

THE BOY THAT LAUGHS.

I KNOW a funny little boy,
The happiest ever born;
His face is like a beam of joy,
Although his clothes are torn.

I saw him tumble on his nose,
And waited for a groan.
But how he laughed! Do you suppose
He struck his funny bone?

There's sunshine in each word he speaks,
His laugh is something grand;
Its ripples overrun his cheeks,
Like waves on snowy sand.

He laughs the moment he awakes,
And till the day is done;
The school-room for a joke he takes,
His lessons are but fun.

No matter how the day may go,
You cannot make him cry;
He's worth a dozen boys I know,
Who pout and mope and sigh.

—Independent.

BE LITTLE SUNBEAMS.

CHILDREN, you are household sunbeams; don't forget it, and when mother is tired and weary, and father comes home from his work feeling depressed, speak cheerfully to them and do what you can to help them. Very often you can help them most by not doing something, for what you would do may only make more work for them. Therefore, think before you speak or act, and say to yourself "Will this help mamma?" or, "Will this please papa?" There is something inside of you that will always answer and tell you how to act. It won't take a minute, either, to decide, when you do this, and you will be repaid for waiting by the earnestness of the smile or the sincerity of the kiss which will then greet you. One thing remember always—the effect of what you do, lingers after you are gone. Long after you have forgotten the smile or cheerful word which you gave your father or mother, or the little act you did to make them happy, it is remembered by them, and after you are asleep they will talk about it, and thank God for their little household sunbeam.

A SCHOOLMISTRESS, while taking down the names and ages of her pupils at the beginning of the term, asked one little fellow: "What's your father's name?" "Oh, you needn't take down his name!" was the reply. "He's too old to go to school this year."

LESSON NOTES.

THIRD QUARTER

B.C. 1120.] LESSON X. [Sept. 2.

THE DEATH OF SAMSON.

July. 16. 21 31. Commit to memory verses 23 30.

GOLDEN TEXT.

The God of Israel is he that giveth strength and power unto his people. Psa. 68, 35.

OUTLINE.

1. The Humbled Hero. v. 21-25.
2. The Prayer of Power. v. 26-28.
3. The Day of Death. v. 29-31.

QUESTIONS FOR HOME STUDY.

Who was one of the judges of Israel? Samson

With what had God blessed him? With great strength.

What was the secret of his strength? His long hair, which showed that he belonged to God.

To whom did Samson tell his secret? To a woman named Delilah.

What was Delilah? A friend of the Philistines.

What did she do? She cut off his hair while he was asleep.

What followed? He became as weak as other men.

What did the Philistines then do? They put Samson in prison.

What else did they do? They put out his eyes.

What did the Philistines then prepare to do? Hold a great feast to their idols.

For what reason? To rejoice over Samson's downfall.

Why was Samson at the feast? To make sport for his enemies.

Was Samson still weak? No; his hair had grown while in prison.

How did Samson show his strength? He pulled down the temple of the Philistines.

How many were killed? About three thousand.

Did God hear Samson's prayer? Yes, he died with the Philistines.

Why did Samson lose his strength? Because he trusted too much in himself.

WORDS WITH LITTLE PEOPLE.

If we trust ourselves we shall—

Tell God's secrets to his enemies.

Lose the strength which God has given.

Fall into the hands of wicked people.

Bring trouble upon ourselves and dishonour upon God.

DOCTRINAL SUGGESTION.—The retributive justice of God.

CATECHISM QUESTIONS.

How did God make man? God made the body of man out of the dust of the earth.

Did his soul come from the dust? No, for the Lord God breathed into his nostrils the breath of life; and man became a living soul.

B.C. 1322.] LESSON XI. [Sept.

RUTH AND NAOMI.

Ruth 1. 14 22. Commit to memory vs. 16-18.

GOLDEN TEXT.

Thy people shall be my people, and the God my God. Ruth 1. 16.

OUTLINE.

1. Great Love. v. 14-18.
2. Great Grief. v. 19-22.

QUESTIONS FOR HOME STUDY.

Who was Naomi? A woman of Israel. Where did she go with her family to live? To Moab.

Was it right to go there? No; for the people worshipped idols.

What sorrow came upon her there? The death of her husband and sons.

What did she now wish to do? To return to her own country.

Who asked to go with her? Ruth and Orpha, her daughters-in-law.

What did she tell them to do? To stay with their own people.

Who obeyed her? Orpha.

Who refused to leave Naomi? Ruth.

What did Ruth say to Naomi? "Ask me not to leave you." [Repeat GOLDEN TEXT.]

Where did they go together? To Bethlehem, Naomi's home.

What did Ruth's actions show? Her desire to know the true God.

What did Naomi tell her friends? Not to call her "Naomi," but "Mara."

Why did she wish this? Because she had seen great trouble.

What always brings us into trouble? Going away from God.

WORDS WITH LITTLE PEOPLE.

Naomi's fault teaches us—

To stay among God's people.

To trust him for food.

Never to stop depending upon him.

Ruth's love teaches us—

To give up home and friends for God.

To love those who love God.

To trust every thing to God.

DOCTRINAL SUGGESTION.—God's discipline of adversity.

CATECHISM QUESTIONS.

Why did God make man? God made man that he might know Him and love Him and serve Him, and be happy with Him for ever.

Where did God put the first man and woman? God put the first man and woman in the garden of Eden.