

can give it. He is the Great Physician, to heal the sin-sick soul, and he calls to every one to put aside the world's allurements and follow him. The faint-hearted say, "I have not strength to follow!" True, but Jesus will strengthen you by his grace. He does not ask you to come through your own might, or journey through life in your own strength, but if you trust him he will give you grace to follow *fully and sincerely*. His followers feast with him every day, and he is not ashamed to enter in and sup with the poorest one of them. And then it is not an aimless journey he asks you to take, wandering to and fro, eating and drinking, but it is a pilgrimage that leads to the Promised Land, where the home of Jesus is with all the blood-washed throng. On such a glorious journey should I not go *boldly*? On such a glorious journey should I not go *joyfully*?

Lord, in the strength of grace,

With a glad heart and free,
Myself, my residue of days,

I consecrate to thee.

The Primary Class.

The publicans were gatherers of taxes. There were houses or booths built at the foot of bridges, at the gates of cities, at the mouths of rivers, and by the sea-side, where they transacted their business. Such a place was "the receipt of custom" mentioned in the lesson. It is not necessary to try to explain to the little ones the nature of taxes. These will probably be beyond their comprehension, as, indeed, some of them are incomprehensible to older people. It will be sufficient for the purposes of this lesson to represent a man sitting in a little house by the road-side, and the people coming to him to pay him money. This man, and all like him, were despised by the people; yet Jesus went to him and chose him for a follower. Many others just like him, and some very wicked people, sat with Jesus and his disciples. Some people found fault with this, but Jesus explained by saying that as a physician goes among the sick people to cure them, so he went among wicked people to do them good. He came to save sinners, and he went where they were in order to save them. There are many who keep company with wicked people because they are themselves wicked; but Jesus, who was pure and holy, kept their company in order to save them. Endeavor to fix this point in the

minds of the scholars: That Jesus tries to do good to the worst of people; and that there is no heart so sinful that he will not enter it and make it better if it is only opened to him.

Miscellaneous.

THEMES FOR BIBLE READINGS.

1. CALLS OF GRACE. Matt. ix. 9; Prov. i. 20-23; Luke v. 32; Isa. i. 18; lv. 7; Matt. xi. 28-30.
2. CALLS TO WORK. Mark i. 17; 1 Peter iv. 10; Matt. xxi. 28; 1 Chron. xxix. 5.
3. CALLS DECLINED. Prov. i. 24-31; Luke xviii. 23; Gen. xix. 14, 26.
4. CALLS ACCEPTED. Luke xix. 48; Mark i. 17, 18; 1 Chron. xxix. 6-9.
5. FOLLOWING JESUS. Matt. iv. 19, 20, 22; John x. 4; Matt. xvi. 24; Luke xvii. 22; John xii. 26.
6. FOLLOWING AFAR OFF. Gen. xix. 16, 19; Luke xxii. 54; Matthew xxvi. 58; 1 Kings xi. 6.
7. FOLLOWING FULLY. Titus ii. 14; Hosea vi. 3; Luke xviii. 28; Josh. xiv. 8; Phil. iii. 7, 8, 13, 14.

Freeman: Publicans, 759; Sitting at Meat, 712; Pharisees, 693. 700. *Foster*: 524, 1856, 2274, 5166, 5368. *Prayer-Meeting Topic*: How to follow Christ. *Texts*: Luke xv. 7; xix. 10; Isa. lv. 7; Jer. viii. 22.

REVIEW READING FOR THE MONTH.

The voice of one—in the—, Prepare ye the—of the—, and make his—
John preached the—of— for the— of—
He also baptized— in—. At his baptism the— were opened, the Spirit descended like a—, and there came a voice from—, saying, —
Jesus walked—
by the— of—, and called— and—
to be his—. They were—. He also called—and—, the sons of—. He— went to—and taught in the—. Here he healed a—who had an— spirit. In other parts of Galilee he cast out—and healed a—. By the sea-side he called— to be an apostle. He also ate with— and—.

TOPICS AND GOLDEN TEXTS.— *Beginning*: RECORD; *Authority*: CAME..... POWER; *Willing*: CANST; *Follow*: WHOLLY.

Lessons for August.

- AUG. 2. Jesus and the Sabbath. Mark ii. 23-28; iii. 1-5.
AUG. 9. Power over Nature. Mark iv. 35-41.
AUG. 16. Power over Demons. Mark v. 1-15.
AUG. 23. Power over Disease. Mark v. 24-34.
AUG. 30. Power over Death. Mark v. 22, 23, 35-48.