

A BOY'S DETERMINATION.

You can't make the pledge too strong.
Though I'm a little shaver,
I'll to the temperance ranks belong,
And never, never waver.

King Alcohol's a foe to all
Who give him any quarter;
The best of drinks for young or old
Is pure, unmixed cold water.

No brandy sling, or cherry bounce,
No wine to soak a cracker;
Nor will I touch a single ounce
Of that vile weed—tobacco.

Though ram and ruin rule the world,
They shall not conquer me.
I'm pledged to total abstinence,
The true way to be free.

No word profane my lips shall pass,
No filthy juice bespatter;
I will not touch the poisoned glass,
Though all the world may flatter.

Then when I grow to be a man,
And vote for legislatures;
I'll do the very best I can
To beat the temperance haters.

LESSON NOTES.

FIRST QUARTER.

STUDIES IN THE NEW TESTAMENT.

A.D. 28.] LESSON V. [Feb. 3

THE PARABLE OF THE SOWER

Mark 4. 10-20. Commit to memory v. 20.

GOLDEN TEXT.

If any man have ears to hear, let him hear. Mark 4. 23.

OUTLINE.

1. The Mystery of the Kingdom, v. 10-12.
2. The Meaning of the Parable, v. 13-20.

QUESTIONS FOR HOME STUDY.

How did Jesus often teach? By parables.
What is a parable? A story with a meaning.

What parable did he speak to the people?
The parable of the sower.

Why did some follow him when he ended? To ask what he meant.

To whom will Jesus always make his word plain? To honest hearts.

What did Jesus mean by the sower?
One who teaches God's word.

What does Jesus call the word of God?
Seed.

Where did some of the seed fall? By the roadside.

Who came and took it away? Satan
What does this show? That the listeners were careless.

Why will seed not grow on stony ground?
It withers away.

What is this like? Those who give up easily.

What else keeps seed from growing?
Weeds and thorns.

What are like these? The pleasant things of this world.

What hearts are like the good ground?
Those that love to hear and obey.

What fruit will such hearts bear? Love, peace, kindness.

WORDS WITH LITTLE PEOPLE.

The Seed has been Sown!

Will you let Satan snatch it away by your carelessness?

Will you give up easily, and so let the seed wither away?

Will you let your pleasures choke the word?

Or,

Will you ask Jesus to make your heart "good ground."

DOCTRINAL SUGGESTION.—Fruit-bearing.

CATECHISM QUESTION.

18. *Who was Pontius Pilate?* The governor of Judea, who delivered up Jesus to be crucified.

A.D. 28.] LESSON VI. [Feb. 10

THE FIERCE DEMONIAK

Mark 5. 1-20. Commit to mem. vs. 18-20.

GOLDEN TEXT.

Go home to thy friends, and tell them how great things the Lord hath done for thee, and hath had compassion on thee. Mark 5 19.

OUTLINE.

1. Bondage, v. 1-13.
2. Freedom, v. 14-20.

QUESTIONS FOR HOME STUDY.

Where is the country of the Gadarenes?
On the east side of the Sea of Galilee.

Who came to this country? Jesus.

Who met him as soon as he left the ship?
A man with an unclean spirit.

Where did this man live? Among the tombs.

What was he like? A madman.

Why were the people afraid of him?
Because he was fierce and violent.

What did he do when he saw Jesus?
He ran and worshipped him.

What did he beg of Jesus? That he would not torment him.

To whom did Jesus speak? To the evil spirits.

What did he command them to do? To come out of the man.

And what did the spirits ask? That they might go into a herd of swine.

What became of the swine? They ran into the sea, and were drowned.

How was the madman changed? He came to his right mind.

Who came out to see Jesus? The men from the city.

What did they ask him to do? To go away from their country.

Where did Jesus send the man who was cured? To his home, to tell what Jesus had done.

WORDS WITH LITTLE PEOPLE.

The Evil Spirit	The Good Spirit
Violent,	Gentle,
Unreasonable,	Attractive,
Unnatural,	Quiet,
Afraid of Jesus	Glad to be near Jesus.
Which spirit do you want?	

DOCTRINAL SUGGESTION.—Christ omnipotent.

CATECHISM QUESTION.

19. *Who was Joseph of Arimathea?* A rich man who buried Jesus in his own tomb.

A QUEER LITTLE FELLOW.

A QUEER little fellow indeed was Tommy Dick. Why, he would give away the last marble he had, if a boy wanted it. He would run on errands all day long, and never grumble. He would always give the best place to somebody else, no matter who, and feel so honestly glad in seeing other folks have a good time that he really forgot all about himself.

Don't you see he was a very queer little fellow?

But, somehow, everybody liked to have the "queer little fellow" around. Grandma always smiled all over her face when she saw Tommy coming. Aunt Lois, who was a very busy woman, used to say: "Well, now you've come in time, Tommy. Run, and"—

When Tommy went to spend the day with grandma or Aunt Lois, the folks at home all missed him. One would say: "Where's Tommy? I wish he would come home." And another: "Now if Tommy were only here."

You see, Tommy was one of the unselfish helpers; and what a tiresome world this would be if there were not a good sprinkling of such people!

Are there any Tommies at your house? It wouldn't do any harm if there were more than one, you know. Indeed, half-a-dozen boys and girls with the spirit of Tommy Dick would make home a very pleasant place.