

## FINISH THY WORK.

Finish thy work, the time is short;  
The sun is in the west.  
The night is coming on; till then,  
Think not of rest.  
Yes, finish all thy work, then rest;  
Till then, rest never;  
The rest prepared for thee by God  
Is rest forever.  
Finish thy work, then wipe thy brow,  
Ungird thee from thy toil;  
Take breath, and from each weary limb  
Shake off the soil.  
Finish thy work, then rest in peace,  
Life's battle fought and won.  
And so to thee thy Master's voice  
Shall say, "Well done!"

## WHAT THE LITTLE SILVER CROSS MEANT.

BY S. JENNIE SMITH.

"One might as well give up trying to be a King's Daughter in this house," said Clare Thornton to herself as she started to put the cosy sitting-room in order; "you're kept so busy there's no chance to do the one kind act a day. Here I wanted to run down this afternoon to see how poor Mrs. Brown is, and mother has to go to bed with a headache and leave me all the work to do. Well, I'll get through it in a hurry and then go. I must keep that pledge."

About an hour later Mrs. Thornton came down stairs looking very pale, and found Clare dressed for the street.

"Are you going out, daughter?" she said, with a disappointed air; "I hoped you would stay in to-day and relieve me. Besides, you have scarcely put this room in order. Suppose some one should drop in."

"I hadn't time to do any more," grumbled Clare. "I can't do everything. If any callers come, can't you take them in the parlor?"

"Is the stove there all ready for a fire?" "Oh! no, I forgot it. I should think Daisy might do that much."

"Daisy is hardly big enough to be trusted with the parlor fire," said Mrs. Thornton, sighing. "Never mind, go on; I'll manage somehow."

"I don't know what good being a King's Daughter has done her," thought the tired mother as Clare was preparing to leave.

"It seems to me that she is more selfish and thoughtless than ever." Then she dragged herself around the house and did the many things that Clare had left undone.

In the meantime her daughter, with a companion whom she had appointed to meet, was wending her way toward "poor Mrs. Brown." Together they visited a few others that were on their poor list, and tea was ready when Clare returned to her home. Mrs. Thornton looked more tired than ever, but the girl was so full of her own concerns that she failed to notice her mother's appearance.

Afterward, when Clare was washing the dishes, with her sister as an auxiliary, the child said, "O Clare, won't you help me with my examples to-night? Miss Brown says if I get a little help at home, I shall be able to skip a class."

"I am going to be too busy to-night; I have some work to do," replied Clare with a decision that chased the smiles from Daisy's sweet face.

"Why, what are you going to do?"

"Well, you know Mrs. Cronin that lives down in Poverty Hollow? I'm to make a lovely toboggan cap for her little girl. You know I'm a King's Daughter now, Daisy, and I have promised to do one kind act a day. Of course, if I can do more than one, it's all the better. Wouldn't you like to be a King's Daughter, child, and wear a silver cross like mine?"

Daisy reflected for a moment. Then she said, "Does being a King's Daughter and wearing the cross mean that you've to help everybody but your own folks? Because if it does, I don't care to join."

"Why, you bad child!" exclaimed Clare. "What do you mean by that! I'm always helping my own folks, but I can't let anything interfere with my one kind act. I've solemnly vowed to do that every day."

"Well, Clare, perhaps I don't understand it, but it seems to me that it would have been a kind act for you to have stayed and helped mamma this afternoon. She was awful sick, and after you went away she was crying."

"Daisy, I don't believe you know what you are talking about, and I shan't hear any more. It's presumptuous in a little girl to be dictating to her sixteen-year-old sister."

The child was silenced but not convinced, and all evening as she sat puzzling over work that Clare could have made so easy for her, she could not help wondering what the little silver cross really meant. "At any rate," she concluded, "if it would make me neglect mamma, I don't want one."

The following week the kind lady who had organized the band of King's Daughters in the church which the Thorntons attended, said to Daisy: "Some of the little girls are going to be King's Daughters. Wouldn't you like to join them, dear?"

"No, ma'am," the child promptly answered. "Mamma isn't very well, and the children are troublesome, and it's all we can do to let Clare be a King's Daughter. Mamma could not possibly spare us both."

Mrs. Jennings looked in surprise at Daisy. "What do you mean?"

"Well, you see just at the time mamma needs Clare most she has to be off doing her one kind act. And she isn't satisfied with that; sometimes she does three or four and brings one home to do in the evening. You know it really wouldn't do for both of us to act like that."

Mrs. Jennings patted the earnest little face and decided to say no more just then on the subject. She saw that something was wrong, so made up her mind to have a talk with Clare at the first opportunity. The opportunity presented itself sooner than she expected. The very next morning a caller was announced and Clare Thornton appeared, looking very much troubled. "It's no use, Mrs. Jennings," she cried, bursting into tears, and laying down her silver cross, "I cannot be a King's Daughter."

Mrs. Jennings took Clare right into her motherly arms and said in a tone that was very soothing, "Take off your things, dear, and just show me where the trouble is. Perhaps we can make it come out all right."

"You know," sobbed Clare, as she removed her wraps, "mamma is sick in bed and I have everything to do, and the baby to take care of, and Johnnie is always wanting his clothes mended, and Daisy wants me to help her with her lessons, and—"

Here she broke down. The enumeration of these many trials was too much for poor Clare.

"Then you are not compelled to go away from home to do your kind acts," said Mrs. Jennings, gently smoothing the girl's hair; "you can keep your pledge and at the same time be doing your duty to the loved ones at home."

Clare looked up in astonishment. "Do those things count?" she asked; "those little every-day things? I thought it meant something unusual."

"Whatever your hands find to do, do it with your might." That's what the little silver cross says to us. We must do the nearest duty first, and then God will show us the next. Our acts of kindness are for the dear ones at home just as much as for the outside world. We mustn't neglect our home duties, Clare. Don't you think your mother required your attention the other day more than the sick persons on whom you called? The other girls have been attending to them. And the toboggan cap you made was very pretty, but I am afraid that your little sisters and brother needed your help more than Mrs. Cronin's child needed the pretty cap."

"O Mrs. Jennings!" cried Clare, and her face brightened wonderfully; "what an awful mistake I have been making. But I feel so much happier now that I understand what to do. I see that I can be a King's Daughter, after all, even though home duties occupy my whole time."

From that morning Daisy marvelled at the change in her sister. "She's the right kind of a King's Daughter," the child decided as she saw Clare patiently taking upon herself the many household duties. And Mrs. Thornton from her bed on the lounge, to which she was carried in the daytime, watched Clare thoughtfully and felt that she had reason to thank God that he had given her such a daughter. *Christian Intelligence*

## THE PATIENT TEACHER.

BY THOMAS HEATH, PLYMOUTH, ENGLAND.

It is necessary in the Sunday-school that the superintendent and teachers should exercise a good amount of patience. The hasty superintendent and teacher will often be in trouble. There are many tempers to contend with in the Sunday-school. We need to pray that the Lord may give us patience and wisdom to carry out our duties in a Christian-like manner in the Sunday-school—that our conduct may be in unison with what we teach. But bear in mind, dear fellow-superintendents and teachers, that in all things we must seek the welfare of the school, both in points of discipline, authority, and the spiritual advancement of the Sunday-school. We need the Lord to help us in order to be enabled to be successful in the work. This work is very different from any secular calling, and therefore demands a vastly different consideration and treatment.—*S. S. World*.

## A STARTING POINT.

Teachers should get down to the level of the scholar's knowledge, and then build upward. Too often they instruct from their high stand point, and what they say fails to be understood. There ought, in order to success, to be a common starting point of intelligence. To find out the degree of knowledge possessed by the pupil, ply him with questions, and see what he knows. Then add to his stock of information. Thus advance from Sabbath to Sabbath, and he will come up to that measure of intelligence which will make your teaching more pleasant and helpful. It may be discouraging work for a while, but it will pay in the end, and better accomplish the end you have in view—a well-informed and saved class.—*Presbyterian Observer*.

## BIBLES NOT DODGERS.

A little boy, familiar with shows and the world's ways, joined a mission school. After a little he asked the superintendent for a Bible. "Why do you wish one?" he was questioned. "I want it to read my lesson." "You have your lesson there," pointing to the scholar's leaf in his hand. "Yes, but I don't like to read my lesson off a dodger." Beloved, do the children under your instruction read their lessons from Bibles or dodgers?—*The Illustrator*.

## SCHOLARS' NOTES.

(From Westminster Question Book.)

LESSON II.—OCTOBER 11, 1891.

CHRIST FORETELLING HIS DEATH.

John 12:20-36.

COMMIT TO MEMORY vs. 35, 36.

GOLDEN TEXT.

"And I, if I be lifted up from the earth, will draw all men unto me."—John 12:32.

HOME READINGS.

M. John 11:45-57.—Christ's Death Determined Upon.

T. John 12:1-9.—Christ Honored.

W. Luke 19:37-48.—Christ's Compassion and Power.

Th. John 12:20-36.—Christ Foretelling his Death.

F. John 12:37-50.—Christ Rejected.

S. Heb. 1:1-14.—Christ Above Angels.

S. Heb. 2:1-18.—Christ Made Perfect Through Suffering.

LESSON PLAN.

I. Must Die to Bear Fruit, vs. 20-24.

II. Must Lose to Save, vs. 25-29.

III. Must be Lifted Up to Draw Up, vs. 30-36.

TIME.—A. D. 30. Tuesday, April 4, the last day of Christ's public ministry; Tiberius Caesar emperor of Rome; Pontius Pilate governor of Judea; Herod Antipas governor of Galilee and Perea.

PLACE.—Jerusalem, in the court of the temple.

HELP IN STUDYING THE LESSON.

V. 20. *Certain Greeks*—Gentile proselytes to the Jewish faith. V. 23. *The hour is come*—the hour of his death as leading to that of his glory.V. 24. *Abideth alone*—remains a single seed. As the seed dies to bear a harvest, so Christ dies that saved souls may be gathered into the heavenly garner. Heb. 12:2; Eph. 1:20-23.V. 25. *Shall also my servant be*—with me first in suffering, and then in glory. Rom. 8:17.V. 27. *Father, save me*—words akin to "Let this cup, etc. Matt. 26:29. V. 28. *I have*—in my testimony to Jesus as the Messiah. *And will*—in his death, resurrection and ascension, and the results. V. 31. *The judgment*—the "crisis" which shall determine who shall rule the world—Christ, its rightful king, or the prince of the world, Satan. *Cast out*—conquered by the gospel. V. 32. *Lifted up*—on the cross. *All men*—of every class and clime; Gentiles as well as Jews. V. 34. *The law*—the Scriptures. Ps. 72:8, 9; Isa. 9:7; Dan. 7:14. *Abideth for ever*—they could not accept the idea of a suffering, dying Christ. *Who is this Son of man?*—a scornful rejection of Jesus as the Messiah.

## QUESTIONS.

INTRODUCTORY.—What is the title of this lesson? Golden Text? Lesson Plan? Time? Place? Memory verses?

I. MUST DIE TO BEAR FRUIT, vs. 20-24.—Who came to worship at the feast? What did they say to Philip? Whom did Philip tell of their wish? What did Philip and Andrew do? What did Jesus say to them? How is he glorified? How did he illustrate the necessity of his death? How in the seed does life come out of death? How does this apply to Christ?

II. MUST LOSE TO SAVE, vs. 25-29.—How may we secure eternal life? How must we serve Christ? How will his followers be rewarded? What did Jesus say of himself? What prayer did he offer? What answer did he receive? What did he say of this answer? What further did he say?

III. MUST BE LIFTED UP TO DRAW UP, vs. 30-36.—What did Jesus predict about himself? How will he draw all men unto him? What did the people say? What did Jesus reply? What did he then do?

## WHAT HAVE I LEARNED?

1. That the death of Christ is the life of the world.
2. That we must be willing to give up all for Christ.
3. That God will reward and honor those who serve and honor Christ.
4. That if we neglect our spiritual privileges they may be taken from us.

## QUESTIONS FOR REVIEW

1. What did certain Greeks say to Philip? Ans. Sir, we would see Jesus.
2. What did Jesus say of himself? Ans. The hour is come that the Son of man should be glorified.
3. What did he promise his servants? Ans. If any man serve me, him will my Father honor.
4. What did he predict concerning himself? Ans. I, if I be lifted up from the earth, will draw all men unto me.

LESSON III.—OCTOBER 18, 1891.

WASHING THE DISCIPLES' FEET.

John 13:1-17.

COMMIT TO MEMORY vs. 15-17.

GOLDEN TEXT.

"Let this mind be in you, which was also in Christ Jesus."—Phil. 2:5.

HOME READINGS.

M. Luke 22:1-20.—The Last Supper.

T. John 13:1-17.—Christ Washing the Disciples' Feet.

W. Matt. 20:20-28.—Christ an Example of Humility.

Th. Rom. 15:1-14.—Christ Pleading Not Himself.

F. 2 Cor. 8:1-12.—Christ Becoming Poor for Us.

S. 1 Pet. 5:1-14.—Be Clothed with Humility.

S. Rom. 12:1-16.—Mind Not High Things.

LESSON PLAN.

I. Christ with the Basin, vs. 1-5.

II. Christ and Peter, vs. 6-11.

III. Christ and the Disciples, vs. 12-17.

TIME.—A. D. 30. Thursday evening, April 6, at the Passover feast; Tiberius Caesar emperor of Rome; Pontius Pilate governor of Judea; Herod Antipas governor of Galilee and Perea.

PLACE.—An upper room in Jerusalem.

HELP IN STUDYING THE LESSON.

V. 2. *Supper being ended*—"During supper," *Having now*—Luke 22:3-6. V. 3. *Jesus knowing*—though he knew that he was the Lord of the Universe, he stooped to do the work of a slave.V. 7. *Thou shalt know hereafter*—what is dark in God's dealings with us shall all be made clear.V. 8. *If I wash thee not, thou hast no part with me*—submission to Christ is the first condition of discipleship. This washing was also symbolic of spiritual cleansing. V. 10. *He that is washed*—a man who has bathed does not need to bathe again, but only to wash the dust off his feet. So the believer who has been forgiven and renewed needs only to have his daily sins cleansed. V. 14. *Ye also ought*—you should be willing to serve one another in humble acts of kindness.

## QUESTIONS.

INTRODUCTORY.—What was the subject of the last lesson? Title of this lesson? Golden Text? Lesson Plan? Time? Place? Memory verses?

I. CHRIST WITH THE BASIN, vs. 1-5.—What is said of Jesus' love? Who are meant by *his own*? How did he show his love for them? How has he shown his love for us? What had the devil influenced Judas to do? What did Jesus know? Why are these things mentioned here? What did Jesus do at supper? By whom was this service usually performed?

II. CHRIST AND PETER, vs. 6-11.—What did Peter ask? What did Jesus reply? Meaning of this reply? What did Peter then say? How did Jesus answer him? How does this apply to us all? What effect had this on Peter? What did Jesus say to him? To whom did he refer?

III. CHRIST AND THE DISCIPLES, vs. 12-17.—What did Jesus then do? How did he explain what he had done? What did he say of his relation to his disciples? What example had he given them? What did his example teach them? What would make them happy?

## WHAT HAVE I LEARNED?

1. That Jesus loves us with an unchanging love.
2. That his condescension is equalled only by his love.
3. That things now dark will be explained hereafter.
4. That unless we are cleansed from sin we have no part in Christ's salvation.
5. That we should be ready to do the humblest service for one another.

## QUESTIONS FOR REVIEW.

1. What were Jesus and his apostles about to do? Ans. They had come together to celebrate the Passover.
2. What did Jesus know? Ans. He knew that his hour had come that he should depart out of this world unto the Father.
3. What is said of his love? Ans. Having loved his own, he loved them unto the end.
4. What did Jesus do at supper? Ans. He girded himself with a towel, and washed his disciples' feet.
5. What did he say to his disciples? Ans. I have given you an example that ye should do as I have done to you.