

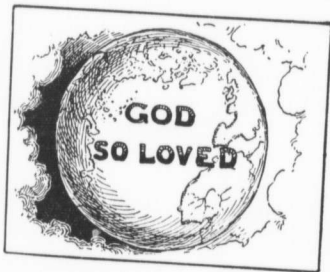
Of all who passed through the low and narrow door the little children found it easiest to go in.

You know what this story means. God is the King, his kingdom is the palace, and trusting in him is the way we go in. We can't take in our own goodness. We must not be proud and lifted up, but our hearts must stoop low. We must all go in as little children. Only those who take the King at his word will bend the head and go into the kingdom of heaven.

*The lesson.* When Jesus lived on earth a man who was a teacher or ruler among the Jews, who was thought to be very wise indeed, longed to know the way into the kingdom of heaven. He did the best and only thing to do; he came and asked Jesus about it. His name was Nicodemus, and in the darkness and quiet of the night he came to be taught. He was a teacher, but Jesus was a greater one. Jesus told Nicodemus the most important thing in the world to know. He told him how to come into God's kingdom, how to become a Christian, a child of God. He said he must become like a little child. He meant by this, as simple and trustful and lowly as a little one that believes his father's word, follows his father's way, does not try to help himself when his father carries him over the hard places, and does what his father says.

[Amplify the lesson, telling the story of the brazen serpent, which Jesus brought to the mind of Nicodemus to help him to understand how a trustful look would save, and dwelling particularly upon the Golden Text.]

*God's love.* Our Father in heaven loves the whole world. See on the blackboard this picture of a globe. We will write "God so loved" upon it. How much did he love? O, it was "so" much that he gave Jesus to die for all. Heaven



is large enough and the welcome is large enough for the whole world, for every living person to come in. [Enlarge and dwell upon the thought

of God's great love coming to us one by one, yet enough for all.] But there is only one way to come. See on the blackboard the words which show who will come in this low and narrow door of trust in God. "Whosoever believeth" will come in.

Now, which is better, to come in now while you are little and can come easily, or to wait till you are bigger and it is harder? In the story you will remember that the little children did not have to stoop so much. They were little enough to go in easily. This means that before you grow up you have fewer wrong thoughts, sinful deeds, and all that, to cast away, and it is easy to trust and easy to let Jesus have your hearts. O, come now.

### Kindergarten Hints.

**GOLDEN TEXT:** "Thou art the Christ, the Son of the living God." Matt. 16. 16. "Whosoever believeth that Jesus is the Christ is born of God." 1 John 5. 1. "Arise, shine; for thy light is come." Isa. 60. 1.

### SUPPLEMENTAL LESSON.

Show picture of Herod's temple; also show picture of a caravan. It is time for the spring festival (passover) at God's holy house in the city. Caravans like this [showing picture] are moving slowly from distant villages toward this white marble church [holding up picture of temple] on the hill.

Jesus came to this festival in the spring when he was twelve years old. How well you remember that lesson. In that springtime of his boyhood, long ago, he began to understand that he must be about his Father's work.

We may think of Jesus on this day when the festival begins, knowing himself to be the Son of God as he walks through the fields to get to his Father's house, there to make himself known.

He looks at the gray hills covered with wild roses and geraniums, and he sees people flocking from all directions toward the church on the distant hill. They are all his children. He must tell them that he is their Saviour. He would die to help them.

He must meet them in the church, in the streets, in the fields. He will talk to them about the flowers of the field and the birds of the air. He, their Saviour, wants to draw them to him as a "hen gathers her chickens under her wings." Will they come?

Some will come and never leave him. Others will stay long enough to see the wonders of his miracles, and turn carelessly away. Certain