

SUNDAY-SCHOOL LESSONS, THIRD QUARTER.

LESSON 4.] PETER'S CONFESSION AND CHRIST'S [JULY 22.
REBUKE.

Matt. 16. 13-26.

GOLDEN TEXT.—If any man will come after me, let him deny himself, and take up his cross and follow me.—Matt. 16. 24.

MEMORY VERSES, 24-26.—Then said Jesus unto his disciples, If any man will come after me, let him deny himself, and take up his cross and follow me.

For whosoever will save his life shall lose it: and whosoever will lose his life for my sake shall find it.

For what is a man profited, if he shall gain the whole world, and lose his own soul? or what shall a man give in exchange for his soul?

To the folks at home: Please help the little folks to learn this lesson.

LESSON STORY.

* It is not strange that Jesus longed to be known by his disciples. He had done wonderful works in their presence again and again; and yet, because he could read the heart he knew that his disciples often questioned if he were really the Son of God! He knew that what he had to tell them now would make it still harder for them to believe that he was the mighty God from heaven, living among them so simply, and allowing the Jews to speak slightly of him and of his wonderful works. For now the time had come when Jesus was to tell his disciples that he was going to Jerusalem and there suffer death at the hands of his enemies. Perhaps if he had told them this before he asked them who they believed him to be they would not have answered so quickly, "We believe that thou art the Christ."

When Peter told the Lord that it could not be that he would be killed, Jesus was displeased. Do you wonder? He wants us to believe his word.

LESSON QUESTIONS.

1. What did Jesus ask his disciples?

"Whom do men say I am?"