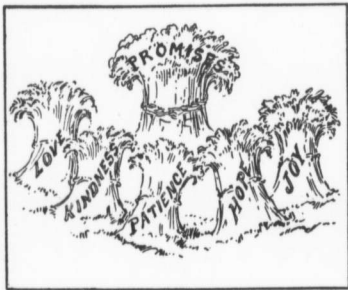


*Our seed-baskets.* God our Father gives them. He fills them too. Whenever we have a chance to do good that is a seed-basket, and our Saviour's own words, the story of his love, kind deeds, pleasant and happy thoughts that make others better, may be called good seed. If we put in poison herbs and seeds of weeds into our baskets—that is, if we use the chance to do good in doing harm instead—O, how sad and wrong it will be, for the seeds will grow too. Everybody has a seed-basket, which means that everybody has a chance to do good and help others, and either does this or he hurts them. But by and by comes

*The harvest.* This is something that is perfectly sure. Sometimes a farmer sows his seed all in vain, because something happens to kill it, but we are sowing seed, by what we think, and say, and do, that will surely grow. Our Master says that everything that is done for him will come to something. Then there will be a double harvest. We will reap good in our own hearts and in the hearts and lives of others, if we have helped them. From kind thoughts will come a sheaf of good deeds, and from love- and obedience a lovely sheaf of gladness.

But it may take long for the seed to grow. Never mind. God says we shall reap, and that it will be in joy too. Don't be discouraged, no matter how hard things may be. In heaven we shall know, if not here, and we can wait.

See on the board the sheaves of love, kindness, patience, hope, and joy, and one great sheaf of God's promises, for there are 31,000 of these, and he will keep them all.



### Kindergarten Hints.

**GOLDEN TEXT:** "And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil." Matt. 6. 13.

### HINTS ON METHOD.

We teach the meaning of the word "deliverance" by our use of it in illustration. Progress-

ive steps: 1. Deliverance from external evils (temptations, enemies, false accusations, etc.). 2. Deliverance from evils which come from within (evils of thought, purpose, etc.). 3. Delivered from all evil: delivered to "newness of life in Christ Jesus."

### LESSON DEVELOPED.

When your baby brother seized the scissors, determined to play with them, and you caught them from his hands, you saved him from hurt. Baby did not think so, but screamed loudly for what he thought a charming plaything. Did you leave his tiny hands empty, and his little face quivering with disappointment? Not if you were a wise protector of baby. You filled his hands with a safe and pretty toy, and caught his attention from his dangerous plaything. What you gave him was better than what you took away, so that he felt no loss. That is exactly the way our Father in heaven treats his children. He will take away many a glittering thing that we love, yet which would surely hurt us; and will give us in its place something vastly better. He delivers us from evil thoughts and evil things.

The captives, of whom we have studied for many weeks, were glad to be delivered from their heathen rulers and heathen ways. When at last they were at home praying in their new church their songs and prayers were as full of the thought, "God our Father sets us free, and delivers us from evil," as our songs and prayers on Fourth of July Sunday are full of thoughts of God-given freedom in our glorious country. They tasted "the joys of deliverance" when the Lord took away from them certain heathen things which they liked, and filled their hearts and hands with the good work of making a home and church for themselves. Then they sang, "The Lord hath done great things for us; whereof we are glad."

Some of us remember a sad time when we were shut in a dark closet because of wrongdoing; and there we had to stay until we were truly sorry. The very minute we were sorry, we were set free from something besides the dark closet. We were delivered from evil, set free from sin. How good the sunshine felt when we were free to run about. Would it have felt in the least pleasant supposing we had come from that closet as bad as before? Suppose we had been innocent of the wrong, and were punished by mistake. Would our imprisonment make us dreadfully unhappy, or would we be rather patient, feeling that all the trouble would soon be smoothed away?

Some time after Jesus went home to heaven,