

Children's Page.

LEARN OBEDIENCE.

Josepha was not in a very good humor that Sunday, though it was her tenth birthday.

In the first place, a Sunday birthday was a dull sort of a thing, she thought; and then baby Fritz had been so sick that mamma had not a chance to get any little present ready for her.

It was true that was only put off—the present was to come—but still Josepha felt out of sorts; and when mamma called her to get her Bible verses, she broke out in a reluctant pout, and grumbled out that it was a hard case she couldn't have any fun at all on her birthday, not even a holiday from Bible verses.

Mamma at once shut the Bible and laid it on the table, saying, "I can't let you learn verses now; so I will preach you a sermon instead: 'Once there was a little boy who used to beg his father to keep him away from the bees; but instead of helping his father in this, he went straight out and played with the hives, and of course they stung him.'"

"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," answers 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," she said.

"Of course, we do not 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 illuminated text on the 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 today," 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 answer this prayer." *Selected.*

"If ye love me keep my commandments."

A MODERN PARABLE.

A certain man had two sons. In childhood they were much alike, but as they grew up they showed that they had different tastes and abilities.

The elder had a great liking for tools, and spent much of his time about the shops.

The younger was a lover of books, and became a diligent, faithful student.

Their father loved and encouraged them both, giving them wise council and financial aid, whenever these were needed.

Years passed by, the elder became a skillful mechanic, and was led into the discovery of a very important machine, which should lighten the labors of the toiling millions of all nations,

His father was greatly pleased with his skill and success, and advised him to "go on," and advertise it thoroughly, that the world might get the full benefit of it. This was done; and in a short time these appeared in nearly all the papers.

Skillful artists were also employed to make beautiful pictures showing the excellent workings of the invention. These were placed in the business offices of all the cities of the civilized world.

Having thus thoroughly made known his discovery, he soon had the satisfaction of knowing that multitudes of the common people were enjoying the blessings that came through his invention.

In old age riches and honor came to him, and history spoke of him as a public benefactor.

THE YOUNGER SON

I have said loved books. He studied languages, laws and religions, he became a noted scholar a companion of the learned and eloquent.

While thus in search of true wisdom he found

A WONDERFUL TRUTH.

A priceless jewel 'mid the sands of thought.

The more his mind dwelt upon this truth, the more certain he became of its value and importance. He learned that this was a truth to make men free.

He saw millions of men held in slavish bondage by the military customs of nations, waiting for deliverance. Behind these were many other millions, helpless and almost hopeless.

To all these this truth would bring relief:

In a word this truth accepted, would bring in the reign of Christ the Prince of Peace.

When the son explained these things to his father that wise parent said very emphatically:

"Well done! 'Now publish it to all the world.'"

Strange to say the young man faltered; then in a hundred ways began to make excuse. He feared what men would say, 'Tis true he once made mention of the matter to a few private friends, but that was all; the world at large never heard of the treasure he discovered. The great mistake of his life, was, he had a wonderful opportunity and *and he did not improve it.*

"How beautiful upon the mountains are the feet of him that bringeth good tidings that publisheth peace:"