

the bees; but instead of helping his father to keep him, he went straight out and played with their hives, and of course they stung him again."

"Well, what next?" asked the little listener.

"That's all," said mamma.

"All? Why I don't call that a sermon."

"Yes, it's a sermon," answered mamma, "but it is a short one, and it has my daughter for a text."

"Now, mamma, you know I never do anything like that!" exclaimed Josepha.

"I think I can show you that you do something very much like that every morning. When you are repeating the Lord's Prayer, what do you say after 'Thy kingdom come'?"

"Thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven," repeated the little girl, briskly.

"That is, you ask God to make you do His will just as the angels do it. How do you suppose the angels do God's will?"

"I don't know," said the listener, slowly.

"Of course we don't know exactly, but of some things we may feel confident; I am sure they do it promptly; I am sure they do it cheerfully; I am sure they do it perfectly."

"The angels know just what God's will is, but I don't," answered Josepha, who felt as if she needed to defend herself.

Her mother pointed to an illustrated text on the nursery wall: "Children, obey your parents."

There was a long, quiet time then, in which mamma drew her little girl to her knee and kissed her tenderly.

"I won't give any verses to-day," she said, gently, "but I will give you this little sermon to learn by heart. Every time you say, 'Thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven,' remember that you are asking God to make you do what you are told—promptly, cheerfully, perfectly. And then you must help the Lord to answer this prayer."

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#### Alice's Swing.

It was a lovely October day—such a relief after a long rainy week! "I'm going out to my swing, mamma," said Alice. "I s'pect its most a month since I was there."

"Not quite so long as that," said her mamma, smiling, as she tied on her little daughter's cap and kissed the sweet lips; "but I think you will enjoy your swing all the more because you have not been in it for a week."

Alice skipped away and was soon swinging gayly. "O, you dear, old swing!" she said, "how glad I am to get into your lap again! I am going to stay here until dinner-time."

By-and bye her attention was attracted by a very ragged little girl, who came slowly up the road and presently stopped and peeped in through the fence.

"Let me get in just a moment!" said the little girl.

"Do you love to swing?" Alice asked.

"I don't know," answered the child, shaking her head. "I never did."

"Never was in a swing!" exclaimed Alice; and then she slipped to the ground, and walking out into the road took the little stranger's hand, and, leading her into the garden, showed her how to climb into the swing. Then pushing her several times, she sat down in a garden chair and watched her.

"Shall I get out now?" asked the child.

Alice wanted her swing very much. She had not had it for a whole week, you remember; but then she thought of the little girl with no swing.

"No," she answered, smiling at her. "You shall stay in it till dinner-time."

And when dinner-time came, she ran to the house and brought her some bread and a nice slice of cake; and, after watching her down the road, she went into the house and told her mamma about her morning. "I wanted my swing, oh, very much, mamma, but after awhile I just loved to let the little girl have it."

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