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## PRIMARY COURSE

6 - 8 years

## GRADE II

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# SPECIAL INSTRUCTIONS TO TEACHERS OF GRADE II

#### CHILDREN OF 6 - 7 YEARS OF AGE

The child of 6, 7, and 8 years of age is at one of the most important transition periods of development, for this is the time when the vital body is emerging from the protective covering of ethers with which Nature has surrounded it during the first seven years of life, and is preparing to function in a positive way.

The time for the birth of the vital body varies to some degree, coming earlier in warm climates and later in cold, with a similar variation in individual children according to their racial heritage, being sometimes a little earlier and sometimes a little later than the age of seven; therefore, there may be children in this grade in whom the change has not yet taken place. These need to be still guarded against any forced memory work and allowed to take their own place in class activities as in the Beginners' Course.

There are certain well-defined signs by which the teacher may recognize the setting free of the vital body. Physically, there is the change of teeth, and mentally, greater alertness, greater power of attention, greater interest and curiosity, and a fuller response to the call for individual expression.

Memory work in this grade should be simple at first and increased by gradual stages as the capacity of the children grows.

As the vital body is the body of *habit*, the main work of the Sunday School at this period is to direct the activities of the new-born vehicle into constructive channels. This is the period to which may most truly be applied the

old adage: "As the twig is bent, the tree will grow."

There is much intensive and beautiful work for the mother and teacher to do during these three years by assisting in the wakening and building of conscience, in the development of a harmonious temperament, and in the formation of right habits of thought. This is done by helping the child (through constant suggestion) to realize that his every action brings a definite and unavoidable reaction upon himself, that the good is a seed that grows into beauty and happiness in his life, and the bad a seed which grows into pain and trouble. Then impress upon him that the little voice in his heart, which tells him what is right and what is wrong, is God's voice helping him to know what is good and what is bad so that he may be sure to choose the way to happiness. In this way he is led to look upon conscience as a loving guide rather than as a stern task-master.

The little happenings in his daily life may be used as examples of how God seeks always to guide and protect him. Present the idea that bad temper and all forms of naughtiness interrupt this guidance because wrong feeling makes it impossible, for the time being, to hear the precious inner voice. Offer him your help to sweep the bad feelings away as quickly as possible so that he may be friends with God again.

By constantly directing the child's attention to the Good, the Beautiful, and the True, and diverting it from that which is undesirable, we are preparing him to follow the advice of St. Paul who said: "Be not overcome of evil, but overcome evil with good." (Romans 12:21).

Each child brings with him the good and bad tendencies which he has built into his nature in past lives, and these tendencies are expressed in the basic *type* of his vehicles. But the vehicles themselves are made of new materials. He has a new brain in which the grooves of habit and of association for the new life are to be made. If, at

this formative period of his life, his imagination is fed constantly with high, inspiring ideals of thought and action, the forces of good in that child will be strongly intrenched in the brain long before the unruly desire body becomes active.

This gives an immense advantage to the good elements in his nature and fortifies him against whatever destructive tendencies he may have to deal with in later life.

During this period the faculty of observation is to be cultivated and the child's attention drawn to the beauty and wonder of Nature as an expression of God, so that he may be prepared to look with reverence upon the sacred life processes when these are revealed to him.

The desire for definite action, which is strong in children of this age, should be utilized constructively in Sunday School (and in the home as well) by the assignment of small tasks and responsibilities, these to be looked upon as privileges. Those who are most advanced can be helpers of the teacher in various ways.

As memory, which is the association of ideas, is to be cultivated at this time, the lessons may be more sustained and connected than First Grade lessons. But as the imagination continues to be vividly active during these years, the story form is still the best medium for presentation.

Every truth presented should be illustrated as fully as possible by practical examples and demonstrations, for one of the outstanding characteristics of the child of this age is the desire to imitate all that he sees.

Because of his tendency to imitate, the teacher who wins the love and trust of his little charges, may exert a profound influence for good in their lives by striving always to be that which he is asking them to be.

#### LESSON SUGGESTIONS FOR CAPRICORN

#### Grade II - First Sunday

Keyword: Concentration.

This morning I am going to tell you something about the family of Star Angels named Capricorn. Instead of writing out the name, we make a mark for it, and that mark is called a symbol. The symbol of Capricorn is made like this: \$\mathcal{V}\$\$ (Draw it on blackboard). You know, each one of the families of Star Angels is teaching us something that will help the Roses to bloom on our Cross. Would you like to know what great Star Angels from Capricorn are teaching us? TO DO THE THING THAT IS RIGHT even though we don't like it. And the strange thing about it is that no matter how much we may not want to do that right thing, if we really do it, it will make us happy. Now isn't that interesting?

You see, we always think that the thing we want most to do is the thing that will make us happy, but it isn't—it is the thing that is right that makes us happy. All God's great children, the Star Angels, know this, but many of us Earth children haven't learned it yet. We go on doing wrong things and getting ourselves into all sorts of trouble. So God sends us a messenger from Capricorn, a great and beautiful Star Angel named Saturn. His symbol is made like this: b. And the message Saturn brings to us is, "Stop and think."

Don't you know how sometimes you do something naughty — something that hurts Mother or Father and causes a big disturbance — just because you "didn't think"? Well, that is why God sends Saturn to us to say, "Stop and Think!" He knows that if we do stop and think, we will do the things that will make us good and

well and happy instead of the things that will make us bad and sick and unhappy.

Do you know that the very beginning of everything is a thought? The house you live in, the chair you are sitting on, everything you see that has been made with hands began as a thought in somebody's mind. Not one of them could have been made if somebody had not first thought about it and made a picture of it in his mind.

And I want to tell you something else. Every thought is alive, and when we send it out, it is sure to come back to us. The bad thoughts bring bad things to us, and the good thoughts bring good things to us. The reason that the dear Christ Jesus had to come to the Earth was because we were sending out so many bad thoughts that God's love could not get to us, and dreadful things would have happened to our Earth and to us if He had not come to teach us to think thoughts of love.

We still haven't learned to do this all the time, though, so every single year at Christmas-time He comes back into the center of our Earth to be our very own Star Angel, and to give our Earth and us and every stick and stone and plant and animal the golden light of His love. Christ is helping us to hear the voice of Saturn in our hearts saying "Stop and Think!" because He knows that if we do it will help the Roses to bloom upon our Cross Don't you wish they were blooming now so we could see the wonderful light of His love that is all about us?

#### GRADE II - SECOND SUNDAY

Keyword: Faithfulness.

Last Sunday we learned that every single thing in our world begins with a thought in somebody's mind. Just as everything *about us* starts with a thought, so everything in the great Universe started with a thought by God.

God made a picture in the very beginning — a glorious and wonderful picture — and right away millions and millions of life sparks within Himself started to work to make that picture come true. That was a long time ago, so long that we can't even imagine how long ago it was. But we were there, mind you, you and I and all the other people on the Earth. And what do you think we looked like? We didn't have any bodies at all — we were just tiny sparks of light, working with all the other sparks of light to help God build His beautiful Universe and be happy with Him in it.

These life sparks, which are a part of God, are everywhere. Some started out long after we did, and they are building animal bodies. Others are working with the trees and flowers, while still others are building the Earth with its rocks and mountains. But all of them are working as hard as they can to make God's beautiful picture come true.

Whenever we think or say or do the things that are kind and true and good, we are doing our part of the work on that beautiful picture and helping to make it come true. But when we are thinking naughty thoughts and doing unkind things, we are making an ugly blotch on God's picture that has to be erased. We don't want to do that, do we? We want to be faithful like all God's great children, the Star Angels, and all the little life sparks that are working everywhere for Him. If the Roses were blooming on our Cross enough we could see these busy life sparks all around us. Wouldn't you love to see them?

GRADE II — THIRD SUNDAY

Keyword: Support.

Did you ever stop to think what a wonderful thing your body is — this body that you live in? You know, the spark of life that is You is a part of God. That is why

the body is called "the temple of the Living God." A temple is a church, a place where people go to pray—which means, you know, to talk with God. So your body is really a holy place, to be kept always sweet and pure. If we listen to what God's messengers tell us, we shall learn to do this.

Away back in the beginning, as we learned last Sunday, we didn't have a body at all and didn't know how to build one. So some of God's older children came and gave us the seed from which our bodies were to be made. And what do you suppose that seed was made of? It was made of thought. So you see the wonderful bodies we have today started as little seeds of thought.

Just as the picture of each plant and flower is in the tiny seed from which it grows — so, too, were the pictures of what our bodies were to become in those seeds of thought. We worked away at the little seeds for ages and ages, with God's great children, the Star Angels, helping us to make them grow into better and better bodies, but we couldn't move inside of them until they were all ready.

There are so many parts to our bodies and so much to be done to make them live and grow and move that God has given us millions of tiny life sparks to help us. Some day, when we have learned the lessons which God's messengers are teaching us, we shall know just how to manage these little life sparks and tell them what to do. We are not wise enough yet, so God is helping the life sparks to build the various parts of our bodies and keep them going.

In God's Universe the great planet Saturn is the one who helps to make things hard. So what part of the body do you suppose Saturn helped us to build? When you take hold of your arm or your hand or your foot, what are the hard things you feel inside? Bones, of course. Here is a picture (show picture of skeleton) showing just how these bones look. All together they are called the "skeleton." The skeleton is the framework on which our temple,

the body, is built. Without this framework we couldn't stand up at all, could we? We should be all soft and mushy — like a jelly fish.

Tell me, then, what is it that supports your body (that is, helps it to stand up and hold together)? Your bones. The skeleton.

Now tell me this: What makes the skeleton live and grow? It is the spark of God that is You! Isn't that wonderful?

And now I am going to tell you a secret. Up here in the bone that makes your forehead is a tiny room where that spark of God — the Light that is You — lives. And no one but God can see that Light. After you know about the Light that is You living up there in your forehead you can never again think that your body is you, can you? Of course not.

#### GRADE II - FOURTH SUNDAY

Review of Month's work.

SERVICE SUNDAY — BIBLE: John 3:11-17

This is the holiest time of all the year, when people share with others their gifts and greetings. This is the time when, as we have learned, Christ comes back to the center of our Earth to give us His Light and Love. We also celebrate the birthday of Jesus. He came as a little babe into this world to teach us how to love one another, not only at this time of year, but every single day.

That takes quite a bit of doing for each one of us, but we can do so if we will keep good thoughts in our minds and hearts, and also do what we are asked by our mothers and fathers, which is what Jesus did as a boy. Christ Jesus was kind to every one and helped people become well and happy by teaching them about having good thoughts, doing kind deeds, and helping others. If we do these things we

shall make the Roses bloom upon our Cross (which is our body).

When people have good will in their hearts for everyone, there will come the day when there will be Peace on Earth and all people will sing and praise God with these words: Glory to God in the Highest!

## LESSON SUGGESTIONS FOR AQUARIUS

GRADE II -- FIRST SUNDAY

Keyword: Individuality.

We are going to learn today about the family of Star Angels which is called Aquarius. You remember, don't you, that instead of writing out the name of the Star Angels we make a mark called a symbol? Well, the symbol for Aquarius is made like this: ..... So whenever you see this symbol, you will know that it means Aquarius.

The great Star Angel who is the messenger from Aquarius is the planet Uranus. His symbol is made like this: \( \mathbb{H} \), and his message is, "Let's be friends!"

You see, in the long, long time since we first started out as tiny life sparks to take our place in God's wonderful picture, we have grown to be more and more different from each other. That is because God lets each life spark do its own bit of work in its very own way. You will find, if you look, that even the blades of grass are different from one another.

Each Star Angel, too, is different from every other Star Angel and each family of Star Angels is different from all the other families of Star Angels, each family having its own special work to do in God's Universe. But do you think they quarrel because of these differences? Indeed they do not! They couldn't possibly quarrel be-

cause of the great love they have for God and for every life spark in His Universe. Each one loves his own work and does it as well as he can with all his might, and is so happy because God lets him have a part in building His beautiful Universe.

But we, God's Earth children, are only just beginning to learn how to live together and work together in love. Sometimes we don't like the people who are very different from us and who do things in a way that is different from the way we want to do it. And sometimes we quarrel with them, don't we? That is why God sends His beautiful Star Angel Uranus to say to us over and over, "Let's be friends!". He knows we can never do anything really big and beautiful unless we are friends with one another.

When you are playing with your friends, and one says, "Let's do this," and another says, "Let's do that," and someone else says, "If you don't do what I want, I won't play," you just remember what Uranus is saying, "Let's be friends!" Then you say, "Let's try to find something to play that everybody likes."

Whenever you stop a quarrel and help your friends to be happy together, do you know what you are doing? You are helping the Star Angel Uranus to do his beautiful work in God's world, and your own little light will shine brighter than it did before.

#### GRADE II — SECOND SUNDAY

Keyword: Friendship.

What is a friend? Can you tell me? Are there not some boys or girls you just love to play with, who like to do the same things you like to do, and who always make you glad when they come to see you? Well, one who makes you feel like that is a friend.

It is easy to be a friend to somebody we love, isn't it?

Before the Roses on our Cross can even begin to open, though, we must learn to be a friend to everybody. That is not quite so easy, is it? Have you ever seen the children you play with run away from some boy or girl they didn't like, or say, "You can't play with us"? Perhaps that boy or girl said, "I don't care. I don't like you, anyway," and went home all hurt and sorry and angry, and the rest of you went on playing and forgot all about it. Have you ever seen that happen? And did you ever stop to think how you would feel if the boys and girls did that to you? If you did, you would run after that boy or girl and say, "I'll play with you. Never mind about the others — they didn't mean to hurt you; they just didn't think."

That is one of the biggest and finest ways of being a friend, and if you try it, it will make you so happy that you will always want to be a friend to the people whom nobody else likes. You know, they all have inside of them a beautiful light, which is a spark of God, a light that some day will drive away all the ugly thoughts that hide it, and will shine out clear and bright. Perhaps those people seem to be cross and ugly only because no one loves them. If you will try to make them happy, the first thing you know you will be loving them. Then all the sweet, good things that are hidden away inside their hearts will come out, and other people will like them too. Then everyone around them will be happy. And do you know, there isn't anything you can do that makes Christ so happy as to be such a friend as this. Will you try it?

#### GRADE II - THIRD SUNDAY

Keyword: Cooperation.

Today is the day we study about that wonderful body of ours with all the little life sparks in it, and we'll see if they know how to be friends. Each little spark has a separate little body of its own called a cell, so tiny that we can't possibly see it with our eyes unless we look through a magnifying glass, which is a glass that makes everything look many times larger than it really is. Our whole body is made of these tiny cells, and there are more of them than you can count.

As we learned last month, we are not wise enough yet to manage these little workers in our bodies, so the great Star Angels do it for us. And what do you suppose happens? The little cells gather into families, and each family does a special kind of work, just as the great Star Angels do. One family of cells builds our head and makes our brain work, another builds our neck, another our lungs that we breathe with, another our heart, and so on with every part of our body. If we could look inside our bodies and see what is going on there, we would see these little cells working away busily night and day, each doing its own work as hard as it can but working happily with all the others. And what are they working for? To keep the body in which we live clean and healthy and beautiful because it is the temple of the spark of God that is the real you.

Each one of these cells is learning how to live and work, together with all the other cells, for God and for us. So you see, they do know how to be friends, don't they? That is because they are never naughty and they do just what the Star Angels tell them to do. We'll learn many more interesting things about these little workers later on.

Let us stop and think for a minute of all the Messengers of God who are helping us, and all the tiny life sparks in our wonderful bodies who are working for us every minute — just happy to be doing something for God and for us, even though we don't know a thing about it. Let us say: "Dear friends, great and small, we thank you." Let us say it together: "Dear Friends, Great and Small, We Thank You!"

### GRADE II — FOURTH SUNDAY

SERVICE SUNDAY—BIBLE: Matthew 5:43-48 inclusive.

This is our Sunday School — yours and mine. We come here to learn about God and His helpers, about what God wants us to do and how to do it, and to thank God for all we have by singing, praying, and listening. For all of this, we have only one hour on Sunday, which means every minute is precious. We need to come every Sunday or we may miss the very thing we need to know most of all.

God and His helpers look after us every minute of every day and we owe everything to them. We may say we would like to take a day off. What would happen if for one single minute God and His helpers took a day off, stopped loving us, and holding in place this Earth, the Sun, Moon, and stars?

Every morning the Sun rises; sometimes the clouds hide it, but the Sun is always behind them. We know if it were not for the Sun we could not live and nothing would grow; there would be no food and without it we could not live very long.

It's what we do each minute that counts. Will we be workers for God and show Him our thanks for His loving care? Will we help others to learn about Him? God sees all we do. I wonder if He is sad when we are so slow in doing what He wants us to do in the way Christ Jesus teaches us?

Let's learn all we can and do all we can. Let's be friends. The only way to do that is to be kind one to another.

#### LESSON SUGGESTIONS FOR PISCES

GRADE II - FIRST SUNDAY

Keyword: Obedience.

This morning we shall learn about another family of Star Angels, the Sign Pisees. The symbol that stands for Pisces is made like this:  $\mathcal{H}$ . (Draw symbol on blackboard.) God sends us two great messengers from Pisces: the beautiful Jupiter (symbol,  $\mathcal{H}$ ) that we can often see in the evening sky, and the great planet Neptune (symbol,  $\mathcal{H}$ ), which is so far away that we have to look through a big telescope to see it. Jupiter always says to us, "Be Kind!", and Neptune says, "Sh! Listen! God is calling."

You remember that each family of Star Angels is teaching us something that we must know how to do before the Roses can bloom upon our Cross, and what the Angels from Pisces are trying to teach us is *obedience*. That means that we should do what God asks us to do because, you see, He knows what is best for us and what will make us happy. He gives us our mothers and fathers to help us while we are little children, and that is why it is so very important for us to mind what they tell us.

Just suppose you found a box filled with something that looked to you like candy. And Mother said: "Don't eat any of that, it isn't good for you." But you had eaten candy before and it had not made you sick so you can't understand why you should not have some of that candy. And you say to yourself, "I'll just take one piece, I know it won't hurt me." But a little voice way down in your heart says, "Don't do it, don't do it. It would be wrong to eat it when Mother asked you not to." And suppose you say, "I don't care. I want some and I'm going to eat it anyway." Then you take a piece and it doesn't taste so very good but you take another and then another.

Nothing happens for awhile but you don't feel happy and you just wish you hadn't done it.

That night you get very sick and you find out there was some kind of medicine in that candy which was why Mother told you not to eat any. So Mother knew best, didn't she? And she had a real reason for asking you not to eat the candy, didn't she?

Well, that is exactly how it is with the things that God asks us to do and not to do. That little voice way down in our hearts is *His* voice telling us always what is good and what is bad so that we may not hurt ourselves by doing the wrong thing.

It means so much to God to have us love that sweet voice has chosen Neptune, one of the greatest of the Star Angels, in our own hearts and learn to listen to it that He to whisper to us always, "Sh! Listen! God is calling." He knows too that if we listen to His voice it will help us to remember that every single person in the world is His child, and that He wants us to be kind to them all. He wants this so much that He sends His beautiful Star Angel Jupiter to say to us "Be Kind!"

#### GRADE II - SECOND SUNDAY

KEYWORD: Compassion.

Have you ever seen a very long ladder reaching from the ground to the very top of a house? Of course you have! Well, in God's world there is a ladder reaching from the very littlest thing that lives, straight up to Him. It is the ladder of life, and everything that lives is climbing up that ladder.

On the very lowest step of this ladder are the rocks and sand, the iron and copper, and all the things that make up this Earth of ours. But the rocks can't grow or move. On the next step are the trees and grass and flowers and vegetables, all the green growing things that make the Earth beautiful and give us food to eat. These are ahead of the rocks and sand, you see, because they can grow and send out seeds from which little baby plants can grow. But they can't move because they have roots which hold them tight to the ground. On the next step of the ladder of life are the animals. They are ahead of the plants because they can move as well as grow. They have little baby animals instead of seeds.

Now what do you suppose comes next to the animals? Why, we come next. And what is it that we can do which the animals can't do? We can think and put our thoughts into words, can't we?

We have climbed up four steps on God's ladder. But that ladder goes on, up and up, and on each step are some of God's children who are ahead of us. On the next step above us are the Angels, who watch over us and help us in many ways. Then come the Archangels, the Cherubim and the Seraphim, and all the wonderful Star Angels who are helping God to build His beautiful Universe.

Now all these Great Ones know how wonderful it is up above us, and they want us to hurry up and climb to the next step. So they love us, and whisper God's messages to us, helping us as much as they can. But, you see, they cannot make us climb. We must do that ourselves, and we can go just as fast or as slow as we like. But if we knew what was up there on that next step, my, how hard we would try to do what God's messengers tell us.

## GRADE II — THIRD SUNDAY

KEYWORD: Rhythm.

This morning I am going to tell you something you probably don't know, and that is that each of the great families of Star Angels has helped to build a part of our body, and is helping us to keep that part in order.

There are twelve families of Star Angels, so your body is like a house with twelve rooms in it. The Light that is You lives in this house, and holds together the millions of little workers called cells, who work in each room. The Star Angels help the little cells in the different rooms to do their work just right by sending their love thoughts to them, each family of Star Angels taking special care of the workers in one room, and these love thoughts are so beautiful that they are like a song.

Now the part of the body which the Star Angels from Pisces helped us to build is the feet. They are a very important part, too, aren't they? The whole body is resting on them, and without them we should have nothing to stand on. God's messengers are teaching us to be kind, and always to listen to what God is telling us. These messages are just as important in our lives as our feet are to our body. We couldn't climb a wooden ladder without any feet, could we? Well, neither can we climb that great ladder of life without listening to the voice of God and being kind.

Now I'm going to ask you something. What do you suppose happens in that twelve-room house of ours when we are unkind and send out angry thoughts, or when we will not listen to the voice of God, but instead do what we know to be wrong? That ugly thought or feeling goes crashing through our twelve-room house like an ugly noise that shocks the little cell-workers and keeps them from feeling the love thoughts of the Star Angels who are helping them do their work just right. And if we keep on doing wrong things or thinking wrong thoughts, the first thing we know the little workers in our body get all confused and don't know what to do. Then things begin to go wrong in that house of ours, and that's what we call being sick.

But when the Roses have bloomed upon our Cross, when we have learned to do all the things that God's great

messengers are trying to teach us, then our thoughts will grow to be like the love thoughts of the Star Angels, as beautiful as a song, and there will be nothing to disturb the little workers in our twelve-room house, so we shall never be sick any more.

GRADE II - FOURTH SUNDAY

REVIEW.

Service Sunday - Bible: Mark 12:28-31 Inclusive.

There is inside everyone a tiny part of God which He put there to grow. It will only grow when we have good thoughts, do kind things, use kind words, and eat those foods which make our bodies strong and healthy. Every time we have bad thoughts, do bad things, or eat the wrong food, this tiny part of God stops growing. That is why we must always be God's helpers and watch so only good thoughts stay with us, that we do only kind things, and eat the right foods, so tiny sparks will grow.

When that tiny spark gets big enough and Roses bloom upon our Cross, we will always be well, strong, and happy because we are doing what God wants us to do. When enough people think good thoughts and do kind things, there will be peace all over the world, and all people will be sisters and brothers. So let us start in our homes by being kind to our sisters and brothers, our mothers and fathers.

Let us remember to use the charm words, whenever we feel like using cross words, perhaps hurting sisters and brothers, or not listening to Mother and Dad. This will make it easier to be God's helper so the tiny spark of God in each one of us will grow and grow.

So let's work together, play together, pray together, and grow up together — by being kind, loving, and helpful in our thoughts, words, and deeds.

CHARM WORDS — LOVE, PEACE, AND JOY

#### LESSON SUGGESTIONS FOR ARIES

#### GRADE II — FIRST SUNDAY

KEYWORD: Initiative.

Since last Sunday something very wonderful has happened and today we shall talk about it. Remember how the Sun Spirit Christ came at Christmastime and ever since has been living in our Earth to help us by His love to make the roses bloom upon our cross (our body)? Now He is going back to God, the Father, to rest and gather up new life and strength to bring back to us next year. After Christ has worked for us day and night all these months, He needs to be refreshed just as we do at night time, only He gets His new strength through closer contact with our Father God than we as Earth people can at this time.

On March 21st the Sun passed into the sign Aries and that is when Christ took His temporary leave of this Earth to return to the Father. However, the love He left behind is like a great golden light, touching every other spark of light in God's world — the light that is the real YOU, and the light in every little cell, plant, and animal — making it want to grow and do things. The birds sing their thanks to Christ, they are busy from morn until night building their nests soft and cosy for the baby birds that will soon be coming out of the pretty blue eggs they lay. The little cells in the plants work as fast as they can, building new shoots, sending out buds and blossoms for the fairies to paint with their lovely colors.

Christ has given us this wonderful love-light to use in climbing the Ladder of Life. God calls us through His great Aries Star Angels to awaken and make up our minds what we will do with this golden light. He sends us a messenger, the planet Mars, who always says to us, "Do it!"

What are you going to do with this beautiful Christ

Light? Waste it just in playing, perhaps being naughty, or use it being happy and good, trying with all your might to make others happy by doing the things God wants you to do? Let each one of us do our very best to make the Roses bloom upon our Cross and our stars to shine brighter; then when Christ returns He will be surprised and pleased to see how much we have increased the golden Light He gave us.

BIBLE LESSON—BIBLE: Christ the Spirit of the Earth: Matthew 28:16-20.

A few Sundays ago we learned about the birth of Jesus and the coming to Earth of the Christ Spirit, a great Archangel from the Sun. This Spirit lived for three years in the body of Jesus, being known as Christ Jesus. Although He appeared to be like other men, there was a great difference, a power went out from Him which all could feel. Some could see a wonderful light shining around His body, which was the Golden Wedding Garment which we are trying hard to make. Some day, after we learn to do the things God wants us to, loving even those who hate us, our Golden Wedding Garment will become as wonderful as that of the great Sun Spirit Christ.

Have you ever tried looking at the Sun on a bright day? You found its brightness blinding. That is where Christ lives, but about 2000 years ago He came to live for a time in the body of Jesus. The people living then could look upon Him and not be blinded. There were those who could not feel His great love nor understand His teachings, so they nailed Him to the cross. But when they did this, the Christ slipped from the body of Jesus and entered the Earth to become our Star Angel. Since that time, He has come to us every year, as the Spirit of the Earth. As each one of us has a Spirit, so also has the Earth, the loving Christ.

We know the Earth is dense, heavy, without light of

its own. Christ's work is to lighten it, making it glow like the Sun, which is a great task. Of all the Archangels, only He could do this; although it causes Him intense pain, because of His great love for us all He endures it. "Nearer than hands and feet" is He, and because of this nearness He is able to help us. Let us always love Him and praise Him for His wonderful love.

#### GRADE II - SECOND SUNDAY

KEYWORD: Courage.

One of the things we all must learn is to be brave, not to be afraid of anything. That is why God's messenger keeps saying all the time, "Do it!" God wants us to climb the Ladder of Life, and the only way we can do so is by doing things, not just thinking about doing them.

There are two ways of doing things — a right way and a wrong way. Isn't it strange, the right way seems hard but really is easy, while the wrong way seems easy but is really hard?

Suppose you live on a street where many autos are passing all the time, and Mother has told you never to cross the street unless some grown person is with you. One day you are playing outside and the little boy, living across the street, comes running over, saying, "Oh, come on over to my house. I've got something to show you that you've never seen before." You say, "I can't go because Mother doesn't allow me to cross the street." The boy says, "Oh, you're just afraid! Come on. We'll come right back, and she'll never know the difference." You don't want him to think you're afraid, and you want to see what he wants to show you.

Which would be the bravest, go with him and show you aren't afraid of the autos, or say "No" and let him laugh at you? The easier way would be just to go along with him, wouldn't it? That would not be the brave way

and the right way, though. It takes more courage to say, "No, you can laugh at me if you want and say what you like, but I'm not going to do it because it is wrong."

Many times every day we must choose between the right and wrong way. Whenever we choose the wrong way because it seems easier, we are hurting Christ who loves us, and making trouble for ourselves later on. Whenever we choose the right way and the brave way, we are happy inside because we're making a sweet sound in God's world, and helping Christ to make our world better. Also, one of our "roses" opened just a bit wider, while our "star" is shining a bit brighter than before. The oftener we choose the right way, the easier it gets.

Bible Lesson—Temptation of Christ Jesus: Matthew 4:1-11 Incl.

The Christ Spirit comes to us from the Sun to show us the Way, the Truth, and the Life. While He lived for three years in Jesus' body, He went through many things we also shall go through. After Christ Jesus was baptized, He went into the wilderness to be tempted of the Devil — the lower self. We too must be tempted as the Christ Spirit was, as we must follow in His steps.

A person baptized by the Spirit has a wonderful power flowing into him. Suppose this wonderful power flowed into us, but that we were very selfish. We could use it to do much evil in the world. Let us say money, pretty clothes, toys, and other presents are given us, there will be the temptation to use them for ourselves and not for the happiness of others too. The greatest temptation comes when God gives us His spiritual power, which was what Christ Jesus received. After we are baptized in God's wonderful stream of life, the Devil — our lower self — standing for all powers of selfishness and wickedness, comes to tempt us to use God's power in the wrong way.

After Christ Jesus was baptized and fasted forty days and forty nights, He was hungry. The tempter, the Devil, came to Him and said: "If thou art the Son of God, command these stones to become bread." Satan, the lower nature, knew Christ had power to make bread of stones, but Christ, or the Higher Self, knew to do so would be wrong use of the power given Him by God. This power was only to be used for healing and helping others. He said to the Tempter: "Man shall not live by bread alone, but by every word that proceedeth out of the mouth of God."

Later, the Tempter took Christ Jesus up into a very high mountain, showing Him all the kingdoms of the world and glory of them. He said, "All these things will I give Thee if thou wilt fall down and worship me." The Devil tried to tempt Christ Jesus into becoming a great earthly king ruling with the sword, but He knew He was a spiritual ruler and would rule by the power of love. He said to the Tempter: "Get thee hence, Satan, for it is written, thou shalt worship the lord thy God, and Him only shalt thou serve." Afterwards the Angels came and ministered unto Christ Jesus as they will do to us when we are filled with the power of Love. It takes real courage to resist temptation. Let us pray that we may always be able to do this, just as the loving Christ Jesus did.

## GRADE II — EASTER SUNDAY

THE RESURRECTION: Matthew 28:1-10 Incl.

This is one of the most wonderful days of the year, the Resurrection of Christ. We have learned a great deal about the loving Christ Spirit who came to this earth from the Sun to help us. He came to show us the Way, the Truth, and the Life, and He asks that we follow in His steps.

The Bible tells what He did during the three years

He lived in the body of Jesus, being called Christ Jesus. We have learned about His baptism and temptation.

Everyone's birthday means a great deal usually being celebrated in some way. Christ Jesus had a birthday at Christmastime, a day of joy and happiness to thousands of people. On Good Friday we remember the death of Christ Jesus, but on the Sunday following, Easter Sunday, we observe His resurrection, which means to rise. In using the word death, we mean the death of the body, not the Spirit that lives in the body. The Spirit can never die, as that is part of God, and God will always be. Only the body dies: the Spirit in it rises from the body at the time of what we call death. That is what resurrection means. At the time Christ Jesus was on earth most people didn't know the Spirit lived on after death; they thought death was the end. Even now, some people believe death ends everything, but we know they are wrong. However, a few people at the time of Christ believed the Spirit lived on after death, and He told them about it in a wonderful way that helped strengthen their belief.

Very early on Easter Sunday morning, the day of Christ's resurrection, two women — Mary Magdalene and Mary, mother of James, one of Jesus' disciples—went to the tomb where Christ had been laid on Good Friday, and there in front of it stood an Angel. His face was like lightning and his clothing white as snow. He said to the women: "Fear not. Ye seek Jesus who was crucified, but He is not here. He is risen from the dead." The women were very glad, and went to give the good news to the disciples. While the disciples were together talking over what had been said by the Angel, Christ Himself in His shining body stood in the midst of them and said: "Peace be unto you."

All of this means much more than we can tell in words. Christ came to show us the way to life everlasting, and we must follow in His steps. We too must learn to take care of our body; it may pain and hurt us, still we must continue taking as good care as possible, not hurting it in any way. The day will come when we must leave it, as did Christ. We shall rise from it, and shall find ourselves in our Golden Wedding Garment, a finer and more beautiful body than the one we now live in. That is what is meant by rising from the dead. We rise from our body of flesh and blood, soaring into the air, like a bird, in our finer body of ether.

All around us we see this beautiful story of resurrection — the birds in their nests getting ready to hatch their eggs and bring forth their children. The caterpillar crawling on the ground is getting ready to become a butterfly and fly off into the blue sky. All the flowers hiding in the cold, dark ground during winter now push out little shoots, tasting warm spring air and feeling the sunshine. Everywhere all of God's creatures are glad Christ has risen from the dead. We have His promise that we too shall rise, in a more wonderful way than we can now imagine.

## GRADE II - FOURTH SUNDAY

Keyword: Action.

Today we learn a little more about that twelve-room house of ours, our body, the part which the Aries Star Angels help us build and use. It is the brain.

Have you ever wondered what was inside that hard bone which is your head? Let's compare it to an electric power house with all the machinery operating, and electric wires, going in all directions, to carry power for street lights, home lights to operate motors, washers, refrigerators, TV, radios, telephones, and many other modern conveniences. Inside that hard bone we speak of as the skull is the power house for our bodies with thousands of little

wires called nerves. As the electric wires transmit power for use everywhere, so the nerves go to every part of your body to carry the life power of that spark of light that is YOU to run your body and make it do what you want it to do. Besides these little nerves are tiny storehouses where everything we ever thought or knew is kept, also secret passages only God knows of, together with all kinds of machinery it would take a long while to learn about.

Let us suppose there is an apple put on the table for your use, whenever you come in — you pick it up and eat it. What happens inside your head when you do this? As you come into the room, the cells in your eyes telephone over the nerve wires to the real YOU, there is something round and red and appetizing on the table. Having seen many apples before, you know what it is. You couldn't know if the cells in that part of your brain had not telephoned all they knew about apples. And you couldn't reach out your hand and take the apple without sending a message along the nerve wires to the muscles of your arms and fingers. The muscles are strong red bands holding the bones together and help you to move them as you wish.

After eating the apple, your power house still is busy, for a different set of wires, coming from a place in back of your brain, carries messages to cells down in the stomach about what to do with the apple and how to fix it so your body may use it to grow strong and well. We aren't wise enough to tell these cells how to do this, so God sends them the message through Mother Moon. We shall soon learn about this.

Would you ever think there was such a busy power house up in your head? Remember, we said the messenger God sends from Mars is always telling us "Do it!" This is the Star Angel helping us work our brain and our muscles so that we can do things.