

## HOME READINGS.

- M.* Jesus and Nicodemus. John 3. 1-18.  
*Th.* The new birth. Matt. 19. 16-30.  
*W.* The need of regeneration. Rom. 5. 12-21.  
*Th.* Regeneration typified. Num. 21. 5-10.  
*F.* Faith required. Rom. 10. 1-14.  
*S.* Risen for our regeneration. Mark 16. 1-13.  
*S.* The victory over death. 1 Cor. 15. 45-58.

## GOLDEN TEXT.

Ye must be born again. John 3. 7.

## LESSON HYMNS.

No. 126, Dominion Hymnal.

My Father, I would be thy child;  
 I know I'm sinful, wayward, wild.

No. 129, Dominion Hymnal.

My faith looks up to thee,  
 Thou Lamb of Calvary,  
 Saviour divine.

No. 134, Dominion Hymnal.

I need thee every hour,  
 Most gracious Lord.

**TIME.**—Same year as Lesson III, but later; probably a little after the first Passover in Christ's ministry.

**PLACE.**—Jerusalem.

**RULERS.**—Same as in Lesson II.

**CONNECTING LINKS.**—Some time has passed; we know not how much. Jesus has begun to look over the field where he must labor. He has been at Capernaum, but not to stay long, for the Passover is at hand, and he goes to keep it at Jerusalem. Here he asserted his power as Messiah by cleansing the temple from those who made it a place for business. The act caused a great sensation among all classes, and it brought one ruler of the Jews to seek an interview stealthily with him. As you study the story fail not to catch the lesson it contains.

**DOCTRINAL SUGGESTION.**—Regeneration.

## QUESTIONS FOR SENIOR STUDENTS.

1. *Man's Great Need*, v. 1-12.

What was Nicodemus's honest belief concerning Jesus?

What was the purpose of Nicodemus in addressing Jesus as he did?

How did Jesus turn him back upon himself?

What did Jesus say was man's great need?

Can you explain what Jesus meant?

What did Nicodemus's position as a ruler of the Jews make necessary as to his education?

What did he probably know?

What did he not know?

2. *God's Great Gift*, v. 13-18.

What does ver. 13 imply as the source of the new birth?

What does it imply as to man's power to obtain a new birth for himself?

How was the new birth to be effected in life?

Man could not supply his need.

How did God do it?

Why did God do it?

Can you prove that Christ's life and death was a token of God's love? Rom. 5. 7, 8; 1 John 4. 10.

What is the penalty for rejection of Christ?

## Practical Teachings.

1. Nicodemus knew the whole Jewish law, but he needed to be born again. You may know the whole Bible, and be the most thorough student of it in the world, but "you must be born again." Have you been?

2. There is not even a *sight* of the kingdom of God unless one is born again. This is Christ's teaching. Do you believe it?

3. No man hath ascended to heaven. No man can. *Works do not earn salvation.* Christ came down that he might lift up men. It is God's gift. His great gift. Do you possess it?

## QUESTIONS FOR INTERMEDIATE SCHOLARS.

1. *Man's Great Need*, v. 1-12.

What late visitor had Jesus?

What office did he hold?

What did he acknowledge Jesus to be?

What reason did he give?

What was Jesus' declaration to Nicodemus?

What question did Nicodemus ask in reply?

What two essentials did Jesus name?

What change will be wrought in men? 2 Cor. 5. 17.

To what mystery did Jesus liken regeneration?

What question of doubt did the ruler ask?

What question was given him in reply?

What kind of evidence had been given?

How had it been received?

2. *God's Great Gift*, v. 13-18.

Who alone can testify of heavenly things?

What symbol of his death did Jesus give?

What does faith in him secure?

How has God shown his love?

What commends this love to us? Rom. 5. 8.

What was the purpose of this gift? See 1 John 4. 14.

What will follow the rejection of Christ?

## Teachings of the Lesson.

Where in this lesson are we taught—

1. The measure of God's love to man?

2. The result of that love?

3. The safety of the believer?

## QUESTIONS FOR YOUNGER SCHOLARS.

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? The miracles that Jesus did.

What did Jesus tell him? "Except a man be born anew, he cannot see the 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? He must be born of water and of the Spirit.

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

What is it to be born of the Spirit? To be 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 up at the serpent.

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

When does he save us? When we look 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 sin.

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 sorry, ask to be forgiven, and try again, but only to 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."

## THE LESSON CATECHISM.

[For the entire school.]

1. Where did Jesus go after his first miracle? To Jerusalem.

2. Who came to see Jesus at Jerusalem by night? Nicodemus, a ruler of the Jews.

3. What did Jesus tell Nicodemus in the Golden Text? "Ye must," etc.

4. What is it to be born again? To have a new heart.

5. How may we have new hearts? By believing on Jesus Christ.

6. How did God show his love for men? By giving his Son as their Saviour.