

CHILDREN WHO WORSHIP IDOLS

Once again, dear Lord, we pray
For the children far away,
Who have never even heard
Jesus' name, our sweetest word.

Little lips that thou hast made,
'Neath the far-off temple shade
Give to gods of wood and stone
Praise that should be all thine own.

Little hands, whose wondrous skill
Thou hast giv'n to do thy will,
Offerings bring and serve with fear
Gods that cannot see nor hear.

Teach them, O thou Heavenly King,
All their gifts and praise to bring
To thy Son, who died to prove
Thy forgiving, saving love.

—Selected.

LESSON NOTES.

THIRD QUARTER.

STUDIES IN THE OLD TESTAMENT.

LESSON XII. September 20.

ABSTINENCE FROM EVIL (TEMPERANCE LESSON).

1 Pet. 4. 1-11. Memorize verses 1, 2.

GOLDEN TEXT.

Be not drunk with wine, wherein is excess. —Eph. 5. 18.

THE LESSON STORY.

Peter, the apostle who was one of the first to follow Christ, was afterward a faithful follower many years, until he was put to death at Rome for Christ's sake. He was at one time much afraid and denied his Lord, but afterward became one of the most bold and fearless of the disciples. He wrote letters to the Christians scattered through the countries where he had preached, and they are full of good words of warning and counsel and comfort. In a part of his first letter he warns Christians against the people around them who are given over to pleasure, to feasting, to wine, and to idolatry, and who think it strange that Christians cannot do as they do, and who speak unkindly about them because they do not. He tells them to be watchful and prayerful, and tells them also, above all things, else, to be loving towards each other, for love covers many sins. We cannot easily find fault with one whom we love. He also urges them to be ready to share with each other whatever they have without grudging, for all that we have is the gift of God, and when we share it with our neighbor we are only acting as God's servants in dividing his gifts. He said that Christians ought both to speak from God and give from God.

QUESTIONS FOR THE YOUNGEST.

Who wrote our lesson? Peter, the apostle.

To whom did he write it? To all Christians.

How many of his letters have we? Two.

What did he fear for Christians? Worldly pleasures.

What were the people around them? Idolaters.

What did they often do? Make idol feasts.

What did they drink? Wine.

Would this harm them? Yes.

What did he want them to be? Watchful and prayerful.

What did he wish above all things? That they should have love.

What would he have them share? The gifts of God.

Who gives all our wealth? God.

LESSON XIII. September 27.

REVIEW.

GOLDEN TEXT.

The Lord is my light and my salvation. —Psa. 27. 1.

Titles and Golden Texts should be thoroughly studied.

1. I. A. for a K.... Prepare your—
2. S. C. K. The Lord is—
3. S's F. A. Only fear the—
4. S. R. as K. To obey is—
5. S. A. D. Man looketh on—
6. D. and G. if God be for—
7. S. T. to K. D.... God is our—
8. D. and J. There is a—
9. D. S. S. Love your—
10. D. of S. and J. ... There is a—
11. D. B. K. Behold how—
12. A. from E. Be not—

A LITTLE HEROINE.

A Japanese missionary writes: "I want to tell you about one of our little Japanese girls. Her youngest sister is very pretty—therefore, as the family was poor, she was sold to be a public dancing girl. The older one, not being so pretty, was sent to us as day scholar to learn knitting, sewing, etc., until she could go out to service. She became a Christian, and began to feel badly about her sister; but what could she do? Her father had great sympathy with her and was anxious to get the child back, but he is sick and cannot work, the mother did not care, the older brother had gone to the war, the two younger could not help much.

"But our little girl was very brave. She went to the master of the house where her sister was and tried to get her free. She was only laughed at, and told that her sister had learned to dance very well; to let her alone and in a little while she would be earning a great deal of money

and could help them all—could give her new dresses and pay for her food at the school. She told them she would never eat the rice that her sister's money paid for, nor wear the clothes. They said the child could not go unless she paid forty dollars.

"Our little girl's ideas of forty dollars were very vague, but she was not daunted. She got her younger brothers to save all they could. Then her sister's master threatened to give the girl away if the money was not paid at once. This was heart-breaking to our little girl, who had been able to save but ten dollars, and added to this are the tears and entreaties of the little sister, who begs to be saved from the life which she has now learned is bad.

"All this I hear from our young Japanese teacher, who has learned it, little by little, from the sad-hearted girl, who found it impossible to give her usual good attention in class. I am glad to tell you that all the money has been furnished by kind friends, and the child will soon be placed in a respectable home. If you could only see the change in our little girl! The look of care gone—joy and glad tears in its place."

BESSIE AND PUSS.

Bessie slept so late one morning that breakfast was over when she got up, so mamma put her bowl of bread and milk on a chair out-doors where it was cool.

"Sank 'oo," said Bessie politely. She put Johnny's hat on the back of her head, for she liked it better than her own broad-brimmed one, and went out. How good the bread and milk tasted. But in a minute Puss came too, and put her paws on the chair and said, "mew, mew." Bess knew she meant "Please give me some."

"It's my bekfuss, kittie, and I must eat it," said the little girl. But Puss mewed louder than ever, and Bess gave her a big spoonful.

Kittie liked it so well, that soon she climbed up and put her nose in the bowl to help herself.

At first it was funny to watch her, but when Bessie saw that most of her breakfast was gone, she lifted her spoon and struck Pussy hard. Pussy "me-ou'd" so loud that mamma looked out. "No, no," she said, seeing the lifted spoon.

"She eated my bekfuss," said Bess.

"She didn't know any better," said mamma, coming out. She took Bessie's hand and looked at it. "This little hand was not made to hurt anything that God made," she said.

Then she washed the bowl and filled it again, and shut the kittie up. So Bess ate her bread and milk by herself. But all that day, whenever she looked at her hand, she remembered how mamma said it was not made to hurt things.

Let us hope she will always remember.