

Mary Gesin (1883-1939)

Mary and Charles Gesin lived in Adeline, Maryland Township, Ogle County, IL. Mary and Charles had one son, Ernest. Early Church of God circuit riders who came through Maryland Township introduced them to the Gospel of the Kingdom. Adeline was a small town that did not grow after the railroad bypassed it. The lack of railroad commerce may be one reason that Church of God moved from Adeline to Oregon, IL, the county seat.

Mary Gesin was a Berean who resided near Forreston, IL, but sometimes attended worship in Oregon. She and other members felt strongly about the mission of the Bereans. The Bereans believed in Bible study, and in printing study and evangelistic materials that proclaimed the Gospel.

In 1910 she wrote *Jesus, Light of the World*, a series of Bible stories for children. The foreword says: *"This little book is published because of an urgent demand on the part of many parents who love their children and wish to have them enjoy the truth of the story of Jesus in its simplicity, without error or man's theory."*

The stories were short, each a page or two in length. The chapters included, "The Angel," "The Babe," "The Shepherds," "The Three Wise Men," "A Wicked Ruler," "In the Temple," "The Baptism of Jesus," "Calling His Helpers," "Feeding the Multitude" and several more. The book is bound in dark colored parchment paper with gold print on the title page and an illustration of a lighthouse. The book is part of the archival collection at Atlanta Bible

College, McDonough, GA.

Print