

heavenly Father says so. [Make practical the everyday ways of showing love and being obedient, and get the ideas of the children about it.]

**NATURE WORK.** Talk of the gift of song which children have. They notice song, and imitate it before they do speech. Birds can sing, but they cannot speak words as little children can. Talk of the habits of some birds, and choose one variety to talk about. The robin is one of the most familiar to all. He comes to us early in the spring and stays until the cold days come. Do you see any robins these August days? You will hear their sweet songs if you listen.

**ART WORK.** Show bird pictures, and have the children designate points of difference in the length of bills, tails, and other points.

**HAND WORK.** The small children may make bird-house pictures of sticks and in the sand table. They may build houses such as little children live in with their parents. In clay they may model robin-wings grew strong for flight and the birds are away, away looking at this beautiful world. The nests of last spring are empty now.

**THE TRANSITION CLASS** may color the bird-picture upon the lesson card.

**SCIENCE AT HOME WITH MOTHER.** When did the baby begin to talk? What were his first words? They were some which he had heard others speak. Perhaps his little brothers and sisters had said, "Papa," or "Mamma," and he tried to say these dear names. The little children who can talk gentle and loving words only, because if the baby repeats their words they will want all their words to be good and true and loving words.

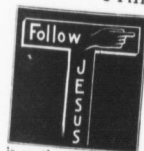
The baby will try by and by to say the same morning and evening prayers that you say, so say the words slowly and carefully until he learns them and prays to Our Father. You can then say the prayers together, as you sing your hymns and songs together.

## LESSON IX. (August 30.)

### ABSALOM'S DEATH. 2 Sam. 18. 9-33.

**GOLDEN TEXT.** "The Lord knoweth the way of the righteous: but the way of the ungodly shall perish (Psalm 1, 6).

### Primary Notes.



When you are walking in the street the people you meet seem very different from one another, and they are; in what ways are they different? [In dress, looks, speech, etc.] In all these ways people differ, but there is another difference, and that difference is what

we are to talk about to-day. The Bible tells us that some are [print "righteous," and explain its meaning]; it tells us, too, that others are [print "ungodly," and explain].

As you watch people you think that, besides looking differently, they seem to be going different ways; that is true, too, for each has his own work and pleasures and home, and the ways to these are different; but it is just as true that there are two paths in which you can find all the world: one path leads to the heavenly city, the other to a world of misery.

[Show how all begin life with the same opportunity of choosing the path to heaven, but ever since sin entered into the world the ways divide and some go one way and some the other; begin a path at the extreme left of the board and separate it into two, leaving the words "righteous" and "ungodly" at the two endings.] Who take the way leading to heaven? Who the other? Can you always tell which way people are going? Is there any one who knows? [Print "The Lord knoweth" on the first path before it divides.]

Sometimes it is very plain which way people are going. In which path do you think Noah walked? Abraham? Moses? David? We learned last Sunday of one of David's sons; what was his name? [Recall Absalom.] Tell me what you can remember about him; in which path do you think he was? We left Absalom last Sunday in Jerusalem, and poor David a wanderer from his home. [Make a story of the incidents in 2 Sam., chapters 17 and 18, putting it in language easy to be understood.]

[Call out the story of Absalom's death, and then read verse 18.] Talk about Absalom's grave; perhaps he had expected to be buried by the big pillar he had raised; but where was he buried? [Verse 17.] While reading make a pile of stones at end of "ungodly." Absalom's life ended so differently from what he had expected. [Contrast what he had hoped to be with his end.]

David in one of his psalms tells the story of the ungodly. [Recite Psalm 1, 4-6, and print "shall perish" on the stones. If possible have some chaff and show how easily it is blown away and lost.] What a sad ending was Absalom's! He might have been among the righteous; how different then his life would have been here and hereafter!

Hear what David said about the way of the righteous. [Repeat Psalm 1, 1-3; show a branch of evergreen and tell how it stays green throughout the year; tell of the palm tree of David's country, and draw a leaf at the end of the "righteous" way, printing over it "shall not wither."]

In which of these ways are you? I hope in the way of the righteous. But suppose Satan has