

**II. The Lost Coin.** vs. 8-10.

What is the second parable?

What are the different steps in the search for the lost coin?

What followed the finding of the coin?

What joy is compared to that of the woman?

Who rejoice in the repentance of the sinner?

What is said in Ezek. 33 : 11?

**What Have I Learned ?**

1. That we, as sinners, are in a lost condition.

2. That Christ came into the world to seek and to save the lost.

3. That he does not wait for the lost one to return, but himself goes forth to seek him.

4. That Christ himself rejoices, and there is joy in heaven.

5. That we should rejoice in the saving of the sinner, and should seek to save the lost.

**MOTHERLESS BOYS.**

Our beloved country is noteworthy for the number of its public institutions for the benefit of helpless and suffering humanity, but there is a private heart-charity which every "home-maker" has the power to bestow—this is the influence which she may exert in behalf of motherless boys.

It is a well known fact that if a father dies, however poor the mother may be, she generally manages to keep her little flock together, scuffling hard, perhaps, but scuffling together. The mother's influence is around them; her prayers shield them; her example inspires them; they soon develop into her sturdy little protectors and life begins to brighten for them. But when a mother is taken, the child loses his best earthly friend. One child goes off to school, another to some wealthy relative, another to strike out for himself into the busy world, but half equipped for the battle of life, beset by dangers and temptations on every side.

He makes his way to a large city. Some old friend of his father's procures him temporary employment. The pitiful sum which it is customary to pay for very hard work and plenty of it, is barely sufficient to pay his board in some third-rate boarding house.

The persons who keep houses are generally matter-of-fact, hard-working people, who struggle too hard for their own daily bread to waste any time in thinking of their inmates in any other light than as so many beings with fearful appetites, whom they must try to fill with such materials as are "very fillin' at the price." Consequently there is no real home-life for our boy. He toils hard during the day, and comes home very tired, needing recreation as well as rest, and where will he find it? It is true there are Christian Associations where good books, warm, bright room, cheerful and healthful games are provided for just such cases, but the boy who has loved his dead mother, wants to see a friendly, womanly face now and then, to feel the clasp of her motherly hand, as her gentle voice asks "Is it well with you, my boy?"

When we think of all the loving care which we lavish upon our dear ones, how we shield them from every rough wind, how we study their every look and gesture to see the effect of each day's outer life upon their plastic characters, can we not widen our circle and take in some motherless boy, giving him at least bright cheery evenings which will warm his heart and give him strength to face the hardship and temptations which are his inevitable lot? It is something to comfort a sad heart; to make an oasis in the desert of life to which the weary traveller may turn and be refreshed. Having made one, it is so easy to make another, and thus he will find them dotted all along his journey, just far enough apart so that the pleasure of the last may be swallowed up in the anticipated joy of the next. But above all we may unwittingly drop a good seed now and then.—*Sarah A. Pepie in Home Maker.*