

A LITTLE TEMPLE.

"I know a little temple,
Its walls are dim and low;
Yet up and down its darkened aisles
The blessed angels go.

"And he who keeps the temple
Should pray to God to-night
That faith may light the altar flame
And Hope may keep it bright.

"And may no evil spirit
Have in it place or part.
What is this temple beautiful?
The temple of the heart."

LESSON NOTES.

SECOND QUARTER.

STUDIES IN THE ACTS AND EPISTLES.

LESSON X. [June 6.

SINS OF THE TONGUE.

James 3. 1-13. Memory verses, 11-13.

GOLDEN TEXT.

Keep thy tongue from evil, and thy lips from speaking guile.—Psalm 34. 13.

OUTLINE.

1. The Power of the Tongue, v. 1-5.
2. The Danger of the Tongue, v. 6-13.

THE LESSON STORY.

In the letter to the Jewish Christians James wrote about the tongue. It is a very small part of the body, but see how important it is! A ship is large and powerful, and yet it is turned about by a very small helm. Just so the tongue, although so small, has a great deal to do in governing the life. James says the tongue is like a fire. It can speak sharp words that burn and do a world of harm. One little word may start a flame of trouble that will bring sorrow to many hearts. How careful we should be, then, of the words we speak!

The same tongue that we use to speak of God and to sing his praise is the one that we use in speaking unkind words, and even in telling falsehoods. Satan is glad when he can get boys and girls to use their tongues for him, and he does not care if the little tongue sings sweet hymns and recites Bible verses, if he can only get it to say wrong words. He knows that the fountain which sends out bitter water is bitter, and he will be glad when it never sends out any good water at all. What can we do with the troublesome tongue? Take it to Jesus to be moved by his good Spirit. Then it will speak right, true, loving words.

LESSON HELPS FOR EVERY DAY.

Mon. Read the lesson verses. James 3. 1-13.

Tues. Find what Solomon says. Prov. 12. 19.

Wed. Learn some good advice. Golden Text.

Thur. Find how to keep the tongue. Psa. 39. 1.

Fri. Learn how to live so as to please God. Eph. 4 1-3.

Sat. Learn what should make us careful. Psalm 139 4

Sun. Read true words about the tongue. Psalm 12.

QUESTIONS ON THE LESSON STORY.

What did James write about in his letter? How is a great ship turned about? How is the helm of a ship like the tongue? What else is the tongue like? How is it like a fire? Is the tongue always used to speak right words? How is it sometimes used? Who moves the tongue when it speaks wrong words? What does he hope to do? How can we make our tongues speak right words? Who will move them if we give them to Jesus?

REMEMBER—

That our bodies belong to God.
That he knows every word we speak.
That he can make a naughty tongue right if it is given to him.

LESSON XI. [June 13.

PAUL'S ADVICE TO TIMOTHY.

2 Tim. 1. 1-7; 3. 14-17. Mem. vs., 3. 14-17.

GOLDEN TEXT.

From a child thou hast known the holy Scriptures, which are able to make thee wise unto salvation.—2 Tim. 3. 15.

OUTLINE.

1. The Young Disciple, v. 1-7.
2. The Holy Scriptures, v. 14-17.

THE LESSON STORY.

When Paul preached at Lystra the first time a young man named Timothy came to hear him. He had a Jewish mother and grandmother, and they had taught him to know the Scriptures when he was yet a child.

But he did not know about Jesus until he heard Paul, and then he believed and became an earnest disciple. Paul loved him very much and took him travelling with him, together with Silas. He called him his beloved son, and Timothy was his faithful helper in the Gospel.

When Paul was a prisoner in Rome he wrote a letter to Timothy. Our lesson is a part of this letter. You know how much a good father wants his son to do right in all things. Just so Paul felt toward Timothy, and he wrote this letter to teach Timothy how to live in such a way as to please God. Paul loved Timothy so much that he prayed for him night and day, and he urged him to remember to use the good gifts of God, and to use them for him. It is so easy to use his gifts for ourselves! We must watch not to fall into this sin. God had been good to Timothy in giving him a good mother to teach him the Holy

Scriptures. Then he had given him a loving friend in Paul, and, more than all, a Saviour to teach him and guide him. How much he had to be thankful for!

LESSON HELPS FOR EVERY DAY.

Mon. Read the lesson verses. 2 Tim. 1. 17, 3 14-17

Tues. Read how Paul found Timothy. Acts 16. 1-3.

Wed. Learn about Timothy's "gift." 1 Tim. 4. 14.

Thur. Learn why we should use God's gifts. Matt. 25. 29.

Fri. Learn what the Scriptures are able to do. Golden Text.

Sat. Find why the Scriptures are worth so much. 2 Peter 1. 21.

Sun. Find all you can about Timothy in the Book of Acts.

QUESTIONS ON THE LESSON STORY.

Where did Paul first see Timothy? Who was his mother? Who was his grandmother? What did they teach Timothy? Who taught him about Jesus? Where did Paul take Timothy? What did he become? What does Paul call him in this lesson? Where was Paul when he wrote this letter? Why did he write it? How did he show his love to Timothy? What did he remind him to do? Why should we use our gifts for God? [See Helps for Thursday.] What were some things Timothy had to be thankful for? What are some of God's good gifts to you?

QUESTIONS FOR ME.

Do I try to learn the Holy Scriptures?
Do I believe they will make me wise?
Am I thankful for my good friends and teachers?

"THE FLY."

One of my friends was telling me the other day that he recollected an address of mine to the boys in the school-room at Cambridge. He said that I told them a story about a fly on a window. I told them that I was standing in a farm-house, and there saw a fly on the window, and I tried to catch him; but as soon as I put out my finger he went a little lower down on the pane, and as I moved he moved. I soon saw that the fly was on the other side of the glass, so that I was not likely to catch him; and my friend reminded me that I said to the boys, "Now, there are many people who are trying to be happy, and they are aiming at happiness in this way and that way, and they think they will get it here or get it there; but all their efforts are in vain, for it is on the other side of the glass. It is only when they have been renewed in the spirit of their minds that they will catch that fly, and secure that happiness which they so much desire." It was a striking simile for boys, and I was glad my friend had not forgotten it. I recollect a boy who was struck with that simile; he was the worst lad in the school until the day when God blessed that message to him.—C. H. Spurgeon.