

then the whole room, and then the whole house was in a blaze. And all from one little match.

A naughty tongue spoke a word which was not true, and that started more words, and so it went on like the blaze of the fire until a great deal of harm had been done. A naughty tongue can do more harm than a big fire can do.

A little girl found a bottle on a shelf. She had no right to touch it, but she did taste what was in it to see what it was like, and soon she was very ill and the doctor had to be brought, and the meddlesome little girl came near losing her life. And all because she had taken a little taste of poison!

One day a little tongue spoke some words about another person, and the words traveled and traveled, growing larger and hatefuller all the time, until they had poisoned the minds of many people; and, what was very sad, the poison could never be got out of the minds into which it had dropped.

Once a great while ago there was a woman who told wrong stories about people and made a great deal of mischief. Sometimes she would make trouble by telling the truth, but telling it to the wrong persons, or telling it at the wrong time. The king of the country where she lived sent for her one day and gave her a little bag of feathers, which he said she should scatter as she walked down a certain street, and then come back to him. When she went back he told her to go down the same street and pick up all the feathers she had thrown away. When she told him that the wind had blown them away, and she could never find them again, he said, "It is so with the hasty, evil words which you speak. They are carried away, and you can never bring them back, no matter how hard you may try."

[Print "Sins of the" before "Tongue" on the board, and teach that all untrue, all unkind, all hasty, naughty words are sins of the tongue.]

Did you ever see a fountain? [Show blackboard.] Suppose on a hot day you took a cup to the fountain to get a drink, and found the water sweet and cool on one side and bitter to the taste on the other,

sometimes spoke good words and at other times bad words! On what kind of a tree ought olives to grow, and where do you look for grapes? The little life that is bearing the wrong kind of fruit is wrong. The little tongue that can be both sweet and bitter must be taken to Jesus to be made right. When? Just now!

Kindergarten Hints.

BY MARY J. CHISHOLM FOSTER.

KINDERGARTEN DEPARTMENT. Sins of the Tongue. James 3. 3-5, 7, 8, 11-13.

GOLDEN TEXT. "Keep thy tongue from evil, and thy lips from speaking guile." Psalm 34. 13.

AIDS TO THE KINDERGARTNER. Holy Bible, Psalm 19; *The Voice in Speech and Song* (Schmank), "Now therefore go, and I will be with thy mouth, and teach thee what thou shalt say." Exod. 4. 12.

ATTENTION STORY.

Another part of the long good letter which James wrote said that people should be very careful what they do with something which is called "a little member." This can do a great deal of good and a great deal of harm. It is the tongue. Did you ever think what a strong little member it is? It can make your friends very glad, or very sad. This good man James knew that some other little things are very useful, such as bits in the mouths of the horses. He says we put bits in their mouths that they may obey us, and we turn their bodies. That is just as people do now, we know, for we see men when driving horses turn them round by guiding the bits with the reins. Did you know that this Bible tells us of so many things about animals as well as people? [Read James 3. 3.] Then James knew that the people who were to get this letter saw ships, and he told of a little thing which can turn a ship, not bits, but a helm. [Read v. 4.] James wanted the people to know that a little word spoken by the tongue "is like a fire which spreads." [Read v. 5.] He said that beasts can be made tame and can learn to obey, but no man can tame the tongue. [Read vs. 7, 8.] No one can guide your tongue, my little boy, little girl, except your own self! A strong man can guide a horse or a ship, but he cannot guide your tongue because God has planned that you may do that. Will you be very, very careful of your speech and have your tongue say only gentle, true, and kind words? [Read vs. 11-13.]

Explain unusual words: "Fierce," "whithersoever," "listeth," "boasteth."

OUTLINE.

Sunday. Attention Story, Bible lesson, Golden Text, and conversation about the lesson.

Monday. Talk of the power of small things like bits or helms, but they do a great work. The little good word or kind act may cause great good, and the little word or action which is naughty may cause great trouble. The power for good or for evil which little children have may be explained.

Tuesday. Talk of the wonders of the human tongue. The power of speech is given to man because he is greater than the beasts and he can speak his thoughts. Parrots and mocking-birds can imitate human speech, but cannot think and then tell



you would not like that kind of fountain; but think how like it would be to a boy or girl whose tongue