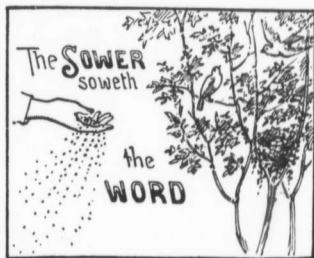


Satan instead of Christ. They let the enemy into their hearts, and he makes them unloving and disobedient to Christ. So in this big world there are good and bad people mixed up together like wheat and tares in a field. But God only can see the hearts of all, and can tell who is really good and who is really bad. We have no right to say, for we cannot truly know. We might say, "This is a bad person who ought to be sent away," and in doing this we might make a mistake and hurt some one who was trying to be good. We must not make up our minds, but wait till the end of the world. He will send the angels then to gather out the good from the bad. That will be like the harvest time. The harvest will then be a great blessing, for the children of the kingdom will go to be with the King. On our circle of blessing we will write "The Harvest."

Remember, we are not angels whose business it is to take the good from the bad. We must not do this, but, instead, see that we are like good seed in the great field ourselves.

The mustard seed story means that the beginning of Jesus's kingdom on earth, when he began with a few disciples, was so small as to be like this little seed. As the seed grew to be a tree, so his work grows, and the number of those who love him keeps growing and growing. As the birds built in the tree, so everywhere people will find a place of rest in this kingdom, and it will grow and spread till it is the greatest kingdom in the world. Do we belong? A little love and trust will make a beginning, and he will make it grow.



### Sub-Primary Hints.

**GOLDEN TEXT:** "Thy kingdom come. Thy will be done in earth, as it is in heaven." Matt. 6, 10. "For, behold, the kingdom of God is within you." Luke 17, 21. "And

there shall in no wise enter into it anything that . . . maketh a lie." Rev. 21, 27.

To speak of the kingdom of God intelligibly to little children it will be necessary for them to know the meaning of the words "king" and "kingdom." Do they know anything about the Premier of their own province, or have they knowledge of any territory beyond their own village streets? If so, we may, with some explanation, talk of "kings" and "kingdoms." If the children are fresh from the nursery, we may talk to them about places and occasions made beautiful by the ruling spirit of love and unselfishness. The will and spirit of the Master carried out and worked out among us will make the earth like heaven.

Tell me about the pleasantest place you were ever in. What made it pleasant? The happiest time you ever had was—where?

The children will most naturally describe the activities rather than the place where their "good time" was enjoyed. This is exactly what we want them to do. Some unselfish soul had planned and supervised all this for very love of the children. Activity guided by love—this the keynote.

We want the children to feel this, because they are apt to take whatever is provided for their happiness as a matter of course and with little thought of the source of their pleasure. It is well to call their attention to the unselfish effort made in their behalf on the occasion named, not so much in this instance to inspire gratitude as to inspire them with the impulse to make a pleasant time and a pleasant place for others.

Our underlying purpose is to teach the joy of making a heaven on earth for our nearest and dearest, and then with greater effort and sacrifice reaching out to transform the lives of those who have never yet had a glimpse into heavenly places.

The children talk freely of their "good times" and of what they enjoyed in a "beautiful place." Suppose you had all been quarreling and showing bad tempers. Would not the "beautiful place" have seemed hateful and dreary? If the ruling spirit of the occasion was the love of host or hostess, let the children feel it. Teach them that love and unselfishness are strong and powerful to make even the dreariest places beautiful.

We appear to drop the subject when we ask the children to tell us what is the strongest thing they ever saw. They probably name some fierce animal of the tropics. Yet

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