

Holy Spirit we are born into spiritual life. Beside Jacob's well we heard him say, "If thou knewest the gift of God, and who it is that saith to thee, Give me to drink; thou wouldest have asked of him." Have we asked? How much he gives for the asking!

Through the recovery of the nobleman's son we learned how faith must grow from bud to blossom and fruit; and in the healing of the man at Bethesda we learned that only a humble, believing heart, not signs and wonders, will bring men to Jesus. You remember that famished multitude of five thousand men, women, and children fed to satisfaction with a little bread and a few fishes, and there we learned how to do our daily work; to trust Jesus in emergencies; use the resources at hand; give thanks for what we have; be systematic; share our work with others; do it heartily; waste nothing; remember that God will supply all our need, but will make no provision for wasteful extravagance.

At the feast we heard his blessed voice calling us to come to him for living water to quench the thirst of the soul; and again, his promise of freedom from the power of sin. We saw him open the eyes of the blind man, and were taught that the passing of the soul from darkness to light is a clear and definite experience. And, last, we learned the gentleness of Jesus, as our watchful, tender Shepherd. It is a wonderful revelation of the eternal God, our mighty Saviour, our human Friend. Happy are we if he says of us, "My sheep hear my voice, and I know them, and they follow me." Hear that loving voice gently calling us to follow him. He will lead us "beside the still waters," and "in the paths of righteousness."

Blackboard.

Use the design accompanying the first lesson to illustrate that and show how Christ, the Word and the Light, illuminates all. Lesson II tells us how the first two disciples came, and how Andrew brought his brother Peter. Lesson III shows the willingness of Christ to supply our wants; we ask and we receive. Lessons IV, V, and VI direct us to look, to drink, to believe, that we may live in Christ. He is the Son of God (Lesson VII), the bread sent down from heaven (Lesson VIII), and the water of life (Lesson IX). By his death he makes us free indeed from the power of sin and death (Lesson X). When our eyes are opened and we see Jesus we shall believe and be saved, like the blind man (Lesson XI). In the last lesson (XII) we are told of the only door of the fold, Christ the Shepherd of the sheep. "My sheep hear my voice," he says, "and I know them, and they follow me" (Golden Text).

The Fidelity of the Stars.

ONCE as I entered the observatory of Harvard College at the close of the day, a friend who had led me there asked that I might be shown the new instrument that had just been introduced. The professor replied, courteously, "Yes, I think there may be time enough yet for him to see a star if you will find one." My companion "found one" by looking in a worn little book of astronomical tables lying there on the desk, and replied, quietly, "There is one at 5:20." So in a hurried instant the covering was stripped off from the great brass tube, and prone upon his back, under the eyepiece, lay the enthusiastic professor. While my friend stood by, with what seemed a tack hammer in his hand, I noticed that he kept his eye on a tall chronometer clock near us. Suddenly two sounds broke the impressive stillness; we had been waiting for the stars. One was the word "There," spoken by the professor; the other was the tap of the hammer on the stone top of the table by my companion. Both occurred at the same instant—the same particle of the instant; they were positively simultaneous. But the man who spoke the word could not see the clock—he was looking at the star that came swinging along till it touched the spider-web line in his instrument; and the other man who struck the hammer stroke could not see the star—he was looking at the second hand on the dial plate. When the index in its simplicity of regular duty marked twenty minutes after five there fell the click on the stone; and then, too, there came on in the heavens, millions of miles away, one of God's stars, having no speech, but rolling in on time, as he bade it ages ago!

Then I was invited to look in and see the world of light and beauty as it swept by the next fiber in the tube. But afterward I went curiously to the book, and found that it had been published ten years before, and that its calculations ran far away into the future, and that it had been based on calculations a thousand years old. And God's fidelity to the covenant of nature, here now almost three thousand years after David had made the Nineteenth Psalm, had brought the glorious creature of the sky into the field of Harvard College's instrument just as that patient clock reached the second needed for the truth of the ancient prediction. Need I say that those two professors almost wondered (so used to such things were they) at the awe-struck devotion, the hushed reverence, with which I left the room?—
Dr. C. S. Robinson.

"THE heavens declare the glory of God; and the firmament showeth his handywork" (Psa. 19. 1).