

BABY'S FIRST BIRTHDAY.

WHEN the sun sets and trails
His red robes through the west,
When o'er the sea the daylight pales,
And twilight speaks of rest,
A mother sits and sings
Her first-born babe to sleep,
While every breeze in whispers brings
Good wishes o'er the deep:
"O mother in whose life
This new pure joy has come,
'Mid far-off cities' toil and strife
Our hearts are nowise dumb:
We thank God for the gift
That he has sent to you,
We pray that he may will to lift
All clouds that hide the blue,
And that his love may bless
You and your babe to-day
With that true perfect happiness
Which never fades away!"

LESSON NOTES.

THIRD QUARTER.

A.D. 29.] LESSON II. [July 11.

JESUS, THE GOOD SHEPHERD.

John 10. 1-18. Commit to memory vs. 14-16.

GOLDEN TEXT.

I am the good shepherd: the good shepherd giveth his life for the sheep. John 10. 11.

OUTLINE.

1. The Fold, v. 1-4.
2. The False Shepherd, v. 5-13.
3. The Faithful Shepherd, v. 14-18.

QUESTIONS FOR HOME STUDY.

What parable did Jesus speak unto the people? The parable of the good shepherd and his sheep.

What did he call himself? (Repeat the GOLDEN TEXT.)

Who are the sheep? All who love and follow him.

What is meant by the sheep-fold? The Church of God's people.

Who only can enter in and be saved? Those who believe in Jesus.

Why? Because he is the door of the fold.

What did the good shepherd do for his sheep? He laid down his life for them.

Why? Because he loved them.

What does he give to his sheep? Eternal life.

How does he love them and know them? Even as the Father knows and loves his only begotten Son.

What does Jesus say of his people everywhere? They shall become one flock under one shepherd.

Who sent Jesus to guide and feed the sheep? God, the Father.

Why did the Father love Jesus? Because he was obedient to his will.

What was the will of the Father? That Jesus lay down his life for the sheep.

What power did the Father give Jesus? Power to lay down his life and power to take it up again.

How does the Good Shepherd care for the children, the lambs of his flock? "He shall gather the lambs with his arm, and carry them in his bosom."

WORDS WITH LITTLE PEOPLE.

PRAYER.

"Precious Shepherd, full of love,
Look upon us from above;
We thy lambs would ever be,
Teach us how to follow thee.
When the path is rough and steep,
Gently lead our little feet;
And, when dangers near us lie,
Safely guard with watchful eye,
Be our constant guide and stay,
Keep us in the narrow way;
Thus, when perils all are past,
Safe we'll reach the fold at last."

DOCTRINAL SUGGESTION.—The good shepherd.

CATECHISM QUESTIONS.

What do you mean by being saved? Through what Jesus Christ has done for us, we may obtain forgiveness of sin, and holiness, and heaven.

But will he save all mankind? We can be saved only by repenting and believing in the Lord Jesus Christ.

A.D. 30.] LESSON III. [July 18.

THE DEATH OF LAZARUS.

John 11. 1-16. Commit to memory vs. 1-4.

GOLDEN TEXT.

Our friend Lazarus sleepeth; but I go, that I may wake him out of sleep. John 11. 11.

OUTLINE.

1. A Troubled Household, v. 1-4.
2. A True Friend, v. 5-16.

QUESTIONS FOR HOME STUDY.

What friend of Jesus lay sick in Bethany? Lazarus, the only brother of Mary and Martha.

How did Jesus feel toward Lazarus and Mary and Martha? He loved them.

What message did Mary and Martha send Jesus? "Lord, he whom thou lovest is sick."

Where was Jesus? In Perea, about twenty-five miles away.

How long did he stay in Perea after receiving this message? Two days.

What did he then say to his disciples? "Let us go into Judea."

Why did his disciples try to keep him from going? For fear the Jews would kill him.

How did he answer them? "Are there not twelve hours in the day? A man will not stumble if he walks when it is light?"

What did these words of Jesus mean? That wicked men had no power to shorten his life any more than they had power to shorten the day.

What must Jesus finish before he could die? The work his Father had given him to do.

When are we walking in the light? When we are doing the work God gives us to do.

How did Jesus speak to his disciples of Lazarus? (Repeat the GOLDEN TEXT.)

How did the disciples understand Jesus? That Lazarus was resting in sleep.

What did Jesus tell them plainly? Lazarus is dead.

Why was Jesus glad for his disciples that Lazarus was dead? Because a greater blessing would come to them through his death than through his life.

What blessing? Stronger faith in Jesus as the Son of God.

Who was willing to die with Jesus? Thomas.

WORDS WITH LITTLE PEOPLE.

If you are Jesus' own dear children, and are trying to live for him, he will take you, full of joy dear little girl, dear little boy, "to the world of light," some day.

"And under the ground where the violet sleep,
Your dear little body safe will keep."

DOCTRINAL SUGGESTION.—The humanity of Jesus.

CATECHISM QUESTIONS.

What is it to repent? To repent is to be sorry for my sins, to confess and turn from them, and to seek forgiveness from God.

What is it to believe in Jesus Christ? To believe in Jesus Christ is to receive his words, and to trust in him alone for salvation.

WHICH WAS THE BEST WAY?

"You are a bad boy, and I'm going to get a big boy to pound you!" said Georgie very angrily.

"I wouldn't, dear; I'd be kind to him and make him love me," said Georgie's mamma.

Georgie thought it over, and tried his mother's plan. Which do you think was the best way?