

what we are liable to put in God's place—what we make idols of?

Bring into this lesson the thought of reverence for God's house, and God's name, also the thought that we are in His presence all the time, and that we should make our lives, day by day, worship Him "in spirit and in truth."

Christ comes to us, and reads our hearts and the intent of our lives, just as He did with the woman at the well of Samaria. We should keep our hearts so that we shall not be ashamed when He says to us, "I that speak unto thee am He."

Select the hymns with care—"Nearer, my God, to Thee," "I need Thee every hour," "My faith looks up to Thee."



Helping the Needy.

April 9.—The least of Christ's brethren: how help them? Matt. 25:31-46.

DAILY READINGS.—Monday: Feeding the hungry, Isa. 58:7, 10. Tuesday: Giving water to the thirsty, Matt. 10:42. Wednesday: Entertaining the stranger, Heb. 13:2. Thursday: Clothing the naked, Jas. 2:15, 16. Friday: Visiting the sick, 2 Kings 8:28, 29. Saturday: Visiting the prisoner, 2 Tim. 1:16-18; Heb. 13:3.

In our day and country, though we may think ourselves kind and hospitable, we really know nothing of the grace of hospitality as the Orientals regard it. With them, it is a sacred duty—one that nothing should prevent his performing.

Let the Juniors tell you who Christ's brethren are, then who are the least of His brethren. A talk will follow this on how to help the needy and afflicted. Try to form some definite plans of work.

It has been said that an indiscriminate giver is worse than a thief. Talk this over also with the Juniors, and ascertain and guide aright their opinions and views.

The thought in this lesson to be impressed is that in helping those in need, we are serving Christ. "Inasmuch as ye have done it unto one of the least of these my brethren, ye have done it unto me." Read 2 Tim. 1:16-18.

Select a couple of real good stories for this meeting, not a poor one—better none at all. Read the parable of "The good Samaritan." It is of Him the poet Tennyson writes in these beautiful words:

"And so the Word had breath, and wrought,
With human hands, the creed of creeds
In loveliness of perfect deeds
More strong than all poetic thought."



The Life of Christ. IV.

April 16.—How does the parable of the sower apply to you? Matt. 13:1-9, 13-23.

DAILY READINGS.—Monday: Healing a leper, Mark 1:40-45. Tuesday: Healing a palsied man, Mark 2:1-12. Wednesday: The appointment of the twelve, Luke 6:12-16. Thursday: Healing a centurion's servant, Luke 7:1-10. Friday: Raising a widow's son, Luke 7:11-17. Saturday: A message from prison, Matt. 11:2-11.

This is the fourth lesson in our series. A parable is to explain something unseen or hard to understand, by some simpler thing that we can see and know about. In other words parables are Christ's object lessons. Have the Juniors tell the story of this parable and its teaching. Suggest the thought that our hearts may be like the good ground, that the Master's seed may grow and bring forth abundant fruit.

How simple is the lesson! The crowd of people, on the beach where Christ taught them, were the field, Jesus was the sower who was spreading the

seeds of heaven among men. Some of His words fell on hard, cold minds, some on shallow, emotional minds, some on vain and worldly ones, that liked His teaching and resolved to follow it, but whose good resolutions faded away when they went back to their business and their pleasures. But there were good and honest minds in that crowd, too, who kept the words of Jesus, and tried to be like Him. Remember, then, that the best ground for the words of Jesus to grow in is an honest, good, and gentle heart, such as any little child may have; and what child would not like to have the words of Jesus kept safely in his memory, to bear precious fruit in his life?



Idolatry.

April 23.—What idols would God have us overthrow? Isa. 2:10-21. (A missionary meeting. Asia.)

DAILY READINGS.—Monday: Worship of graven images, Deut. 5:8. Tuesday: Worship of molten images, Ex. 32:7, 8; 34:17. Wednesday: Worship of the heavenly bodies, Deut. 4:19. Thursday: Worship of mammon, Matt. 6:24. Friday: "Covetousness, which is idolatry," Col. 3:5. Saturday: "Keep yourselves from idols," 1 John 5:21.

This lesson is closely associated with the one on True Worship. One seems to naturally follow the other. If possible borrow an idol for the occasion. The Bible can represent America, and the idol, Asia and the other countries who know not God. Here the Juniors will tell of the thousands of suffering people who are struggling in the darkness of sin, without the hope of heaven—of the idolatrous worship—the killing of innocent babes. Why is Asia still in darkness so many years after Christ died to save us? It is partly because of the idols we have set up and worshipped. Some of these are, avarice, greed, pride, self, money, home friends. But you say are money, home, or friends, idols? Yes, if they keep us from either taking or sending the gospel to those in darkness. Show that the missionaries leave them all to go and tell the story of the Cross.



The Rewards of Obedience.

April 30.—How does Christ reward those that do His will? John 14:11-21.

DAILY READINGS.—Monday: Honored of God, John 12:26. Tuesday: Membership in God's family, Matt. 12:46-50. Wednesday: Admitted to Christ's fellowship, John 15:14. Thursday: The revelation of God, Luke 10:22; John 17:6. Friday: The knowledge of God's will, John 7:17; Eph. 5:17. Saturday: The abiding presence of God, John 14:23.

Speak first of rewards—What are they? To whom given? What rewards do Juniors get in the ordinary routine of life? Do we like rewards?

Read from the Bible "To obey is better than sacrifice." Tell the mistakes made by the Pharisees, who kept the letter of the law, most rigidly obeyed many foolish rules, but who knew nothing about real obedience—the true spirit of the law.

At the previous meeting ask each Junior to bring a promise (written) to this meeting. Have each promise read, then fasten them together to form a chain. It is this chain which helps us to bear our cross in life. To whom are these promises given? Why to those who love, serve, and obey God.

Read the fourteenth chapter of John, dwelling on the promises in it. Much of this the Juniors may not understand, but what is simplest is also greatest—how to have the spirit of Jesus within us, guiding us. What Jesus said to His disciples, He meant for us also and the more we give ourselves up to His gentle guidance, the more we will be guided.