

GOLDEN TEXT

Whatsoever ye would that men should do to you, do even so to them. Matt. 7: 12.

DAILY READINGS

M.—Matt. 7: 1-11. Precepts and promises.
T.—Matt. 7: 15-29. Known by fruits.
W.—James 4: 5-12. Judge not!
Th.—Jer. 29: 8-14. Seeking with the heart.
F.—Luke 6: 27-36. True love.
S.—Luke 6: 37-15. The mote and the beam.
S.—Luke 13: 22-30. The strait gate.

TIME

As in the previous lesson about the middle of the second year of our Lord's Ministry.

PLACE

The same; probably the Horns of Hattin near Capernaum and the Sea of Galilee.

CATECHISM

Q. 16. Did all mankind fall in Adam's first transgression?

A. The covenant being made with Adam, not only for himself, but for his posterity; all mankind, descending from him, by ordinary generation, sinned in him, and fell with him, in his first transgression.

LESSON PLAN

I. Judging, 1-6.

The spirit of wisdom and charity which keeps the heart calm and sweet.

II. Asking, 7-11.

The spirit of trust and holy enterprise which obtains great things from God.

III. Acting, 12-14.

The spirit of fairness which puts one's self in his neighbor's place, and the shrewd choice which saves one's own life.

LESSON HYMNS

65 (Ps. Sel.), 39, 398, 523, 251.

FOR FURTHER STUDY

Juniors—1, 2 Of what sermon is this lesson a part? What command now given? What does "judge not" mean? What rule here laid down?

3-6 What is a "mote"? What, a "beam"? What does our Lord mean to teach us here? What is a hypocrite? What is forbidden in verse 6? To what does "holy" refer? (Lev. 11; Deut. 14.) How did the Jews regard dogs?

7-11 Of what kingdom has Jesus been speaking? Who shall enter this kingdom? (John 3: 3; Rom. 14: 17.) What three commands given? What the result of obeying them? How are prayers answered? (Isa. 65: 21; Luke 18: 7; 2 Cor. 12: 8, 9.) Why is the promise repeated? Which is the best of the good things promised? (Luke 11: 13.)

12-14 What is the Golden Rule? How are we to apply it in every-day life? What does "strait" mean? What does it represent? To what do the "strait gate" and "narrow way" lead?

Seniors—1, 2 Why such care required in judging? Give a Scripture example of Christ's rule? (Esther 7.)

3-6 What is generally the chief fault of a fault-finder? (Matt. 23: 5; 2 Tim. 3: 5; 2 Cor. 5: 12.) To whom only should we be careful in giving our deepest confidences?

7-11 How may we gain admittance to Christ's kingdom? What do "ask," "seek" and "knock," imply? Which one indicates the spoken words of prayer? Which, the acted prayers? Which, opportunity? What is included in seeking? (Ps. 105: 4; Luke 2: 15, 16.) How should we seek? (Dan. 9: 3; Isa. 55: 6; Heb. 11: 6.) What does seeking insure? (Deut. 4: 29; Ps. 9, 10; Ps. 34: 10.) What is the nature of God's promises? (Ps. 105: 42; 2 Pet. 1: 4; 2 Cor 1: 20.) With what is God's love for us compared? What figures used? What is often mingled with our love? How is it with God's love?

12-14 What should be our rule for daily living? How is spiritual life maintained? (Gal. 2: 20; Matt. 4: 4.) Why few in the narrow way?

Bible Side Lights—ASK—1 Kings 3: 5-14; John 11: 13, 14; 15: 7; Jas. 1: 5, 6; 1 John 3: 22; Eph. 3: 20, 21.

A FATHER'S LOVE—Ps. 103: 13; Mal. 3: 17; Gen. 36: 34, 35; 42: 36-38; 2 Sam. 18: 33; 12: 16, 18; 18: 33.

YOUR FATHER IN HEAVEN—Matt. 5: 45; 48; 6: 8, 32; 18: 14; 11 Cor. 6: 17, 18; John 6: 37.

THE ROYAL LAW—Ver. 12; Luke 6: 31-34; Jas. 2: 8; Lev. 19: 18; Rom. 13: 8-10; Gal. 5: 14; 6: 2.

THE WAY—John 14: 6; Heb. 9: 8; John 10: 1; Eph. 2: 18; 1 Pet. 3: 17, 18.

Practical Points—1. Only God can truly know the hearts of men. Therefore we should be slow to judge others.

2. We may expect to get back what we give. Therefore, again, let us be slow to condemn.

3. It is curious that the faults we think we see in others are generally the faults we have ourselves. If we first correct our own faults, those of others will seem smaller.

4. It is a great gift to know just whom to confide in and how and when to speak to people about the holy things of God.

5. What excuse can we possibly have for not possessing the very best things God has to give? Has He not said "Ask, and it shall be given you; seek and ye shall find; knock, and it shall be opened unto you"? And God never goes back on His word.

6. It was the key of Promise that opened the dungeon of Giant Despair and set Christian and Hopeful free.

7. Observe closely how good your earthly father is to you. It will help you to understand how much more gracious is your Father in heaven.

8. Give the Golden Rule a trial. "Only the Golden Rule can bring the Golden Age."—Frances Willard.

9. Speaking of the narrow gate, Peloubet says, "There is room for any man, but not room for the smallest sin to pass."

FOR WRITTEN ANSWERS

1. What rule are we to follow in regard to judging?.....

2. What encouragement here given to prayer?.....

3. Contrast the two paths as to entrance, the way and the termination.....