

teacher closed the roll-book, she smiled kindly at her assembled pupils and said, "Good-morning, children." Then she turned to the blackboard and wrote "49 early children."

As it was a bright morning, the class sang cheerily, "Good Morning, Merry Sunshine!" This song finished, two or three children, waiting outside, too late to bid their teacher good-morning, were admitted and marked late as they sheepishly took their seats. Then began

#### THE MORNING TALK.

The teacher read from John xv., 27: "And ye also shall bear witness, because ye have been with me from the beginning," and preached the following tiny sermon from it:

"This is what Christ said to his disciples—that they had been with him from the beginning, and so could tell the world about him when he was gone from the sight of men. If they had not been with him *from the beginning*, they could not have known him so well; they could not have loved him so well; they could not have learned all the beautiful lessons he taught them; they could not have told the world so much about him. Many, many people now-a-days would give all they have on earth for one glimpse of Christ's face; and these men, these friends of his—just think of it!—were with him *from the beginning*. How happy it must have made them. But we, too, can be happy with Christ in a way. When we are good, we are with Christ; when we do as he tells us to we are with him; when we are loving and kind we are with him; when we are brave and truthful we are with him. Let us try to be with him all the time, from the beginning of every hour, and from the beginning of every day. Don't let us 'wait a minute' to do something naughty, and then turn to go with Christ. You children have the great privilege of being with him from the beginning of your lives, as some grown people have had. You know about him *now*, and how to be good, as he would have you. Some people hear of him too late, for if we begin to be good when we are nearly grown up, we cannot learn to be *very* good. We must begin in time; and so it is very fortunate for you that you have good parents and school and Sunday-school to teach you how to be with Christ *from the beginning*."

#### THE LESSON IN ETHICS.

There are a great many kinds of goodness—a great many ways of being good. You may tell me some of them.

(The children cited, in their childish ways, the virtues they had learned about.)

"Yes," continued the teacher, "we are with Christ when we are quiet in a sick room, helpful to our parents, kind to our playmates, thoughtful for the weak and the old, clean and tidy in our habits; but the kind of goodness we are going to study to-day hasn't been mentioned by any of you. Big folks call it punctuality. We will