

opportunity should not be let pass of teaching the personality of the Holy Spirit. He speaks now, to tell us what to do, as certainly as he spoke to Simeon, and he speaks to little children.]

1. Get children's ideas of a good man. Here is a description of one—"just" and "devout." Explain these terms and illustrate. God could speak to such a man, for he could hear. Why doesn't a deaf man hear? People talk, and he has ears, but his ears are not open. Simeon's ears were open to God, because he was obedient. Tell that he was a very old man, and had heard that Jesus was coming to make all things right. He wanted to see him before he died, and God had promised that he should.

2. Explain why Jesus was brought to the temple, and by whom. Tell the story in simple words—the sweet young mother with her babe, and the father standing by; the old man coming in "by the Spirit," and seeing in the child the long-promised Deliverer; his joy, and his outburst of song and praise. Tell the children that we often see things without knowing what they are. Show some strange object, and tell that just as they see this, but do not know it, so many people see Jesus and do not know him. Simeon knew him because God opened his eyes to see him, and this was done because Simeon wanted to see him. God never lets any one be blind who wants to see Jesus. The eyes of our hearts must be opened by faith and prayer.

3. What Simeon saw. Ask what the children think he saw. He had just a little baby in his arms, nothing more! But this is the wonderful sight he saw. Make a cross on the board, and print his words: verse 30. How is Jesus our salvation? From what does he save? Who and what are our enemies? Who can be saved by Jesus?

CLOSING EXERCISE. Ask if any have seen Jesus, not with the outward, but with the inward eyes, and explain that only those truly see him who are trying to obey him. He tells us to be true, obedient, patient, kind, unselfish, loving, and helpful. If we are asking Jesus to save us from our heart-enemies, and to help us to be like him, then we do see him, and we shall go where he is by and by.

LESSONS FOR FEBRUARY, 1881.

FEB. 6. The Boyhood of Jesus; or, Filled with Wisdom. Luke 2. 40-52.

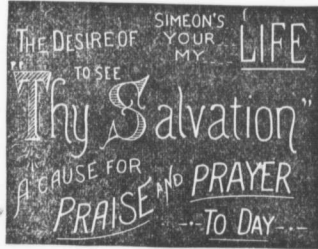
FEB. 13. Preaching of John the Baptist; or Fruits of Repentance. Luke 3. 7-18.

FEB. 20. The Preaching of Jesus; or, Anointed to Preach the Gospel. Luke 4. 14-21.

FEB. 27. Christ Healing the Sick; or, The Power of the Lord. Luke 5. 12-26.

Blackboard.

BY J. B. PHIPPS, ESQ.



Make the words "Thy Salvation" as prominent as the size of your board will allow. Do not write the words your or my beneath Simeon until you have spoken of the desire of Simeon's life. The application should be the end and aim of all Sabbath-school work, that is, spiritually to see Christ, through whom salvation is offered.

WHISPER SONGS FOR JANUARY.

FIRST LESSON.

O ANGEL of the Lord, draw near,
Speak to our hearts to-day;
And bid us haste with willing feet
To make for Christ a way.

SECOND LESSON.

My soul doth magnify the Lord,
For holy is his name;
His mercy is to us made known,
From age to age the same.

THIRD LESSON.

Thou, child, a Prophet shalt be called,
To go before the face
Of Him who comes to rule the world
With holy truth and grace.

FOURTH LESSON.

Fear not, for unto us this day
The angels come to bring
Good tidings of great joy to all,—
The birth of Christ our King!

FIFTH LESSON.

Lord, let thy servant die in peace,
According to thy word;
For now mine eyes have seen thy light,
The glory of the Lord!