

## A RACE.

BY MARIE GLODEN.

A mad little tear  
And a sad little tear  
Once started a queer little race,  
"I am ahead!"  
The angry tear said,  
As it hurried down Peggy's small face.  
But a sad little tear  
Met a glad little tear,  
And together they hurried apace.  
"I'm sorry, mamma,  
Truly I are!"  
And the sorry-glad tear won the race.

## LESSON NOTES.

## FOURTH QUARTER.

STUDIES IN THE OLD TESTAMENT.

## LESSON III.—OCTOBER 18.

DAVID'S CONFESSION.

Psa. 51. 1-17. Memorize verses 1-4.

## GOLDEN TEXT.

Create in me a clean heart, O God.—  
Psa. 51. 10.

## THE LESSON STORY.

David was a great man and a good man, but he was not perfect. He was like most men who are trying to do God's will, but some times fail when tempted, and are very sorry afterward. Although he was a king, he had to do just as any little child might do—repent and be forgiven. David sinned, just as many others do, in wanting that which did not belong to him, and wanting it so much that he had to sin in other ways to get it. When Nathan, the prophet, came to him and told him faithfully that he had sinned against God, David humbly confessed it. Although he could have had Nathan put to death for accusing the king of evil, he did not do it, but only took his words as sent from God, and was humble. If a king can be told his faults without becoming angry, should not a child? David did not only confess to Nathan, but confessed to God, and wrote it out so that all men should hear it, and make it the prayer of their own hearts when sorry for sin. So it has been through all the ages the prayer of the penitent.

## QUESTIONS FOR THE YOUNGEST.

What did David sometimes do? He sinned against God.

What did he always do afterward? Truly repent.

How? Just as any child must do.

What was his sin? He wanted that which was not his.

Did he take it? Yes.

Who told him of his sin? Nathan, the prophet.

What did David do? He confessed it humbly.

Whose words did he take Nathan's to be? God's words.

Why did he not get angry? Because he wanted to do right.

How did he confess his sin? To God and to men.

How did he confess to men? By writing the fifty-first psalm.

What did he ask God to do? To blot out his sins.

## LESSON IV.—OCTOBER 25.

DAVID'S JOY OVER FORGIVENESS.

Psa. 32. Memorize verses 5-7.

## GOLDEN TEXT.

Blessed is he whose transgression is forgiven, whose sin is covered.—Psa. 32. 1.

## THE LESSON STORY.

When David fell into sin, as we learned last week, he could not long hide it, for it made him very unhappy. He was a child of God, and had tried to do right from his boyhood, and to him God was a near and dear friend from whom he could not be separated. After he had made deep confession of his sin, and had written it down for a prayer for all men, he wrote a song of joy—the joy of a forgiven soul—which is our lesson. The Lord reads all hearts, and he knows when a man feigns repentance or is merely sorry for a moment, as Saul was, or whether the sorrow for sin really leads to a better life. David tells us how glad he is to be forgiven, and how wretched he was when he was trying to hide his sin, and then he breaks forth in joy again, saying, "Thou art my hiding-place; thou shalt preserve me from trouble; thou shalt compass me about with songs of deliverance."

Then he tells us what God has said to him that he may know he is kept by a loving Father, and that we may know it too, for David's Father is our Father. Do you see what it is that makes the heart light and joyful? Not money, not beauty, not great learning, but peace with God.

## QUESTIONS FOR THE YOUNGEST.

What makes a child of God unhappy? To know that he has sinned.

What is the right thing to do? To confess it.

Did David confess his sin? Yes.

Did he have to suffer for it? Yes.

What came then? The joy of forgiveness.

How did David tell his joy? In a song.

What does he say of those who are forgiven? They are blessed.

Was David sure of forgiveness? Yes.

Why? Because he believed in God.

How will God guide us? With his eye.

What will come to the wicked? Many sorrows.

And what to him that trusts God? Mercy shall compass him about.

## THE LITTLE GARDENERS.

BY MRS. E. H. RICHMOND.

Willie called himself the head gardener. He was careful to allow no weeds to creep into the bit of garden that he and his brother Tommy called their own, not even into the walks. No one worked more industriously than they with spade, hoe and wheelbarrow, when gardening time came.

They were proud of their nice garden, and well they might be, it was so well kept. They worked "like little beavers." Uncle Joe said, and one day when they were resting a bit after a hard tussle with the weeds, he took their pictures.

Another time they sat together watching their big sister Susie as she worked in her garden.

"Susie, I wouldn't bother 'bout them teenty weeds," said Tommy, as Susie was carefully raking out some intruders that had crept in; "the big posies'll crowd 'em out sure."

"Best way is not to let them creep in," said Susie. "I don't mean to let them creep in here or in my other garden, either."

"Into your other garden! Have you got another garden, one all your own, Susie?"

"Yes, Tommy, and so have you. Everybody has a soul garden. Grandma told me so, and we plant it ourselves."

"I don't see how, Susie."

"Every true good thing we learn or do is good seed, and brings flowers and fruit, and every false evil thing is weeds, and spoils all. Beer, cider, cards, cigarettes; oh, there's lots of bad seed to spoil boys' gardens. I'm glad I ain't a boy."

"I'm glad I am," said Willie. "I'll be a man some day."

"And a grand, true one, I hope."

The children looked up, and there sat grandma by the open window.

She had heard all.

"It is a great thing to be alive, my dears, and to have gardens of our own," said grandma.

"In every house there is a Bible and that is full of good seed. Just plant it in you soul garden. It will make it beautiful, and you will be happy for ever."

"Thank you, grandma, we will," said Susie, and after this when they worked in their pretty garden the children thought of their own, the garden of the soul.—*Youth's Temperance Banner*.

A little girl who had mastered her catechism confessed herself disappointed "because," she said, "though I obey the fifth commandment and honour my papa and mamma, yet my days are not a bit longer in the land, because I am put to bed at seven o'clock."