

The truest wisdom there, and noblest art
Is his, who skills of comfort best."

So sings the poet Keble. And I think there can be few who have not felt the same thing. A child, however quickly he may forget, feels a momentary pang for the suffering of others, and would like to have power to relieve it. Now, age and experience will give some power. Riches will give some, knowledge, energy, and wisdom will give more. But these all have their limit. They cannot

"Minister to a mind diseased,"

or

"Pluck from the memory a rooted sorrow."

But there is a power which can reach the deepest misery, and turn it into joy. Would you exercise this power?

"Take the name of Jesus with you."

With that name you need not fear to approach the bed of suffering and the chamber of sorrow. For in this name resides the power to heal the broken heart, to comfort the burdened, to renew and save the sinful and the lost.

BEREAN METHODS.

Hints for the Teachers' Meeting and the Class.

Draw a diagram of the temple, showing the Beautiful Gate and Solomon's Porch. . . . Explain "hour of prayer;" "Beautiful Gate;" "alms;" "in the name of Jesus Christ;" "Solomon's Porch," etc. . . . Present in the lame man the type of the sinner's condition—helpless, poor, dependent, unable to enter God's spiritual temple. . . . Show the way in which he was healed a type of salvation: (1) In what was required—attention, faith, action; (2) In what was done—power given from God. . . . Show the part taken by the apostles in the work, an illustration of human instrumentalities in salvation; their thought, sympathy, willingness to impart benefit, dependence upon Christ, etc. . . . See the Additional Practical Lessons for the teachings of the miracle. . . . The spirit of the Gospel as shown in the Analytical and Biblical Outline. . . . How does this lesson apply to the professed disciples of Jesus? . . . How does it apply to those who are desirous of salvation?

ILLUSTRATIONS. This lesson is illustrated by the parable of the hid treasure. Matt 13. 44. A man, seeking for common gifts of food and money, suddenly finds a treasure of health and salvation presented to him, and eagerly receives it. . . . The story is famous of the discourse betwixt Pope Innocent IV. and Thomas Aquinas, when that great scholar came to Rome, and looked somewhat amazedly upon the mass of plate and treasure which

he saw there. "So," said the pope, "you see, Thomas, we cannot say, as did St. Peter of old, 'Silver and gold have I none.'" "No," said Aquinas, "neither can you command, as he did, the lame man to arise and walk."—*Bishop Hall*. . . . A missionary lady, writing from Damascus to the *Christian Instructor*, gives the following illustration of the continuance of an ancient practice in the East: "A singular and interesting custom prevails here during the hours of public prayers on Sabbath mornings, and on frequent stated sessions during the week. It is that of the poor and diseased, lame and blind, being gathered about the church doors to solicit alms. They present a very strange appearance, sitting together along the walls, or standing in groups with the hand extended for charities, and remind one of the account given in Acts 3. 2, of the laying of the lame man at the 'gate of the temple which is called Beautiful.' The feeble and blind are often led to these public places, and the lame sometimes literally 'carried' on the shoulders of some good Samaritan friend."—*J. C. Gray*.

Primary and Intermediate.

BY M. V. M.

LESSON THOUGHT. *There is power in Jesus' name.*

A GREAT PERSON.

Print on the board names of persons spoken of in this lesson—Jesus, Peter, John, lame man. Previous to this, read lesson slowly, and let children give names to be printed. Get from children which of the four is the Great Person, and why. Teach that riches do not make greatness, but love does, and show that Jesus is great in power and glory, because he has a heart full of love. Let children tell what this love led him to do for us. Tell story as far as verse 7, and ask if Peter was not the great person. Show that he was not great when he denied Jesus, because then it was Peter himself who worked; but now it was Jesus in Peter who worked, and this was the Great Person.

A GREAT CURE.

Ask if children have ever seen one who could not walk. Tell that this beggar had never walked, and now was more than forty years old. Every day he was laid at the Beautiful Gate of the temple, to get a little money from the people who went in and out. Tell why he could not walk—his feet and ankles were not strong enough. Teach the lesson of dependence upon God for all strength of body. Read verses 7 and 8, and tell that Jesus, who had let the poor man be a cripple for forty years, now made him well