

SUNDAY-SCHOOL LESSONS, FIRST QUARTER.

LESSON 6.]

JESUS AND NICODEMUS.

[FEB. 11.]

John 3. 1-18.

GOLDEN TEXT.—For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life.—John 3. 16.

MEMORY VERSES, 14-17.—And as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, even so must the Son of man be lifted up:

That whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have eternal life.

For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life.

For God sent not his Son into the world to condemn the world; but that the world through him might be saved.

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

LESSON STORY.

Jesus had a talk one day with a Pharisee which must have astonished the man very much. He was a great man among the Jews, one of the teachers of the law. But Jesus told him he must be "born again." Can you imagine the surprise of Nicodemus?

You have seen a beautiful water-lily, and you know that its root is deep down in the mire and mud. But the pure white blossom has kept reaching up and up, until at last it opened clean and white into the sunlight of the upper world. But the mud and mire have helped to make the lovely thing, and in a very real sense they have been born again. In something the same way God wants his children to reach up and come into the higher life of the Spirit. "A new heart will I give you," God said. No more than we could draw the dark earth up into the stalk of the lily, and change it into the pure flower, can we change our sinful lives into the clean life of the Spirit.

LESSON QUESTIONS.

1. Who was Nicodemus?

A Pharisee.