

"OF SUCH IS THE KINGDOM OF HEAVEN."

Little feet may find the pathway
Leading upward unto God,
Little hands may learn to scatter
Seeds of precious truth abroad.

Youthful hearts may be the temple
For the Spirit's dwelling-place—
Childhood's lips declare the riches
Of God's all-abounding grace.

Little ones, though frail and earth born,
Heirs of blessedness may be,
For the Saviour whispereth gently,
'Suffer such to come to Me.'

And in that eternal kingdom,
'Mid the grand, triumphal throng,
Childish voices sweet may mingle
In the glorious choral song.

Apples of Gold.

THE SABBATH A LOVING DAY.

"MOTHER, I suppose one reason why they call the Sabbath a holy day is because it's such a loving day," said a little boy as he stood up by his father's side and looked up into his mother's face.

"Why, is not every day a loving day?" asked his mother. "I love father, and father loves me, and we both love you and baby every day as well as Sunday."

"Well, you've no time to tell us on week days," said the little boy. "You have to work, and father has to go off early to his work, and he is so tired when he comes home. But Sunday he takes me on his knee and tells me Bible stories, and we go to church together; and oh! it's such a loving day."—*Youth's Temperance Banner.*

LESSON NOTES.

SECOND QUARTER.

A.D. 27.] LESSON III. [April 18.

THE FIRST MIRACLE.

John 2. 1-11.

Commit to memory verses 1-4.

GOLDEN TEXT.

This beginning of miracles did Jesus in Cana of Galilee, and manifested forth his glory; and his disciples believed on him. John 2. 11.

OUTLINE.

1. The Marriage in Cana, v. 1, 2.
2. The First Miracle, v. 3-10.
3. The Believing Disciples, v. 11.

QUESTIONS FOR HOME STUDY.

When did Jesus go to the marriage feast? Three days after he chose the first five of his disciples.

What happened at the feast? The wine gave out.

Who were with him? His mother and his disciples.

What did the mother of Jesus want him to do? To make some more wine by a miracle.

Why did she want him to work a miracle? That all might see his power.

What was the reply of Jesus? "Mine hour is not yet come."

What did his mother say to the servants? "Whatsoever he saith unto you, do it."

Why did she thus speak to them? She felt that Jesus would show forth his power in his own time.

What command did Jesus then give to the servants? "Fill the water-pots with water."

How were they filled? Up to the brim.

To whom did Jesus command that they be brought? To the ruler of the feast.

With what did the ruler find them filled? With wine.

Why did he call for the bridegroom? To tell him that he had kept the best wine until the last.

What was the turning of the water into wine? Jesus' first miracle. (Repeat the GOLDEN TEXT.)

WORDS WITH LITTLE PEOPLE.

All the money in the world, all the kings in the world, all the armies in the world, or all of these put together, if they had tried a thousand years, in a thousand different ways, could not have changed the water into wine. But Jesus did it in a moment. Do you wonder his disciples believed on him?

DOCTRINAL SUGGESTION.—Miracles.

CATECHISM QUESTIONS.

What can God do? God can do whatever He will.

Does God know all things? Yes, God knows all things; every thought in man's heart, every word, and every action.

A.D. 27.] LESSON IV. [April 25.

JESUS AND NICODEMUS.

John 3. 1-15.

Commit to memory vs. 14-16.

GOLDEN TEXT.

Ye must be born again. John 3. 7.

OUTLINE.

1. Man's Great Need, v. 1-12.
2. God's Great Gift, v. 13-18.

QUESTIONS FOR HOME STUDY.

Who came by night to see Jesus? Nicodemus, a Jewish teacher.

For what reason? Because he believed that Jesus was sent from God.

What caused him to believe this? miracles that Jesus did.

What did Jesus tell him? "Except man be born anew, he cannot see kingdom of God." (Repeat the GOLDEN TEXT.)

What did Nicodemus believe? That every Jew should see the kingdom of God.

What question did Nicodemus ask Jesus? "How can a man be born again when he is old?"

What was Jesus' answer? A man must be born of water and of the Spirit.

What is it to be born of water? To be baptised.

What is it to be born of the Spirit? He is made pure and sinless by God's power.

To what does Jesus compare the birth of the Spirit? To the wind, that no man understands.

What did God give the Israelites to save them from death? The brass serpent hung upon a pole.

How were they saved? By looking at the serpent.

Whom did God give to save us from death? His only begotten Son, Jesus.

When does he save us? When we believe to him and believe on his name.

What did Jesus tell Nicodemus? That he must die to give the world eternal life.

Why did God give the world his only Son? Because he loved it.

What did the world deserve? Punishment for its sins.

What did God offer it through Jesus? Forgiveness and joy and peace.

WORDS WITH LITTLE PEOPLE.

With our natural hearts first we know we are doing "a lot" of naughty, sinful things. Aren't we? Then we feel ashamed to ask to be forgiven, and try again, but we go on the same old way. What we need, what God has promised to give, is—

"A heart in every thought renewed,
And full of love divine;
Perfect, and right, and pure, and good,
A copy, Lord, of thine."

To have a new heart is to be "born again."

DOCTRINAL SUGGESTION.—Regeneration.

CATECHISM QUESTIONS.

Will He call us to account for all we do and do? At the last day God shall bring every work into judgment, with every secret thing, whether it be good or whether it be evil.

Does God love you? Yes, God loves everything which He has made.