

wished to call his attention to Himself who was the one sent from the Father.

8-11. These verses set before us the surprise and the comments of his acquaintances. See the *Rev. Ver.* above for v. 8. The Pharisees assail the man with a positive assertion, "We know that this man is a sinner" (v. 24).

He shatters all their theories with the single fact that he had received his sight, and therefore, Christ must be a good man. They lose their temper and cast him out of the synagogue. But Jesus lovingly receives him and he becomes a humble and true disciple.

ASK YOURSELF

What promise is made in our last lesson to those who follow Jesus? What test does Christ give of true discipleship? How did He say true freedom is to be obtained? How did many receive these wonderful words? (Ch. 8 : 59.)

Juniors

1. Whom did Jesus see as He passed by? Did the man ask for help? How did Jesus feel towards the man?

2. What was the question of the disciples?

3. What was Christ's answer? Why is suffering so often allowed by God? (2 Cor. 19 : 9; Heb. 12 : 6-11.)

4. What works does Christ refer to? What does He mean by "while it is day"?

5. By what name does our Saviour here call Himself? Give other places. (Luke 2 : 32; John 1 : 4; 3 : 19; 8 : 12; Rev. 21 : 23.)

6. What was the first step in the miracle? Did Jesus always use such means in opening the eyes of the blind? (Mark 10 : 51, 52.)

7. What was Christ's command? What did the man do? What happened?

8, 9. How did this man get his living? Why were the man's neighbors puzzled? What did they ask him? What did he answer? How far did his knowledge of who Jesus was extend? What further knowledge did he get of Him later? (vs. 35-38.)

Seniors

1-5. Why did the disciples ask the question? Wherein were Job's friends wrong in regard to the cause of suffering? (Job 4 : 7; 8:6.) Who held a similar opinion? (Acts 28 : 4.) What did Isaiah prophesy in regard to the Messiah as a healer? (Is. 35 : 5; 42 : 7; 61 : 7.) What does Christ Himself say? (Luke 4 : 18-21.) How does Christ call men out of darkness into light? (Acts 26 : 18; 2 Cor. 4 : 6.)

6, 7. Was there any efficacy in the clay? What lesson is taught us as to the use of means? Where was the pool of Siloam? What does the name mean? How does the man show his faith?

8-11. If you have time it is worth while to ask yourself what are the chief points of interest in the investigation of the case by the man's neighbors, and by the Pharisees, and how it ended? (vs. 8-38.)

PRACTICAL

1. The blind man's hard lot moved the disciples to ask a puzzling question as to how he had come by his blindness. It moved the Man of Sorrows to open his eyes. It is this practical help that suffering calls for.

2. What strange ways God takes of showing Himself! This man was blind from birth, in order that now he might not only see the beauties of the world about him, but see God with the eye of faith. Do not complain of God's way of bringing out the best that is in you, and bringing about the best that is to be for you. Some flowers need to be crushed in order that their sweetness shall appear. The sky is a deeper blue after the storm. Paul came to a higher level of joy

through his "thorn in the flesh."

3. The man was so changed that his neighbors scarcely knew him, simply because his eyes had been opened. It is not a more wonderful transformation than that which passes upon some who turn from sin to holiness. When a boy gives up using bad language, telling falsehoods, and doing mean things, and becomes pure and true and manly, it is a greater change than when new eyes were given to the blind man.

4. All the blind man's blessings flowed from his just going where he was sent, and doing as he was told, and leaving God to do the rest. That is a sure secret of comfort and a sure rule of success in life.

FOR WRITTEN ANSWERS

1. What was the question of the disciples as to the blind man?
2. What was Jesus' answer?
3. What was the blind man's own story as to his cure?
4. Who alone can give spiritual sight?
5. How may it be obtained?