

THE NEW SISTER.

And what do you think has come
To live in our house to-day?
It's not a fife or a drum,
But something with which I'll play.

I'm sure that it is alive,
For it makes a squealing noise;
Now guess while I'm counting five.
It's not any kind of toys.

It's little, but pretty fat,
Has a kind of furry head;
But it's not a pussy cat—
The hair is a little red.

A dear little baby sister
Is just what is living here,
And I stole up and kissed her
Because she is such a dear.

What fun my sister and I
Are going to have some day.
When she gets too old to cry,
And can run around and play.

LESSON NOTES.

FOURTH QUARTER.

STUDIES IN THE OLD TESTAMENT FROM
ISAIAH TO MALACHI.

LESSON I.—OCTOBER 1.

DANIEL AND BELSHAZZAR.

Dan. 5. 17-30. Memorize verses 29, 30.
GOLDEN TEXT.

The face of the Lord is against them
that do evil.—Psa. 34. 16.

THE LESSON STORY.

When King Nebuchadnezzar died his son Belshazzar became king of Babylon. If you would like to know what kind of a king he was, read the first part of the chapter from which our lesson is taken. This will show that Daniel had good reason for speaking the plain words which you find in the lesson verses. Think of it. At the very time that the people of Babylon were shut up in their city by a great threatening enemy, Belshazzar made a drunken feast, and even used the sacred vessels which his father had taken from the house of God in Jerusalem, from which to drink wine! It was right in the midst of the feast when a strange writing appeared on the wall, and although neither the king nor any of his guests could read the writing, it made them feel very uneasy. Belshazzar said in the presence of all the guests that the one who could read this handwriting should be clothed in scarlet (or purple, the color of royalty) and wear a gold chain about his neck to show that he was now a ruler, and be made the third ruler of the kingdom. Daniel came and read

the writing, for God gave him wisdom. Read the interpretation of it in verses 26, 27, and 28. That very night Belshazzar was slain, and Daniel was brought to great honor. This lesson teaches us again that the wicked shall not prosper, but that the true servant of God is honored by God and man.

QUESTIONS FOR THE YOUNGEST.

1. Who was king of Babylon? Belshazzar.
2. Was he a good man? No; he worshipped false gods.
3. What did he make for his lords? A great feast.
4. What was then just outside his gates? A great army.
5. What did he see on the wall? A strange handwriting.
6. Who could not read it? His wisest men.
7. Who did read it? Daniel.
8. Who gave Daniel wisdom? God.
9. What did Daniel read? That Belshazzar's kingdom would fall.
10. What did he say about Belshazzar? That God was displeased with him.
11. What happened that night? Belshazzar was killed.
12. What became of his kingdom? It was taken by the Medes and Persians.

LESSON II.—OCTOBER 8.

DANIEL IN THE LIONS' DEN.

Dan. 6. 10-23. Memorize verses 21-23.
GOLDEN TEXT.

The angel of the Lord encampeth round about them that fear him, and delivereth them.—Psa. 34. 7.

THE LESSON STORY.

Babylon now belonged to the kingdom of the Medes and Persians, and Darius was the king. He showed great honor to Daniel, making him the first among the nobles of the kingdom. But some of the nobles were not pleased with this. They did not like Daniel's truth and uprightness of spirit. They had a feeling of mean jealousy toward him, and they thought they would make a plan by which to bring him into trouble. Read about the evil plan they made in Dan. 6. 4-9. You will notice that they said, "We cannot find any occasion against Daniel except . . . concerning the law of his God." King Darius did not understand why they asked him to make a new law, and when he found that it was all a plan to ruin Daniel he was much troubled. Notice in the sixteenth verse of this lesson that the king believed that Daniel's God would save him out of the mouth of the lions. Do you wonder why the king did not save him? It was a law of the land that nothing should ever change the king's decree (or word), and so he was obliged to let Daniel be thrown

to the lions, but it comforted him to think that Daniel's God would not let any harm come to him. We must not forget that Darius was a heathen king, and that it was Daniel's faith and good life that made the king believe in his God. This wonderful story ends well. God did indeed allow Daniel to go among the lions, but he did not allow them to hurt him, and when he came out of the den "no manner of hurt was found upon him, because he believed in his God."

QUESTIONS FOR THE YOUNGEST.

1. Who was now king? Darius.
2. What was Daniel's position? First officer of the king.
3. How did some bad men feel? Jealous of Daniel.
4. What did they want to do? Get him out of the way.
5. What bad law was passed? That no one should pray except to the king.
6. What did these bad men know? That Daniel would pray to God.
7. What did Daniel do? He prayed openly.
8. How did the king feel about his new law? Very badly.
9. Where was Daniel thrown? Into the den of lions.
10. Why could not the lions hurt him? God would not let them.
11. Who was glad when he found Daniel safe? King Darius.
12. What did he tell all his people to do? To fear Daniel's God.

A GOOD MOTTO.

Two children once took this for their motto: "What would Jesus do?" When they were tempted to be cross or selfish, they would think of their motto question; when they wanted to disobey, this question would ask itself in their hearts. They listened, and so they always heard it; and they tried to obey what the Voice said. Do you think that they grew to be good children? Indeed, they did; and so will all children who adopt this motto, and in every temptation ask themselves the question: "What would Jesus do?"

SHE HAD A MOTIVE.

Children are like grown people; they can put up with pretty shabby treatment if they have a sufficient motive. *Good News* reports a conversation of two little girls:

"If Susy Stuekup was as cross to me as she is to you, I'd get mad and never speak to her."

"No, you wouldn't—not if you knew what I know."

"What's that?"

"She's going to have a birthday party next week, with two kinds of ice-cream and a lot of lady-fingers and fruit cake."