

HOME READINGS.

- M. David's repentance. Psa. 51. 1-19.
 Tu. David's sin. 2 Sam. 11. 1-13.
 W. Uriah slain. 2 Sam. 11. 14-25.
 Th. David reproved by Nathan. 2 Sam. 12. 1-13.
 F. David's confession. 2 Sam. 12. 14-23.
 S. The source of cleansing. 1 John 1. 1-10.
 S. The blessedness of forgiveness. Psa. 32. 1-11.

QUESTIONS FOR HOME STUDY.

1. **A Confession**, v. 1-5. What is the prayer of the penitent king? To what divine attributes does he appeal? What has God declared of himself in Num. 14. 18? What must be the plea of every sinful heart? How may this cleansing be wrought? 1 John 1. 7. What follows the cry for a clean heart? Whom has the sinner offended? To whom should confession, then, be made? What encouragement have we for the confession of sin? 1 John 1. 9.

2. **A Supplication**, v. 6-19. For what change did David pray? What has God promised to the penitent? Ezek. 36. 26. What presence and guidance are here sought? To whom has the Lord promised his Spirit? Luke 11. 13. What service does the psalmist promise? What is the duty of every converted soul toward others? What will follow faithful witnessing? What should be the language of the Christian? Psa. 35. 28. What encouragement have the broken-hearted? Psa. 34. 18. What sacrifice is pleasing to God? Have you offered this sacrifice?

TEACHINGS OF THE LESSON.

Where in this lesson are we shown—

1. The prayer of the penitent?
2. The confession of the contrite?
3. The acceptable sacrifice?

THE LESSON CATECHISM.—(For the entire school.) 1. What is David's prayer? "Have mercy upon me, O God." 2. What does David ask of God? "Cleanse me from my sin." 3. What does God desire? "Truth in the inward parts." 4. What are the sacrifices of God? A broken spirit. 5. What does God not despise? A broken and a contrite heart.

DOCTRINAL SUGGESTION.—True repentance.

QUESTIONS FOR SENIOR STUDENTS.

1. **A Confession**, v. 1-5. What was David's sin, referred to in the psalm? Why did he say that it was against God and God only? What showed the sincerity of his repentance? What characteristics of a true confession are here shown? To what traits in the divine nature did David appeal in his prayer?

2. **A Supplication**, v. 6-19. For what six mercies did David pray? What kind of cleansing did he desire? What was his prayer concerning his iniquities? What does God promise in Isa. 43. 25? What was David's prayer for God's Spirit? How is his prayer illustrated by Eph. 4. 30? What was David's vow to God if forgiven? What does he name as the sacrifices acceptable to God? What was his prayer for Jerusalem?

PRACTICAL TEACHINGS.

Where in this lesson do we find—

1. The characteristics of a sincere repentance?
2. The elements of a true prayer for mercy?
3. The vows of a forgiven sinner?

QUESTIONS FOR YOUNGER SCHOLARS.

For what does David plead? For God's mercy. What confession does he make? [Repeat GOLDEN TEXT.] Against whom had David sinned? Against God. Who only can judge sin? God. What does God look upon? The heart. What did David want? A clean heart and a right spirit. What did David ask of God? To be washed and made pure. For what did he pray? That the Holy Spirit might not be taken away from him. What promise did he make? To teach sinners the way of the Lord. What always follows true repentance? God's pardon. What does God love? A broken and contrite heart. What is better than sacrifice? A humble, obedient spirit. What does David ask God to prosper? The Church of Zion. When are sacrifices acceptable to God? When offered with repentant hearts. What only can give us joy? God's forgiveness of our sins.

WORDS WITH LITTLE PEOPLE.

When you have sinned—Do not hide it. Do not deny it. Do not try to excuse it. Confess it humbly. Sorrow over it heartily. And with God's help *never do it again*. "As far as the east is from the west, so far hath he removed our transgressions from us."

ANALYTICAL AND BIBLICAL OUTLINE.**The Upward Steps of a Sinner.****I. PENITENCE.**

I acknowledged . . . transgression. v. 3.

"I acknowledge my sin." Psa. 32. 5.

"Confess our sins . . . forgive us." 1 John 1. 9.

II. PRAYER.

Blot out my transgressions. v. 1.

"Let us return unto the Lord." Hosea 6. 1.

"Call ye upon him . . . near." Isa. 55. 6.

III. PARDON.

Hide thy face from my sins. v. 9.

"Redemption . . . forgiveness of sins." Col. 1. 14.

"Will not remember thy sins." Isa. 43. 25.

IV. PURITY.

Create in me a clean heart. v. 10.

"Ye shall be clean." Ezek. 36. 25.

"Ye are washed . . . sanctified." 1 Cor. 6. 11.

V. PRAISE.

Open thou my lips. v. 15.

"A new song . . . even praise." Psa. 40. 3.

"Hast redeemed us to God." Rev. 5. 9.