

SUNDAY-SCHOOL LESSONS, SECOND QUARTER.

LESSON 9.] PARABLES OF THE KINGDOM.

[MAY 27.]

Matthew 13. 24-33.

GOLDEN TEXT.—The field is the world.—Matt. 13.38.

MEMORY VERSES, 31-33—Another parable put he forth unto them, saying, The kingdom of heaven is like to a grain of mustard seed, which a man took, and sowed in his field :

Which indeed is the least of all seeds: but when it is grown, it is the greatest among herbs, and becometh a tree, so that the birds of the air come and lodge in the branches thereof.

Another parable spake he unto them; The kingdom of heaven is like unto leaven, which a woman took, and hid in three measures of meal, till the whole was leavened.

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

LESSON STORY.

Still sitting in the boat, with the eager listeners standing on the shore, and perhaps looking once more at the sower as he went about his work, Jesus spoke other parables to the people. The lesson to-day shows us a little group of three parables. Look at each one by itself. First, you see the sower. He is sowing good seed, because he wants by-and-bye to have a good crop. But he has an enemy—some one who would like to spoil his grain. So in the night time the enemy steals out and sows tares among the wheat. The tare looks much like good wheat until it is grown. But it is poisonous, and will ruin the wheat if once it finds its place among it. Can you see what this means?

The parable of the mustard seed is to teach us how a little seed of love and truth may grow into a great tree of goodness to shade and shelter many.

The third parable shows how the leaven of grace may make our whole heart light and sweet, just as yeast in bread makes it light in every part.

LESSON QUESTIONS.

1. What is each one sowing?

Some kind of seed.