLDEN TEXT.

Blessed are the pure in heart, for they
shall see God.—Matt. 5. 8.

THE LESSON STORY.

We often find Jesus off on the mountain
side alone. He felt the need of talking
with his heavenly Father a very great
deal. He knew that God his Father had
sent him to this sinful world to do a great
work. He knew what a great work it was,
and how discouraging oftentimes. But
these quiet communings with God gave
him strength, and he returned to the peo-
ple with such beautiful messages. This
in to-day's lesson is one of the most beau-
tiful. It is called the Beatitudes, be-
cause it tells how each one of us can be
blessed. Here are some of the ways:

1. By being willing to learn right ways.
2. By being sorry for wrong-doing.
3. By being patient and gentle.
4. By being anxious to do right.
5. By being always ready to help
others.
6. By being pure in mind and heart.
7. By being kind to those who despite-
fully use us.

"Rejoice and be exceeding glad," Jesus
said, "if you do these things, for great is
your reward in heaven."

Not only does it make one happy here,
if one is trying to do right, but it will
ensure happiness for ever.

QUESTIONS FOR THE YOUNGEST.

1. Where did Jesus often go? To the
mountain alone.
2. Why did he go? To pray to God.
3. What was the result? He was
strengthened to say and do helpful things.
4. What are the teachings in to-day's
lesson called? The Beatitudes.
5. Why are they called Beatitudes?
Because they tell us what will make us
blessed.

6. What are those called who do these
things? The salt of the earth, or light of
the world.

7. What does that mean? That they
are the helpers of their fellows.

THE CHICKENS' SUPPER.

"Chick, chick, chickie!" called Lucielle,
"chickie, chickie!"

And how Mother Hen ran to get some
of Lucielle's supper for her babies!
Lucielle had never fed them before, and
she was very happy when they came peep-
ing around her.

"Now keep quiet," she said, "an' you
s'all all det some."

The good little chickies put themselves
in a row and looked at Lucielle with their
bright eyes, as if they were saying, "Do,
do, Lucielle, hurry our supper! We are
so hungry and well-behaved!"

Down went Lucielle's spoon into her
plate of blackberries, and she threw them
a whole big spoonful; but the chickens,
instead of tasting them, only looked at
Lucielle and peeped louder than ever.
Lucielle was very much surprised.

"Mamma, mamma!" she cried, "my
chickabiddies won't eat any supper. I'se
'fraid dey's sick."

Mamma come out, looked at the chick-
ens' supper, and then hurried into the
house. When she came back she had in
her hand a panful of corn-meal and water.

"Suppose you give them this," she said,
"and see if they are too sick to eat it."

Lucielle looked at it with surprise.

"It isn't cooked, mamma," she said;

"I don't fink my babies will like it."

"Try them, dear," urged mamma.

So Lucielle gave them a small spoonful
and the chickens ate it so quickly she
could hardly see it go.

"Dear me," she said, "chickies have
very funny manners. Dey won't eat deir
dessert until dey has deir dinner, but
dey stands on deir dinners wif deir feet,
and eats wif deir noses," and Lucielle fed
them another spoonful and forgot to won-
der at their strange manners in her pleas-
ure at seeing them pick it up so quickly.

"I OUGHT TO MUSTN'T."

The chair was so near, and the shelf was
so low,
And I opened the door just in time to see
The last of the coveted caramels go,
While a look imploring was cast on me:
"I ought to mustn't, I know."

The chair was so near, and the shelf was
so low,
To punish, alas! no courage I had;
And I did as, perhaps, you yourself might
do;
I kissed her, right there, so sweet and so
bad;
But "I ought to mustn't," I knew.