

LITTLE THINGS.

Just a little dewdrop brightens up the flower,  
Growing by the wayside or in shady bower;  
Just one little songster, singing in the tree,  
Makes the place around him ring with melody;  
Just a little candle shining in the dark,  
Drives away the shadows with each tiny spark.

So each little effort, though 'tis small and weak,  
Will be blessed of Jesus if his aid we seek;  
Just one cup of water given in his name,  
Just a song of praises, just a little flame,  
Shown to those about you in some word or deed,  
To the great Light-giver will some other lead.

LESSON NOTES.

THIRD QUARTER.

STUDIES IN THE OLD TESTAMENT.

LESSON VIII. [August 23.

DAVID AND JONATHAN.

1 Sam. 20. 12-23. Memorize verses 14-17.

GOLDEN TEXT.

There is a friend that sticketh closer than a brother.—Prov. 18. 24.

THE LESSON STORY.

While Saul was hunting for David to kill him David longed to see his dear friend Jonathan; so he went and found him, and Jonathan tried to comfort him, and they made a covenant, or promise that could not be broken, that they would be friends for ever. David knew that Saul would expect him at his table at the feast of the new moon, and Jonathan told him to stay away that he might see what the king would do, and then come to a great stone, named Ezel, in a field, and he would come out as if to practise with his bow and arrows. He said that when he shot, as at a mark, if he should say to his boy, "The arrows are on this side of thee;" it would mean peace. "But," he said, "if I say unto the young man, The arrows are beyond thee, go thy way: for the Lord hath sent thee away." So at the feast Saul was angry that David had stayed away—so angry that he threw his spear at his own son Jonathan.

Jonathan went to the great stone with his armour-bearer, and after sending the arrows beyond, as he had said, he sent the boy home with the bow and arrows, and David came out, and they embraced each other, with tears, and again made the promise to be faithful to each other for ever. And David was once more a wanderer.

QUESTIONS FOR THE YOUNGEST.

Who was David's dearest friend? Jonathan.

What was Saul, his father, doing? Hunting David's life.

What did David long for? To see his friend.

Did he go to him? Yes.

What did Jonathan say he would do? Find if Saul was angry.

When? When David was absent from the king's table.

How was he to tell David? By the way he shot his arrows.

Where? By the great stone Ezel.

What did David find? That the king was angry.

What did Jonathan do? Sent his armour-bearer away.

What did the two friends do? Embraced and wept.

What did they again make? Their promise to be friends for ever.

LESSON IX. [August 30.

DAVID SPARES SAUL.

1 Sam. 26. 5-12, 21-25. Memorize v. 21.

GOLDEN TEXT.

Love your enemies, do good to them which hate you.—Luke 6. 27.

THE LESSON STORY.

David went away into the wilderness of rocks that lies in the south of the Holy Land, and while living in the cave of Adullam many men came to him, for in their hearts the people cared more for David than for Saul, but they feared Saul. Once when Saul stopped to rest in a cave while hunting for David, David, who was in the cave, went to him and cut a piece from his robe, as he slept, and after he had gone out followed him and showed it to him. This made Saul very much ashamed, for he knew that he would not have treated David so kindly.

Again, when Saul was seeking David with three thousand men, and had camped on the edge of the wilderness, David and one of his men went into the camp at night and took Saul's spear and water-bottle from beside his head as he slept, and then called to Saul's chief captain, Abner, from a distant hilltop. Saul knew the voice of David, and again he said he was wrong and foolish, and went back from following David. He even blessed David, saying, "Thou shalt both do great things, and also shalt still prevail."

Poor, restless, unhappy Saul, who was no longer king, though he seemed to be! The King of kings was not on his side.

QUESTIONS FOR THE YOUNGEST.

Where did David have to live? In woods and caves.

Who was following him? Saul.

Who came to live with David? Six hundred men.

Where did Saul lie down to sleep? In David's cave.

What did David do? Cut a piece from his robe.

What did Saul think when he knew it? He was ashamed.

Was he truly sorry? No.

Why? Because he tried again to kill David.

How did David again find him? Asleep.

What did he do? Took away his spear and water-bottle.

What did he do? Called to Saul from a hilltop.

What did Saul do after this? He went home.

LITTLE, BUT FAITHFUL.

Once a gentleman put up a sign on his store door, "BOY WANTED." The next day a great many boys came to see if he would hire them for the place. One of them was a little, queer-looking fellow. He carried a letter from his aunt, in which she said: "Charlie is small, but he is willing and faithful."

The man said to himself: "That is the kind of a boy I want. I think I will try him."

Not long after this the gentleman asked the clerks which of them was willing to stay all night in the store. None of them would consent but little Charlie. About midnight the merchant thought that he would step into the store to see if all was right, when he found Charlie busy cutting out labels.

"I didn't ask you to work all night," said the gentleman.

"I know," said Charlie; "but I thought that, as I was here, I might as well be doing something."

In many other ways Charlie proved that he was willing and faithful, and the storekeeper was never sorry that he had hired him.—Selected.

HIS BLOOD CLEANSSES FROM ALL SIN.

A gentleman teacher in one of our Sabbath schools had long been trying to make clear to his class what the "blood of Christ cleanseth from all sin" meant. Having a cottage at Cape May, he invited four of his boys to visit him. Walking along the beach with the boys one day, he told one of them to get him a stick. Having got the stick, he told him to write "S," and said: "You see that letter; what is it?" "Why," they said, "it is 'S.'" "Now write 'I'; now write 'N.'" Now what does that spell, boys?" "Why, sin." At this moment a great wave came in and washed the beach smooth and clean, so that no trace of the letters remained. "Now, boys," said the teacher, "that is just the way with the 'blood of Christ'; he comes with his love and power, and washes your sin just as you have seen those waves wash the letters away. Do you not want to be washed."—Sel.