

tiful. But there is a way by which they may all be made good and beautiful! Did you know that? Are you not glad it is so? This letter tells how this may be. Here it is in the very first verse of the lesson. "God is light." There is a word about darkness, too. "In him (God) is no darkness at all." God is like the great, good sun, only far greater and better, for he made the sun and everything that is made! He could give the sun its beautiful and blessed light because he is light. Now, which of these first words on the board seems to you like light? Yes, salvation. The light of the sun in the sky saves from darkness, and disease, and danger, and God, who is light in the world of the spirit, knows how to save us from all the evil things which come from darkness of the spirit.

*The Two Ways.* [Show the blackboard.] Do you see this beautiful, light way? How safely the little child walks in it. How happy she is. She can see just where to step, and just how to get around the rough places. But look at the poor child who is stumbling around in the dark! Do you feel sorry for her? I do. She will get hurt, and she will meet a great many things to make her afraid and sad. This is the picture of the child who is walking in the light (which is trying to please Jesus), and the one who is walking in darkness (trying to please self). Which way looks the safest and happiest to you?

Do you want to hear a little nature story? Once there was a beautiful lily growing on a tall, graceful stalk. The sun shone on it, and gave it a sweet breath. The dew bathed it, and made it fresh and happy. The soft air kissed it, and the warm earth fed it, and kept it alive. But one day a careless boy struck it with a stick and broke the tender skin. Then the lily drooped and said, "O, I can never hold up my head again!" Good Mother Nature said, "Yes, my beautiful lily, you shall be cured;" and so she called the sun to shine

soon the lily was well, and strong, and beautiful again.

John brings us word in this lesson how we may be cured if we allow sin to strike us a cruel blow. We must not hang our heads and say it is no use, we cannot be good and please Jesus if we try! We must come back into the light, and let it shine upon us and cure us. Do not forget that sin will not strike us until we get into the darkness of self. But when we have been so foolish and naughty, then let us hurry back to the light, and ask God, for Jesus' sake, to make us well again.

### Kindergarten Hints.

KINDERGARTEN DEPARTMENT. The Message and the Song of the Angels. Luke 2. 8-14.

GOLDEN TEXT. "I bring you good tidings." Luke 2. 10.

AIDS TO THE KINDERGARTNER. Holy Bible, Isa. 35; *Oratorio of the Messiah*, "He shall feed his flock like a shepherd;" also the Recitative, "Then shall the eyes of the blind be opened."

"Good will to men" is expressed in modern times by our saying, "I wish you a Merry Christmas!" "A Happy New Year to you!" and even the small children have these good-will wishes for others at this season.

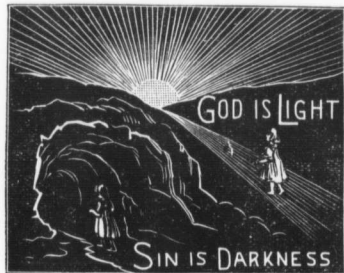
### ATTENTION STORY.

Our lesson for to-day is written in this Book, and the story was told by Luke—the very same one of whom Paul spoke in the lesson of last week. Paul said, "Glory to God forever;" and the message of the heavenly host was of praise, when they sang, "Glory to God!" One night, long ago, some shepherds were in a field, watching their flocks of sheep, when an angel came near to them, and the whole place became light and beautiful. The shepherds were afraid, but the angel said, "Fear not!" Many, many times these words were spoken to people, and they are written here for us, so we will never be afraid if we remember that our Father says to us, "Fear not!" The angel said, "I bring you good tidings." That means good news, which they would be glad to hear. The story was for these shepherds and for us—you and me—and for all people, everywhere, always! For a long, long time people had been waiting for One to come to show them how to live and to tell them of God. The angel said that the baby Jesus had really come to this world, and he was in Bethlehem. "Suddenly" the shepherds heard many voices singing about praise, and peace, and kindness, to others. Let us read about it. [Read Luke 2. 8-14.]

Explain unusual words: "Abiding," "shone," "tidings," "swaddling clothes," "multitude," "host," "abroad."

### OUTLINE.

*Sunday.* Try to get the imagination of the children so awakened as to enjoy the mental picture of that night scene. Let them talk of the



upon the wounded spot, and the soft air to breathe upon it, and the gentle dew to bathe it, and