

**CHURCH YEAR
SERMONS
FOR CHILDREN**

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Church year sermons for children by Phillips E. Osgood

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By

PHILLIPS E. OSGOOD

Vicar of the Chapel of the Mediator, Philadelphia



PHILADELPHIA
GEORGE W. JACOBS & CO.
PUBLISHERS

TO
MARJORIE AND CATHERINE

Mine own "Gift of Self" to the
"Church of Tomorrow"

and to

THE EAGER-HEARTED YOUNGSTERS

of the Church of Our Saviour, Rosindale,
and of the Chapel of the Mediator, Phila-
delphia; into whose fitness to help rebuild
the world I have been privileged to put my
belief in them for what it is worth.

PATRONWORD

Never before has there been such a need for sermons for children. The war puts a new value on the children of America, and any effort to awaken their sense of responsibility by filling their minds with compelling imagery, by training their eyes to see visions and by calling for their deepest sympathy, will find a ready use.

The writer of these sermons has had a long and successful experience in talking to children, and many teachers and preachers will welcome the inspiration in method and material which this collection of sermons will give.

WILLIAM E. GARDNER,

General Secretary of the General Board
of Religious Education.

INTRODUCTORY

These Sermons-in-little are perhaps wisely to be prefaced with a few explanatory words.

1. They are "graded" to the eleven- or twelve-year-old. This seems to be the middle-of-the-road age for "children." If one has preponderantly younger or older hearers, there will be some things that need adaptation.

2. Certain illustrative articles are from time to time implied. Such focus-means of attention add manifold to the effectiveness of any address to children. They bind fast the eyes; as ears are bound to words. And if a certain skeleton of phrases can be repeated in cumulative crescendo, expression will be added to impression and still more of one's meaning driven home. Such suggested phrases are printed in capitals when they seem fitting. Each time a phrase is repeated, repeat all the preceding ones as well.

3. The addresses in this volume approximately follow the Church Year. They are for moments preceding the regular sermon to the "grown-ups" and are therefore only small in compass. There are, however, a few more extended Festival Ad-

Introductory

dresses, such as special children's services seem to call for as the "real" sermon. If the indicated mechanics of these longer talks prove inexpedient they may, of course, be omitted. But the author personally believes they "make" the sermon, from the children's point of view.

4. There is much repetition of ideas. To lift children into their next spiritual level of thought demands constant familiarizing with its axioms. These sermons have as their ideal no mere Sunday morning amusement or attention-getting. They aim to accomplish a definite spiritual result, educative of character and its motives.