

January 19th.—"How to shun evil."—2 Cor. 6. 17. "Wherefore come out from among them, and be ye separate, saith the Lord, and touch not the unclean thing; and I will receive you."

This verse teaches us again what we learned two weeks ago, that if we would keep right with God, we must turn away from sin for ever. There are two kinds of people in this world, those who are for God and those who are against him, those who love holiness and those who are satisfied to be "unclean," those who do right and those who do wrong, and we are each united with one of these classes. Jesus said, "He that doth with me, is against me," and, "No man can serve two masters." So we must be on one side or the other. And we choose sides for ourselves. Even in our games at school we always like to be on the winning side. How much more in serving God. His side is the right one, and is sure to be the winning one. The other side is sure to fail. So, because God wants us all to be pure, and happy, and safe for ever, he calls us to come over to his side, and says he will receive us. That is, if we will choose him, he will take us to be on his side now and evermore. And this is the way to shun evil. To come right over to God's side, and keep busy for him is the one secret of keeping ourselves from sin. "An idle brain is the devil's workshop." Satan finds some mischief still for idle hands to do." To keep out-and-out on God's side, and be busy for him every day is the sure way of keeping out of sin. "A busy man has one devil to contend with; but an idle man has a thousand." It is an old but true adage. Therefore, keep at work for God. We knew a boy once who said he was going to give up sin; he did not want to be a Christian. He just wanted to be good enough to keep out of the penitentiary for a while, but not to be a worker for God. Well, he tried to quit his bad habits; but he did not get any good ones in their place, and he soon found that other bad ones came into his life. The only way for him, as for us all, is to give up sin, or else weeds will spring up and cover the ground. "Come out from among them" means that we are to "separate" ourselves from every evil-doer and live strictly for God. How many boys and girls have grown to be very bad young men or women because they had kept bad company! You know some, do you not? We must not go with the workers of iniquity; but we must not stay all by ourselves. We must unite ourselves with God and his people, and work in righteousness and service for him and with them. Summary: Two persons, "ye," and "I."

1. "Ye" (a) Come out. (b) Be separate. (c) Touch not. (d) Join yourselves to me.
 2. "I" (a) Will receive. (b) Will be your father. (c) Will own you as my family. (Verse 18.)
- Surely the blessings promised by God should induce us all to "acknowledge him" as we were exhorted to last week. Questions illustrative of the topic:
1. How did the Israelites "come out" from among the Egyptians, and what blessings followed?
 2. How did the three Hebrew children "separate" themselves from others who feared not God, and what good resulted to them?
 3. What words of Jesus teach us that God wants our whole-hearted service, and what will be pleased with a divided heart?
 4. How did Paul himself act when he was called to come right over to God's side? What did he give up? What did he get? And was he satisfied?
 5. Is there any passage in Revelation that tells us anything about the future blessedness of those who are out-and-out for God here on earth? Can you find it?

January 26th.—"How to be good for something."—Eph. 6. 13-19. (Read 1-12.)

We have learned so far this month how to be right with God, how to do right, how to keep from evil; and now we are to learn how to be useful. It is not enough to be good, we must be "good for something," or else our goodness will not last long. If you have read the Scripture lesson for this week (which is too long to print here), you will have noticed that the Apostle Paul speaks of Christians as soldiers going out to do battle against a strong foe. Who does not like to see a whole regiment of soldiers fully equipped for the field, as they march to the sound of the music of the band? We all do? Our own brave Canadians have many of them gone out to South Africa to fight for the King, and we have all felt proud of them; but brave as they are, they needed a good outfit, and so the Government have been careful to get them the best horses, and guns, and clothing, and tents, and everything else that can help them in their work, which is hard enough even when they have the best equipment that money can buy. Now, Paul does not mean that we are all to go out and fight for our country; but he does mean that we are all to fight for God, and that we all may have a perfect outfit to help us in the conflict. In olden times, knights, as soldiers were then called, wore armor all over their persons to protect them from the swords and spears and arrows of the foe. So, Paul speaks of the Christian's armor. We need it. Satan, our foe, has many a barbed and poisoned shaft to fly against us, and unless we are well protected we shall suffer from them. But God has provided for us. There is no part of our persons exposed to the enemy but is covered from him, and if we will keep our faces to the front, we shall not be over- come. You have read the story of Bun- cevan, in which he tells of the fight the Pilgrim had with the foe. Well, we all have our battles to fight, and we may also win our victories. But all the armor is not merely defensive. There are weapons for aggressive war. That is, God wants us to fight the enemy, not only because that enemy wants to destroy us, but because he will also destroy God's cause if he can. So we have a sword (God's Word) given us to wield. To do so we need to know it, and how to use it, and we cannot be "good for something" in the fight against wrong unless we are skillful in the Scriptures. This comes only by exercise. Practice is necessary for soldiers, and also for Christians. The Junior League ought to be a good drill ground. We meet together, row to show off as soldiers do on the parade ground, but to study, to drill, to learn how to use our weapons, and if we fail in that, we will not be "good for something" in God's great army. Victory is sure at last, and for ever. (Question for super-intendents: Is your Junior League a good drill-hall? Are you turning out well-trained soldiers for the army of the Lord?)

FEBRUARY TOPIC, "GROWTH."

Nature teaches us that maturity is not reached by one process; but by a number of continued processes. Everywhere we may learn it. Animals, plants, even minerals increase. Little by little, so small as to be invisible, yet constant and sure, the growth goes on. "First the blade, then the ear, then the full corn in the ear." So with the Bible, the church, the Christian life, and the world. They are all the result of growth, and some of them are not yet completed. Impress this on your Juniors in commencing the studies for February. The topic centres in the Bible, "The way it came to us," its messages for us, and we may get that message, and memorizing the

Scriptures, are all treated of this month. Prepare by laying a good groundwork at this first meeting and making each successive meeting in the month a link in the completed chain.

February 2nd.—"The way our Bible came to us."—2 Peter 1. 21. (Read.)

"Scripture" as known by Peter and Paul was not just as we know it now. Why? If you have carefully read the text for the week, and the verse just before it, you will see that "holy men of old" are spoken of. Who were these? What did they write? How did they know what to write? On what did they write? How have their writings come down to us? How do we know that what they wrote is the word of God? All these are questions that come up in the minds of the young, and we are to answer them in our meetings from time to time. If you can do no more this week than make sure that your Juniors can give in proper order and intelligent manner the books of the Old and New Testaments, you will have done well. To do this, some system is absolutely necessary. As a sample, take the following very simple division of the New Testament books. This is one of many used at different times by the writer. Ruled blanks, like the following form, are given to each Junior, to be filled up and duly returned. Try it, and then enlarge to something more comprehensive and thorough. Space will not permit a more extended treatment; but if any of you are really interested enough to write Mr. Bartlett, he will send you sample studies that you can easily duplicate for use in your League.

Give No. of chapters in each book.	DOCTRINE		History
	7 General Epistles	14 Paul's Epistles	

New Testament Books (names to be filled in.)

N.B.—Do not return this sheet until you have filled it in from memory only.

Jack and the Clock.

"Why is it that I'm like the clock?" Says little Jack to me. "Because I've two hands and a face, As any one can see."

The difference 'twixt the clock and Jack is quite as plainly seen: I wish they were alike in this; Its face and hands were clean.

Say "O!"

An eminent clergyman sat in his study, busily engaged in preparing his Sunday sermon, when his little boy toddled into the room, and holding up his pinched finger, said with an expression of suffering, "Look, papa, how I hurt it." The father, interrupted in the middle of a sentence, glanced hastily at him, and with the slightest tone of impatience said, "I can't help it, sonny." The little fellow's eyes grew bigger, and as he turned to go, he said in a low voice: "Yes, you could; you might have said 'O!'" What a little thing it is to say! Yet how often and how much it helps!