

tence.] The Spirit cannot live in a sin-soiled heart that holds fast the sin and loves it. If the heart is clean and the Spirit lives in it, what a happy heart it is! It won't want to be selfish and sinful. The new heart loves to please Jesus and to help others. When sin stains it then it is quick to be sorry and to pray, "Lord, forgive me for Jesus' sake. [Draw large heart around the two sentences.]

How shall we get a new heart? We must have it if we would be God's children. The lesson tells. Jesus said it over again in different words. It is written on our lesson shield—"Ask and receive." God gives; we ask and take.

Kindergarten Hints.

BY JULIA E. PECK.

GOLDEN TEXT: "For as the heaven is high above the earth, so great is his mercy toward them that fear him. As far as the east is from the west, so far hath he removed our transgressions from us." Psa. 103, 11, 12.

HINTS ON METHOD.

Explain the meaning of the word "fear" as used in our selected Golden Text. If verse 26 of our lesson is used as a memory text, let us remember that the children are apt to confuse the terms "heart," "soul," "conscience." We have at times rather added to their confusion by an unfortunate use of symbols. Try to draw from the children their idea of "soul." Their thoughts will be quaintly suggestive to their teacher as revealing their need.

BIBLE HISTORY LESSON.

Review the lessons about Daniel, and introduce Ezekiel as a captive of war, who, like Daniel, was carried by soldiers into a heathen country in company with other captives. Ezekiel and his fellow-captives settled on the banks of a river. Ezekiel's house was the place they chose as a meeting place to talk with love and longing about their beloved church and their own dear city, Jerusalem.

Do the children recall the name "Jerusalem?" Is it a name full of suggestion and association for them? Find out about this, and let them see why we all have a claim on that city which these captives loved so dearly; and why our eyes also turn toward it in love.

We teach that Ezekiel was their leader, stern, determined, hopeful. God chose him. The word of God came to Ezekiel to teach his fellow-captives two lessons. First, he must warn them that they were forgetting God, and were following the tempting ways of the heathen around them, and that their beloved church and city would certainly be destroyed as punishment for this disobedience. He must teach them that

their captivity, and the destruction of their city were necessary to make them see how far they had strayed from God their Father. Next, Ezekiel must tell them daily, that if they obey God, and keep themselves from the tempting ways of the heathen around them, and rouse themselves to help the cause, their own dear church and city will be rebuilt, will be made more beautiful, and there will be a home-coming. This is God's promise as Ezekiel taught it to the captives: "I the Lord will build ruined places, and plant that which was desolate." "I will forgive." "I will remember their sin no more."

The end of the story of Ezekiel's work is that the captives from being worshippers of idols, and careless of God's laws, became zealous for the living God.

All this happened exactly as Ezekiel taught them to expect—and more! Who came to their city long years afterward to teach, to heal, to save?

Ezekiel the prophet was sent with a message from God to save the souls of those captives in a heathen land, who were drawn together by their loneliness and by their love for their home country. He who came later to their home country gave his life that he might reach out to save all men—all captives, all the heathen who are reaching out to find a God, all careless ones, who, knowing God, have strayed far away. To each and all he brings the message, "I will forgive, I will cleanse, I will receive."

Let the children carry home this thought, "The Lord is mindful of his own. He remembers his children."

LESSON VII. (August 13.)

EZEKIEL'S GREAT VISION.—Ezek. 37. 1-14.

GOLDEN TEXT: "I will put my Spirit within you."—Ezek. 37, 27.

Primary Notes.

Open with hymn-verse for the quarter, sung as a prayer:

Father teach us in this lesson
How thou carest for thine own,
Show us how to love and please thee,
May we trust in thee alone.

(Tune, Dornance or Stockwell.)

Approach to the lesson.
Is anything too hard for our God? Is our Saviour strong enough to do anything—everything? Are we sure about this? Do we always act as if we believed it? If we trust God's power and God's



care, why are we troubled or afraid, as we often