

BEDTIME.

Three little girls are weary—
 Weary of books and play;
 Sad is the world and dreary—
 Slowly the time slips away.
 Six little feet are aching.
 Bowed is each little head;
 Yet they are up and shaking,
 When there is mention of bed.

Bravely they laugh and chatter,
 Just for a minute or two,
 Then when they end their clatter,
 Sleep comes quickly to woo.
 Slowly their eyes are closing,
 Down again drops each head—
 Three little maids are dozing,
 Though they're not ready for bed.

That is their method ever—
 Night after night they protest,
 Claiming they're sleepy never,
 Never in need of rest;
 Nodding and almost dreaming,
 Drowsily each little head
 Still is for ever scheming
 Merely to keep out of bed.

LESSON NOTES.

FIRST QUARTER.

SIX MONTHS WITH THE SYNOPTIC GOSPELS.

LESSON VIII.—FEBRUARY 21.

JESUS AND THE SABBATH.

Matt. 12. 1-13. Memorize verses 6-8.
 GOLDEN TEXT.

It is lawful to do well on the Sabbath days.—Matt. 12. 12.

THE LESSON STORY.

Jesus taught his disciples as they walked in the fields and by the lakeside. He led them through the fields one Sabbath day, and as they passed a wheat field the disciples picked some heads of wheat, and, rubbing them in their hands, ate the grains. There were often Pharisees following, trying to hear some words from Jesus that would give them a chance to accuse him of sin. When they say this they called Jesus to notice it, saying it was not lawful for them to do this on the Sabbath. Jesus then showed them that David had taken bread from the house of God when he was hungry, and that the priests in the temple worked on the Sabbath day and were blameless. Then he told them that there was "One greater than the temple" with them, but perhaps they did not understand him. Then he quoted to them that beautiful scripture, "I will have mercy, and not sacrifice," but they could not understand that. They did not know that the Jewish sacrifices and the Jewish Sabbath were to be taken away, and a new and beautiful meaning put into the old forms

because he, the Lord of mercy, had come. When he went into the synagogue and was about to heal a man with a withered hand, they questioned his right to heal. He asked them if they would not save a poor sheep from a pit on the Sabbath, and if a man was not better than a sheep. "It is lawful to do well on the Sabbath days," he said as he cured the withered hand.

QUESTIONS FOR THE YOUNGEST.

What did the disciples call Jesus? Teacher.

What does "disciple" mean? Learner.
 Where did Jesus lead his disciples? Through the fields.

What did the disciples do? They ate wheat from the field.

What did the Pharisees say? That it was unlawful.

Who did Jesus tell them about? David and the priests.

What did the Pharisees think? That man was made for the Sabbath.

What did Jesus teach? That the Sabbath was made for man.

Where did Jesus go? To a synagogue.

What fault did the Pharisees find? That Jesus healed on the Sabbath.

What did Jesus say? That one may do good on the Sabbath.

Whom did he heal? A man with a withered hand.

LESSON IX.—FEBRUARY 28.

HEARERS AND DOERS OF THE WORD.

Matt. 7. 21-29. Memorize verses 24, 25.
 GOLDEN TEXT.

Be ye doers of the word, and not hearers only.—James 1. 22.

THE LESSON STORY.

There is a low mountain in Galilee called Hattin, which has two peaks, with a grassy hollow like a saddle between, and a plain just below where grass and thyme and wildflowers grow. There Jesus often gathered his disciples together and taught them; and there in that green hollow it was he sat and gave to the crowds of people who followed him there the wonderful words of the Sermon of the Mount. It begins with the Beatitudes, or Blessings, and it closes with the parable of the house on the rock and the house on the sand. Think how beautiful such a church must have been, with the blue sky for its roof, and the Lord himself speaking!

He wanted the people to be true, and he warned them against the false Pharisees. He told them that it was not talking but doing that God wanted, and that many who often said, "Lord, Lord," would not enter the kingdom of heaven. He told them of two men who built their houses by the seashore. One built upon a rock, and when a great storm came it

stood fast; but the other, who built upon the sand, lost his house, for when the rains and the floods and the winds came it fell. The first man Jesus called wise, but he called the second foolish. He taught the people, and he teaches us, that we must build our life on the rock Christ Jesus, and not upon the sand of selfishness.

QUESTIONS FOR THE YOUNGEST.

What was the greatest sermon ever preached? The Sermon on the Mount.

Who was the preacher? Jesus.
 Where did he preach it? On Mount Hattin.

Who heard him? A great many people.

What did he first give? The Blessings.

What last? The story of the wise and the foolish man.

What did the wise man do? Built his house on a rock.

What did the foolish man do? Built his house on the sand.

What happened? A great storm came. Did it hurt the wise man's house? No; it was safe on a rock.

What of the house on the sand? It fell, and it was a great ruin.

What do the houses mean? The lives that we choose to live.

WHO MAKES SILK?

BY POLLY HENDRICKS.

What is a spider's web good for?
 "Why, it is what Madame Spider uses to catch a nice fat fly for her dinner," says some little boy whose bright eyes see things.

But does little Bright Eyes know what Madame Spider makes her web of? Every thread is silk, the finest silk that was ever spun. Once, enough of this silk was collected to make a beautiful silk gown. Think how many miles and miles of spider's web it must have taken! It was twisted into coarser threads and woven, and when it was done it was given to Queen Victoria of England, as a present. It was much finer than any silk which mother can buy at the stores. That is all spun by little worms called silkworms. They eat and eat until they grow very fat. Then they begin to spin a long white silky thread and wrap themselves all up in it, and go to sleep. When they wake up they break through their little silk cradles, or cocoons, as they are called, and fly away.

How can a worm fly? But the silkworm isn't a worm any more. He was changed while he was asleep, and when he waked up he found himself a little moth or butterfly-like creature.

It is this cocoon or silk wrapping that is taken and unwound and made up into the kind of silk that they sell at the stores. So you see, if it were not for a little worm, baby couldn't have a silk cap to wear.