

Notes on the S. S. Lessons.

The Death of Lazarus.

John 11 : 1-16.

WHEN Jesus was on this earth, there lived at Bethany, about two miles from Jerusalem, a family, of whom it was said, "Now Jesus loved Martha, and her sister (Mary), and Lazarus." They were a happy family—how could they be otherwise with Jesus as their Friend? They were always glad to see Jesus whenever He came that way; to show Him and His disciples such kindness as they were able, and to listen to His wonderful words of love (Luke 10 : 38-42).

Martha always had open house for Jesus, and she seemed as if she could not do too much to make Him comfortable whenever he called. Bright and happy indeed is the home which Jesus loves to visit.

To-day we have to talk about this home smitten with sorrow. A few weeks ago Jesus sat at their table, and they all were full of joy. Now into this house sickness has come. Remember, dear children, there is no home, no family, however happy, however good, can escape sickness or trial of some kind. But all who love God have in their

times of sickness and sorrow One to go to, who is ready to comfort and help them, and show them that all is for their good. Jesus is our Friend in need and in deed.

When Lazarus was taken ill, Jesus was at Bethabara, about thirty miles off. The sisters sent a message to their Friend, "Behold, he whom Thou lovest is sick." But he did not go at once. He had good reasons for not doing so. He knew that their faith needed to be strengthened—and that this might be done, it was necessary that He should let sickness and death do their work.

Two days after, Jesus said, "Our friend Lazarus sleepeth." Perhaps our little readers may be interested in knowing that the word "*Cemetery*" used as a name for a burial ground, really means "a sleeping place." When Jesus said, "I go to awake him out of his sleep," He meant, "I go to raise him up again." They thought he meant "sleeping," so Jesus said plainly, "Lazarus is dead" and then set out for Bethany.

The Resurrection of Lazarus.

John 11 : 17-44.

NOW Bethany was only two miles from Jerusalem, and many of the Jews came to comfort poor Martha and Mary in their sorrow. While they were all there, trying to console them, a man came and told them that Jesus was coming. Martha got up directly and went to meet Him, but Mary sat still in the house.

Martha met Jesus, and with tears said to Him, "Lord, if Thou hadst been here my brother would not have died. But I know that even now whatever Thou wilt ask of God, He will give Thee." She remembered, perhaps, how Jesus had raised the ruler's little daughter, and the widow's son.

Soon Mary came also to Jesus, and Mary was pale and worn with weeping; and all the Jews, her friends, were weeping also; and Jesus was very sorry for them.

He was grieved for them, the good, tender Saviour. He would no longer delay what He meant to do, so He said to them, "Where have ye laid him?"

And when they showed Him the tomb, we read, Jesus wept! What a tender, loving

Saviour we have. But He is more than that; He is a mighty Saviour. He told them to roll away the stone, and when this was done He shouted, "Lazarus, come forth!" and at once the dead man rose and came out.

How delighted Mary and Martha must have been to see their dear brother alive again, and how they must all have thanked and worshipped the Lord Jesus for His goodness to them,

Jesus, may we ready be,
On that great day to welcome Thee,
And with Lazarus rejoice,
When we hear our Saviour's voice.



'OUR YOUNG PEOPLE.'

Edited by ALF. SANDHAM. Published on the first and third Saturday of each month, by the Toronto Willard Tract Depository,—S. R. BRIGGS, Manager,—corner Yonge and Temperance Streets, Toronto, Ont.

SUBSCRIPTION RATES.—PER YEAR—Single copies, 25c.; 10 copies \$1.50; 25 copies, \$3.00; 100 copies, \$10.00.