

A LESSON ON FORGIVENESS

Sunday School Lesson for July 31, 1910
Specially Arranged for This Paper

LESSON TEXT.—Matthew 18:21-35. Memory verses 21, 22.
GOLDEN TEXT.—"If you forgive men their trespasses, your Heavenly Father will also forgive you."—Matt. 6:14.
TIME.—Autumn of A. D. 29.
PLACE.—Capernaum, near the Sea of Galilee.

Suggestion and Practical Thought.
The Occasion of Peter's Question.—Matt. 18: 1-20. After the return from the Transfiguration scene, when Jesus with his disciples were together in a house in Capernaum, Jesus gave them some practical teaching and training on how they should feel and act in a time of growing opposition from ungodly men among whom they must live and work.

First of all they must cease ambitious striving for place and honor. They must "fling away ambition, by that sin fell the angels." This self-seeking spirit was exactly opposite to the kingdom of heaven, and if they did not overcome it, their lives would be failures. It also tended to awaken hard feelings between brethren. Cut off your foot; pluck out your eye, if you must, but hold on to the spirit of the kingdom.

The second lesson was from their Heavenly Father's seeking not to destroy those who hate and revile and disobey him, but to give himself to seeking and saving the lost.

The third lesson was upon the way they should carry out this divine spirit toward those who sinned against them.

Peter's Question and Jesus' Answer, Concerning the Duty of Forgiving Enemies.—Vs. 21, 22. "The Rabblis, who had been the disciples' teachers hitherto, required an offender to go to the injured party and obtain forgiveness by owning his fault; but Jesus told them that among his disciples the person wronged was to go to the wrongdoer, that such humility and love might strengthen his own graces, and win the guilty one to contrition."—MacLaren.

This was a hard saying, but by united prayer this spirit, as well as every other blessing, could be obtained. But wrongs to others, real or fancied, are very common, and Peter naturally asks how long one must carry out this instruction toward those who keep on sinning and apparently repenting.

Jesus Illustrates His Teaching by a Parable.—Vs. 23-34. Contrasting the debt sinful man owes to God with what any man wronging his fellow man owes to the one he has injured. If therefore God forgives freely the great debt, forgiven man certainly should forgive the little debt.

The Two Methods of Treating the Debtors. 25. "Commanded him to be sold . . . and all that he had." So in Syria now, when the debt grows till it equals in value the entire property of the debtors, the creditor seizes all they possess.

"The same servant went out." From his king's presence. He acted in the very heat of his own experience of release. "And found one of his fellow-servants." An inferior officer. "Owed him an hundred pence." When the common translation of the Bible was made the pennies were all silver, copper pennies not being coined till 1797. "Took him by the throat." Literally, went to choking him. "Thus Livy (IV., 53) relates how, a difficulty having arisen between the consul Valerius and one Menenius, the tribunes put an end to the contest, and the consul ordered into prison (collum torsisset, twisted the neck) the few who appealed. And Cicero (Pro Cluentio, XXI.): 'Lead him to the judgment-seat with twisted neck (collis obtorto).' Compare Cicero in C. Verrem, IV., 10."—Vincent.

"Fell down at his feet. . . I will pay thee all." The very act and words he himself had so lately employed to his creditor.

"And he would not: but went" (went away) "and cast him into prison."

He had reasons in his own mind, as (1) that the man deserved the punishment; (2) it was his own fault that he was in debt; (3) it was not good for the community that such men go unpunished. But not one of these did he want applied to himself.

The Lesson in Daily Life.—V. 35, 1. The Punishment of Those Who Refuse to Forgive Those Who Injure Them. "So likewise shall my heavenly Father do also unto you." The torments must follow to you "if ye from your hearts," really and not merely in words, "forgive not every one his brother their trespasses." Every such person is going in the straight road to the tormentors.

There is no greater torment than those conscience and the working out of the laws of nature and of spirit produce in order to make the way of transgressors so hard that they may be persuaded to turn, and repent and obey and be saved.

SENTENCE SERMONS.

"Forgiveness is man's deepest need and highest achievement."—Bushnell.
"Be ye therefore imitators of God, as beloved children." An unforgiving Christian is, therefore, a moral monster.

"An old Spanish writer says, 'To return evil for good is devilish; to return good for good is human; but to return good for evil is Godlike.'—Archbishop Whately.

"I have known a man nurse the tiny cockatrice egg of unforgiveness till it has burst into the fiery serpent of crime."—Farrar.

POULTRY

POULTRY NOTES.

Watch the flock carefully. Feed the fowls regularly. Perfect cleanliness from now on will out short the louse crop of June.

If you stamp a date on your eggs, sell them before the date gets old. Fried chicken and fresh eggs are the rewards for care in poultry raising.

Chicken stew and roasted chicken are some of the delicacies in store for poultry raisers.

Feed the little chicks ground grain and skimmed milk. Do not let the hen lead them into wet grass.

When the brooder chicks seem very thirsty, wild for water, let them drink and feed very lightly while so feverish.

Fowls need green food at this season of the year. Better results will be obtained if you allow them to graze a portion of the day.

Many a setting of eggs has been spoiled by making the nest on the floor where the wind can come up through the cracks under the old mother hen.

April is a good month to hatch goose eggs. It is also an excellent time for getting out ducklings. Stock hatched now will be best for next year's breeding.

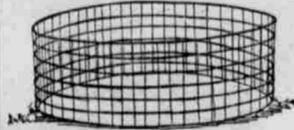
Now is the time to begin if you wish to have turkeys for Thanksgiving and Christmas. Few fowls are more profitable than turkeys when properly managed.

Does that old hen lay? Try this if she does not: Feed her all the chopped clover she will eat, with an ounce of lean meat every day. If there is any lay in her that will bring it out.

FEEDER FOR CHICKS USEFUL

Constructed of Poultry Fencing, Will Accommodate 150 Birds—Little Ones Have Chance.

One of the handiest devices that can be had on a farm is a chicken feeder. To make it take a piece of poultry fencing (not netting) about 20 feet long and fasten the ends together, forming a small park. This



Chicken Feeder.

will accommodate 150 chicks. The wires of this fencing are just the right width apart to let the little chicks through and keep the old hens out. This gives the chicks a chance to peck at the feed a long time safe from the interference of the old hens

GEESE ARE VERY PROFITABLE

Gray African Variety Grow Heaviest in Shortest Space of Time—Are Nicely Flavored.

Gray African geese are very profitable to keep. They grow the heaviest in the shortest space of time and



Pair of Gray African Geese.

are ready for market in ten weeks, weighing at that age between eight and ten pounds. For table purposes they are esteemed very highly, their flesh being fine and nicely flavored.

Demand for Good Breeds.

There is a strong demand at good prices for good breeding stock and eggs of pure bred strains of poultry. All you need to do is to get some good breed and grow enough of them to make it worth while and the rest is easy. Only let people know that you have them by advertising a little and there will be no trouble in disposing of all you can raise. It is the least trouble and the safest to keep only one breed. There is too much chance of mixing if more than one breed is kept.

Money in Little Chicks.

There is a growing demand for pure bred young chicks and baby chicks just hatched. It has been found that baby chicks can be shipped by express for long distances with perfect safety. If you are in a position to hatch some of the pure-breeds let people know that you have them. It is a good business when once learned.

Food for Confined Fowls.

A moment's study of the habits of fowls should show anyone that their diet when running loose is largely composed of flesh in the form of bugs and worms. Therefore when fowls are confined and not able to choose their feed they should be supplied with their natural rations in the form of chopped meat and bone meals.

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POULTRY

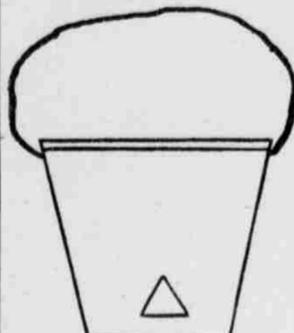
IMPORTANCE OF GOOD FEED

Well Established Fact That It Is Easier to Hatch Chickens Than to Raise Them.

It is a well-known fact that it is easier to hatch chickens than to raise them. The following method has given satisfactory results on a successful poultry ranch:

For the first six days a commercial chick feed is used, consisting of cracked grains, such as wheat, oats, corn, millet seed, weed seed, grit, egg shells, and meat scraps. Part of the feed is placed in shallow saucers and the remainder scattered among the chaff. It is important that the young birds should be active, so scratching for food is good exercise. Clean water is kept before them at all times.

When the chicks are let into the outdoor runs, which is about the sixth day, if the weather is favorable, skim milk is added to the ration. This is fed once a day, in the morning, and is placed in drinking fountains in the outside runways. The quantity of milk fed is determined by what will be cleaned up within a short time, for



Self-Feeder for Chicks.

It is not allowed to stand in the fountains all day. Meanwhile the drinking fountains in the brooders are kept supplied with water, and can be removed to the outside runways when desired.

At this period one or even two of the three daily feeds of the commercial chick feed may be replaced by "Johnny cake." When the chicks are about three weeks old the commercial feed is gradually replaced by a mixture consisting of one-half of whole wheat, one-fourth of cracked corn, and one-fourth of steel cut oats. This is thrown into the inside runways, mornings and evenings, in a quantity a little less than the chicks will eat. In the middle of the day fifty chicks receive in place of the grain mixture a piece of home-made bread, called "Johnny cake," about six inches square and two inches thick. This is made of one part oatmeal, two parts corn meal, a little whole wheat flour, a pinch of salt and infertile eggs from the incubator, the whole being mixed with sour milk and soda. From two to six eggs are used in a Johnny cake eight inches square and two inches thick. The rule is to feed half to two-thirds of what the chicks will eat of this cake, and never feed anything in such quantity that portions will be left to be trampled on after the chicks have lost interest in it.

In addition to the mixed grains and cake, a small quantity of some succulent material is thrown into the runways. For this purpose grass, carrots, kale, lettuce and the like are used. Kale is much relished, and lettuce is one of the best feeds of this kind. The quantity of this material fed may be judged from the statement that one apple or one loaf of kale is given to fifty chicks.

Chickens will not scratch when they are overfed nor when there is no feed in the litter. The idea is to keep them scratching.

The changes in rations are made gradually. Disorders are easily caused by sudden and radical changes of feed. During this period finely chopped meat is fed sparingly. The chicks get a good many angleworms from the freshly spaded soil in the outside runs.

Scrupulous cleanliness is observed about the brooders and runways. Everything is carefully disinfected by the free use of disinfectants before the chicks are placed in their quarters. This prevents trouble with vermin and sickness. Any chicks that do not show growth and activity from day to day are immediately removed, thus insuring the strength and vigor of the flock.

The self-feeder shown in the illustration is a useful article for the poultry raiser. It is made out of a tin pail, new or old, having a lid to it. A hole is cut three inches long and the tin pressed back, as shown. This will allow the feed to run down as fast as the chicks eat it.

Milk for Chickens.

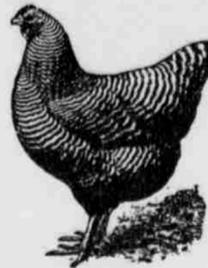
Buttermilk, sour milk or sweet skim-milk are excellent, but if the latter is fed, it should never sour in the vessel, nor should any other article of food ever sour or remain after the meal. Keep vessels and feedboards strictly clean. Greens, such as lettuce, clover and chopped vegetables, must not be missing, but fed liberally with other feed when the chicks are housed. Insist upon variety in feed and feeding, systematically embracing the foregoing diet. Good mixtures may also be had from reliable supply houses.

PLYMOUTH ROCK IS POPULAR

Best Liked Breed of Chickens In This Country and More Found Than Any Other.

There are many varieties of the different breeds of chickens. The difference in varieties is one chiefly in color. This is especially true of the Leghorns, Plymouth Rocks, Wyandottes and Rhode Island Reds. It may happen that the severe inbreeding which may have been necessary to produce some varieties have injured their utility or egg-laying qualities, but as a general rule the difference in varieties is a difference in color only. The white fowls present a slightly better appearance when dressed than fowls of dark plumage, but when in prime condition and properly dressed the difference will hardly be noticeable.

As a whole, the barred Plymouth Rock is without doubt the most popular breed of chickens in this country;



Barred Plymouth Rock.

more of them are found on the farms than of any other breed. On special poultry farms the Leghorn is a very popular breed, while in the poultry farming districts of Rhode Island the Rhode Island Reds are almost exclusively used. As a general utility fowl the Wyandottes are second in popularity to the Rocks, the white variety being the most popular. Their blocky shape makes them an excellent breed for broilers. Like the Plymouth Rocks and Rhode Island Reds, they lay a brown egg. The Leghorns lay a white egg, and in this respect they have a slight advantage, as most markets prefer the white egg, though there is no difference in quality of eggs with a brown or a white shell.

POINTERS IN POULTRY BREEDS

Many Things to Be Considered in Selecting Pen of Chickens for Egg Production.

In selecting a pen of fowls for egg and meat production there are several points to be considered, outside the question of breed. The most important is the health and vitality of the fowls. The greatest problem in poultry keeping is to keep up the strength and vigor of the stock. Some of the principal things that produce weakness in the fowls are inbreeding, breeding from fowls that lack in health and vitality, improper incubation and brooding, unsuitable housing, too close confinement, unclean houses and yards, lack of proper food. Constitutional weakness is shown in various ways. Small size, lack of breadth and depth of body, thin, wobbly legs and knock knees, and shallow breast usually indicate lack of vigor. As to size, it is a safe plan not to use any pure-breeds that do not come up to standard weights. A chicken may be pure-bred and lack in some of these things. It doesn't necessarily follow that because a chicken is pure-bred it is profitable to keep. In purchasing be careful to select fowls having vigor, alertness and size. Better have a vigorous "mongrel" than a pure-bred lacking in stamina.

One advantage of the pure-breeds is that the offspring are more uniform in size and shape. Uniformity of product, whether of eggs or dressed chicken, has a market value. The barnyard fowl with a mixed ancestry will usually produce chickens of different sizes and shapes, different color of skin and legs, and varying in quality of flesh. In such a flock one may have the size and characteristics of the egg breeds, another of the meat breeds, etc. The color and size of the egg will also vary. The main advantage of the pure-breeds is that you get a more uniform product from them than from the mixed fowls. The pure-breeds should lay more eggs than the "mongrels," granting that they have equal stamina. Then, of course, the pure-breeds are more attractive in appearance than the mixed chickens, and as many people keep chickens both for pleasure and profit the uniformity in color and shape of pure-breeds should be considered. On the whole, both for utility as well as fancy considerations, the pure-breeds have advantages over the mongrel fowls. The thing to be avoided, however, is the buying of chickens just because they are pure-breeds, for there are "mongrel" pure-breeds so far as vigor and profit-making capacity are concerned.

Feed for Small Hens.

Admirers of the smaller breeds say they eat but about half as much as the larger breeds, but if a hen is an every day layer she must have enough feed to make the eggs, so don't think because the hen is small she won't need much feed.

Insects for Turkeys.

As long as turkeys can get plenty of insects it is not advisable to feed grain often than once a day. Rye is too starchy for their digestive organs and if any grain is to be used it should be wheat.

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