

Per. Reg. 2003. 670  
1777

# HOME STUDY LEAFLET.

## LESSON VI — February 10th.

### Christ and the Children. MATT. 18: 1-14.

(Commit to memory verses 2-4.)

#### GOLDEN TEXT.

"It is not the will of your Father which is in heaven that one of these little ones should perish." Matt. 18:14.

#### PROVE THAT

The children of God's people are the objects of God's special favor. Isa. 44: 3-5.

#### SHORTER CATECHISM.

Quest. 8. *How does God execute his decrees?* A. God executeth his decrees in the works of creation and providence.

#### LESSON HYMNS.

CHILDREN'S HYMNAL, Nos. 34, 214, 32, 215.

#### DAILY PORTIONS.

*Monday.* Christ and the Children; Matt. 18: 1-14. *Tuesday.* In His Arms; Mark 9: 33-37. *Wednesday.* Blessing the Children; Mark 10: 13-16. *Thursday.* Taught of the Lord; Isa. 54: 11-17. *Friday.* How to be Great; Matt. 20: 20-28. *Saturday.* The Humble Spirit; 1 Peter 5: 1-7. *Sabbath.* Christ's Humility; Phil. 2: 1-11. (The I. B. R. A. Selections.)

#### HELPS IN STUDYING.

**INTRODUCTORY.** The day after the Transfiguration our Lord healed a demoniac boy whom the disciples could not cure (Mark 9: 14-29). He then returned to Capernaum where the temple tribute-money was demanded and miraculously provided for (Matt. 17: 24-27). Our lesson immediately follows the narrative of this incident. Parallel passages, Mark 9: 33-50; Luke 9: 46-50.

**LESSON PLAN.** I. Be Humble. vs. 1-5. II. Hate Sin. vs. 6-10. III. God Loves you. vs. 11-14.

**I. BE HUMBLE. 1. In that hour**—when Jesus was speaking to Peter about the tribute-money. **Who then is the greatest** (R. V.)—This question arose out of a discussion among themselves (Mark 9: 33, 34), which may have been occasioned by his announcement that "the kingdom of heaven" was about to be set up. This unseemly rivalry broke out again at the Last Supper (Luke 22: 24-26). **The kingdom of heaven**—They wanted to know what prominent positions they were to get when Jesus became king. **2. Set him in the midst**—Mark adds that he took him in his arms. Notice how often Mark mentions the hand-grasp of Jesus (1: 41; 5: 41; 8: 23; 9: 27; 10: 16). **3. Be converted**—This does not mean here "regenerated," but, as in R. V., "except ye turn"—i. e. turn away from this spirit of pride and selfish ambition. **As little children**—gentle, teachable, humble, loving, etc., the qualities characteristic of childhood. Without these there can be no question of greater or less for you; you cannot enter the kingdom at all. (1 Cor. 14: 20; 1 Peter 2: 2.) **4. Humble himself**—think of himself last, of others first, and of pleasing God always (Matt. 20: 27; 23: 11; Mark 9: 35). Read John 13: 1-17. **5. In my name**—for my sake; because I wish him to do so. **Receivev me**—Every kindness done to chil-

—dren, or childlike persons, will be accepted by Jesus as if done to himself.

**II. HATE SIN. 6. Offend**—R. V. "cause one of [them] to stumble," or tempt them to sin. A terrible curse rests upon anyone who is the cause of the very lowliest disciple going astray. **7. Offences**—R. V. "occasions of stumbling." We cannot live in a sinful world without meeting tempters, but God will punish those who lead others into sin (Matt. 26: 24). **8, 9**—If anything, no matter how dear, or how useful, is the cause of our doing wrong, or stands between us and perfect obedience, we must part with it, no matter how much pain it may cost us. **The eternal fire** (R. V.)—(Matt. 25: 41). **The gehenna of fire** (R. V. marg.)—This expression always means the abode of the lost. Gehenna was a valley south of Jerusalem, a former scene of Molech worship, where perpetual fires were kept burning to consume the refuse of the city. It was a spot unclean, disgusting and abhorred. **10. These little ones**—children and childlike believers. **Their angels**—There is no Scripture proof for guardian angels, one assigned to each person, but angels, who stand in God's presence, are the servant's of God's people. (Heb. 1: 14; Ps. 34: 7; Luke 1: 19.)