

these chains are much more easily broken in childhood than later, using the old illustration of the threads.]

This lesson shows, too, how God takes care of his children in time of trouble. Little children do have real troubles to bear, and God knows about them all, and cares about them too. Tell the story of the little boy who wanted his father to say he was sorry when he had hurt his hand, and teach that God is always sorry for us when we are in any kind of trouble. Show also that this lesson teaches us that we need not be afraid of anything if we are little followers of Jesus.]

Kindergarten Hints.

KINDERGARTEN DEPARTMENT. Paul at Philippi. Acts 16, 25, 26, 29-36, 40.

GOLDEN TEXT. "Believe on the Lord Jesus Christ." Acts 16, 31.

AIDS TO THE KINDERGARTNER. Holy Bible, Acts 12; *The Mind of the Master* (Watson), pages 178-198, "The Dynamic of Religion;" *The Christ of To-Day* (Gordon), pages 223-226, "Moral Dynamics. God for Humanity;" *New Testament History* (Smith), pages 458-466, "The Entrance of the Gospel into Europe."

ATTENTION STORY.

All the people did not welcome Paul and Silas as Lydia did, but some wanted them to stop talking and preaching. If everyone had thought as the man did who asked Paul to "come" he could have preached to them, but many people gave much trouble, and at last put Paul and Silas in prison. While they were there they thought it all over, and they knew that they were trying to do good and they had not done wrong. When it was dark and still at night they were heard singing hymns of praise to God. By and by a wonderful thing happened. You remember we have talked in our lessons about angels opening prison doors, and this time the prison was shaken, the doors flew open, and the hands upon the prisoners were loosed so all could go free. The man who had charge of the prison called for a light, and he ran to Paul and Silas and asked them what he should do to be saved from doing wrong and from the punishments which this would bring. He wanted to do right and needed some one to help him. These good men told him of Jesus as the one whom he should believe and love, that he and his whole family might believe in Jesus, and they told the Lord's words to him. Let us read about it and see what came next. [Read Acts 16, 25, 26, 29-36, 40.]

Explain unusual words: "Foundations," "immediately," "sprang," "straightway," "comforted," "departed."

OUTLINE.

Sunday. Tell the Attention Story that it may prepare the children for the Bible lesson, then read the verses of Scripture indicated and give opportunity for the children to express their thoughts of this wonder story. Encourage them to ask questions and to talk of family life among Romans, where the father of the house was obeyed in all things. Teach

the Golden Text by repeating it together, then individually, after asking if any child can repeat it alone and would like to do so; thus making this small service voluntary. Let different children go to the blackboard and each write a word of the text, "Believe on the Lord Jesus Christ."

Monday. Talk of the pleasure which song gives, even when people are sorrowful and in trouble. Though these men were in prison they could sing because they knew in their hearts that they tried to please God. It is only wrongdoing that can bring sadness.

Tuesday. God caused the ground and the prison to shake so that the doors were opened. All nature obeys his voice. The storms come and go as he directs; the stars go in the paths which he has marked for them. This God whom earth and sea and sky will obey always is our Father, and he loves us.

Wednesday. The man who had charge of the prison did not sing, but was afraid because he knew in his heart that he had not done right always. [Let the teacher impress the children with the thought that unrest and trouble of heart and of conscience comes to those who do wrong. Contrast the unhappiness of the jailer with the joy of those who knew that they were doing right.]

Thursday. Family life and Church life are related to each other. Religion is life, and the unity of family interests and relations to the best conditions is more than theory, it is fact.

Friday. The Golden Text has all the story of what we should do if we too would be useful and good and glad always, both in this life and in the better life which is to come.

NATURE WORK. The teacher or the kindergarten may explain some of the features of earthquakes. They are "elastic waves" and have occurred more frequently in the countries washed by the Mediterranean Sea than elsewhere. The teacher may find nature wonders to talk of to the children, and during these vacation days they will be glad to collect specimens of grasses, flowers, stones, and other things. *The People's Encyclopedia* (vol ii, page 883) has information on earthquakes, and *The Beauties of Ruskin* (pages 113-115) will give you many points as to meadow grass symbols and utility.

ART WORK. Substitute nature. Instead of looking at a picture of a haying scene let the children see the real hayfield, if possible. In the city let children have little excursions into the parks, and learn to look for wonders and see beauties in living things.

HAND WORK. The children may build picture houses with their blocks, making them to have flat roofs as the houses in Philippi had. We cannot say whether Lydia or the keeper of the prison had courts with their houses, but many large houses are built around open courts, and we may build in this way also.