

A LITTLE SERMON.

Never a day is lost, dear,  
 If at night you can truly say  
 You've done one kindly deed, dear,  
 Or smoothed some rugged way.  
 Never a day is dark, dear,  
 Where the sunshine of home may fall,  
 And where the sweet home voices  
 May answer you when you call.

Never a day is sad, dear.  
 If it brings at set of sun  
 A kiss from mother's lips, dear,  
 And a thought of work well done.  
 —*Sunday-school Messenger.*

LESSON NOTES.

SECOND QUARTER.

STUDIES IN THE LIFE OF JESUS.

LESSON VII. [May 19.]

JESUS ASCENDS INTO HEAVEN.

Acts 1. 1-11. Memory verses, 9-11.

GOLDEN TEXT.

While he blessed them, he was parted from them, and carried up into heaven.—*Luke 24. 51.*

THE LESSON STORY.

While Jesus was still with the disciples he told them one day about his Father's house, and when he was going to make ready for them there. Read about it in 1 John 14. 2. Now he was to go back to his Father, and he met the disciples once more to cheer and comfort their hearts.

He told them that day to remember all the words of the Bible about him, and that all these things should come to pass. If you were in a dark room and had to read something, you would need a light. Jesus knew the disciples needed a light to make them understand the Bible words about him. So he gave the Holy Spirit, who is Light, to live in them, and open their minds and hearts.

Then he told them to go back to Jerusalem and wait there for the power which he would send them. When this power was given them he said they would be able to tell others what they had seen and heard, and make them believe in him, too. You know he wanted them to "go into all the world and preach the Gospel to every creature." Read how he led them out to Bethany and blessed them, and then was carried up to heaven (Acts 1. 6-11).

QUESTIONS FOR THE YOUNGEST.

Where was Jesus going now? Back to heaven.

How long was it since he rose? Forty days.

What did he hold with his disciples? A last meeting.

What did he tell them? What to do.

What did he want them to remember? The Bible words about him.

Who wrote about Jesus before he came? Moses and the prophets.

What did he promise to do? Make them understand.

What did he ask them to be? Witnesses.

What did they all know? That Jesus died and rose again.

What is a witness? One who knows.

Where did he tell them to wait? In Jerusalem.

For what? The coming of the Holy Spirit.

LESSON VIII. [May 26.]

THE HOLY SPIRIT GIVEN.

Acts 2. 1-11. Memory verses, 1-4.

GOLDEN TEXT.

When he, the Spirit of truth, is come, he will guide you into all truth.—*John 16. 13.*

THE LESSON STORY.

Find in Acts 2. 1-11, what Jesus had told the disciples to wait for and expect. For ten days they waited and prayed, and when the day came they were all together in one place, looking for the promised "gift." You remember the passover Sabbath? Just fifty days after this came the day of Pentecost. This was "the feast of the first fruits," when the Jews brought their first sheaves of wheat to offer to the Lord. If some of the disciples had grown tired of waiting and stayed away that morning, how much they would have missed! It is always best to do just what God bids us do.

We cannot explain "the great noise," or "the cloven tongues of fire," but we know a strange power came upon each one, and that they began to speak in so wonderful a way that people came running together from all parts of the city and asked what it could mean! Here were these unlearned men speaking in many languages, so that all might understand. God gave them this power to use. Some thought it was a miracle, and some that the disciples had been drinking too much wine; but the disciples knew that Jesus had kept his word, and filled them with the Holy Spirit.

QUESTIONS FOR THE YOUNGEST.

What had Jesus promised the disciples? A great gift.

What was it? The gift of the Holy Spirit.

What did he tell them to do? To wait for it.

Where did he tell them to wait? In Jerusalem.

How long did they wait? Ten days.

What did they do while waiting? Prayed and spoke together.

On what day did the gift come? Pentecost.

How long was this after Jesus rose? Fifty days.

What did they begin to do? Praise God.

How did they speak? In different languages.

Who came running to hear? All the people.

What did all this mean? That the Holy Spirit had come.

A TENDER-HEARTED BEAR.

Auntie had come visiting, and she and Eddie were in the cosy sitting-room all by themselves. Auntie was young and jolly, and she liked little boys; and Eddie was always glad when she came.

By and by Eddie thought he would do something to amuse auntie; so he crawled behind a chair in one corner. Very soon auntie saw something coming out of the corner. It walked on four legs, like a bear, and it was growling horribly.

"O, O!" cried auntie, in a distressed voice. "It's a bear! What shall I do!" Then she hid her face in the cushions.

The strange creature suddenly stopped growling and lifted itself up on its hind legs, and one could then plainly see that it was just a little boy with neat curls and a dainty white dress. He looked troubled, although a smile of satisfaction lurked about the corners of his mouth.

The faltering little voice close to auntie's ear said: "Y-you needn't be afraid. 'Tain't a bear; it's baby."

Auntie's head came quickly out of the cushions, and she laughed and kissed him, and he liked this better than being a bear.

Eddie was only a little boy, but he knew that fun stops being fun when it begins to make somebody unhappy.—*Selected.*

THE GLOWWORM'S CANDLE.

Sometimes children think they are too small to do any good; they must wait until they are grown. I read something the other day that made me think that the smallest might be helpful.

Did you ever see a glowworm? Perhaps not; but it is a little worm about half an inch long, which shines in the dark with a little light, as fire-flies do.

There had been a battle, and some of the soldiers were fleeing from the enemy. Pretty soon they lost their way. Now they had with them a little instrument called a "compass," which would have shown them the way, only it was so dark they could not see which way the needle pointed. They did not dare carry a light, for fear the enemy would see it and follow them. Just then one of the men noticed a little glowworm shining in the grass. He picked it up and put it on the compass, and there was just light enough to show which way the needle pointed. Then the men knew which way their home was. They were very glad, and went on until they got home.

Don't you think these men thought a little glowworm could do good? And cannot a little child do as much as a glowworm? Bright smiles, pleasant words, and helpful deeds are a child's way of shining, and they make all the household happy.—*The Parish Visitor.*