

**NEW TESTAMENT PARABLES FOR
CHILDREN. ILLUSTRATED BY
PICTURES FROM THE MASTERS
AND ORIGINAL STORIES**

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New Testament Parables for Children. Illustrated by Pictures from the masters and original stories by E. C. Wilson

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E. C. WILSON

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By MRS. E. C. WILSON.

C.
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P R E F A C E.

THESE LESSONS on the New-Testament Parables are prepared in the belief that historic information about the Bible is of little value to young children, but that, at their impressible age, strong moral influences are of the very first importance. In the Author's experience with children, pictures and stories have been found to make far deeper impressions on the minds and hearts of little ones than any other means of teaching. This Manual is designed to aid parents and Sunday-school teachers of young children in using a series of cards, which are duplicates of its illustrated pages. Each Parable may serve for two lessons: the first will naturally centre in the picture; the second, in the original story. In the first lesson, let the teacher examine the picture thoroughly with the children, even in its minutest details. The text of Scripture and the verse of poetry may be recited by the children separately or in concert. Then let the story of the Parable be told *by the children*: the teacher may lead them on, if necessary, by questions and hints, but should have them feel that *they* tell it. The Parable well in the minds of the children, let a "talk" follow, for which the questions in the Manual are intended only as suggestions and helps. These questions have not dealt with the larger, and what may be called national, interpretation of the Parables, but have taken up only a simple and practical one, — the larger one not being profitable or even possible to children.

At the second lesson, recall briefly the story of the Parable, especially the truth taught in it. Then, as an illustration of this truth, read or tell the story in the Manual. Encourage the children to talk freely about it, and to tell you how it teaches the same lesson that is taught in the Parable, the verse of poetry, and the text of Scripture.

For any satisfactory measure of success in the use of these cards, it is absolutely essential that each child should have to himself a card of the lesson taught, that he may take it home, learn the Scripture text and poetry, and become familiar with the story of the Parable before coming to the class. It is also exceedingly important that he have the card in his hand for constant reference during the entire lesson or lessons. Procure, therefore, as many sets of cards as there are pupils in the class. It is pleasant and profitable to give the child the card for his own when the study of it is finished; but if economy must be considered, the use of the envelope will preserve the cards so that they may be used by several classes in succession. Take up the envelopes at the beginning of the lesson, to be given out again at the close of it.

The Author sends forth this first number of the little Manual, affectionately and earnestly hoping it may prove helpful to at least a few of the parents and teachers of the open-eyed, open-cared, open-hearted little ones thronging our homes and Sunday Schools.

E. C. W.

QUINCY, MASS., 1884.

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NEW-TESTAMENT PARABLES.