

LESSONS. 1. Jesus is always near those who think and speak about him. 2. We often think Christ a hostile stranger when he comes to us in unexpected ways—trouble, duties, &c. 3. The Bible is full of Christ, and he only can open it to us. 4. He will come only into the heart that constrains him.

THE BLACKBOARD.

LORD

Arguing about
Beside
In sadness for
Doubting about
Enlightened by

What the Bible says about
Inviting
Tarrying with
Hearts aglow with love to

Unexpected recognition of
Sudden disappearance of

JESUS

LESSON XI—June 16th, 1895.

Peter and the Risen Lord. JOHN 21: 4-17.

(Commit to memory verses 15-17).

GOLDEN TEXT: "Lord, thou knowest all things; thou knowest that I love thee." John 21: 17.

PROVE THAT—God's mercy reaches children. Acts 2: 39.

LESSON HYMNS. *Children's Hymnal*—Nos. 31, 36, 103, 105.

SHORTER CATECHISM. Quest. 25. *How doth Christ execute the office of a priest?* A. Christ executeth the office of a priest in his once offering up of himself a sacrifice to satisfy divine justice, and reconcile us to God; and in making continual intercession for us.

DAILY PORTIONS. *Monday.* Peter and the Risen Lord. John 21: 1-12. *Tuesday.* Peter and the Risen Lord. John 21: 1-12. *Wednesday.* Peter's presumption. Luke 22: 31-38. *Thursday.* Peter's fall. Luke 22: 54-62. *Friday.* "It is the Lord." Matt. 14: 22-33. *Saturday.* Bold for Christ. Acts 4: 13-22. *Sabbath.* Love and faithfulness. John 14: 15-24. (*The I. B. R. A. Selections*).

NOTES AND EXPLANATIONS.

INTRODUCTORY. On the evening of the resurrection day, while the two disciples were narrating their interview with the risen Lord, Jesus suddenly appeared in the midst of the disciples. Terrified at first, thinking that Jesus was a disembodied spirit, their fears turned to joy when he showed himself to be their beloved Master restored from the dead. To the whole company, not to the apostles only, Jesus gave his great commission (Mark 14: 15) and upon all of them he bestowed the Holy Ghost and the power of "remitting" and "retaining" sins (John 20: 22-23). We are not called upon here to discuss the meaning of these words, but merely note that they convey no exclusive prerogative to the apostles—much less to their so-called successors. The apostles had gone to Galilee as the Lord had appointed (Matt. 28: 16). While waiting, Peter, Thomas, Nathanael, James, John and two others, perhaps Andrew and Philip who were of Bethsaida (John 1: 44), take up their old occupation of fishing. After a night of fruitless toil Jesus appeared to them, being his seventh manifestation since his resurrection. Read John 20: 19; 21: 23; Luke 24: 36-43; 1 Cor. 15: 5.

LESSON PLAN. I. The Miracle. vs. 4-8. II. The Meal. vs. 9-14. III. The Mission. vs. 15-17.

I. THE MIRACLE. 4. When the day was now breaking (R. V.)—As we would say "in the grey of the morning," while the light was imperfect. Stood—Expressing the sudden appearance. Comp. 20: 19, 26. (Meyer), The shore—The beach, a pebbly or sandy shore is meant. Knew not—Jesus was within speaking distance and therefore near enough to have been recognized. His condition and appearance were materially changed after the resurrection so as to render immediate recognition difficult. It is pro-