

THE Teachers' Preparation Leaflet

LESSON 8.

AUGUST 19th, 1894.

3rd QUARTER.

— First Disciples of Jesus. John 1: 35-49.

GOLDEN TEXT: "We have found the Messias, which is, being interpreted, the Christ." John 1: 41.

COMMIT TO MEMORY verses 40-42. Children's Hymnal 84, 49, 87, 141.

PROVE THAT—We should tell others about Jesus. Mark 5: 19.

SHORTER CATECHISM—Quest. 89. How is the word made effectual to salvation?

DAILY PORTIONS.

(The Selections of the International Bible Reading Association.)

MONDAY.	TUESDAY.	WEDNESDAY.	THURSDAY.	FRIDAY.	SATURDAY.	SABBATH.
John 1: 35-42.	John 1: 43-49	Luke 5: 27-32	Mark 1: 14-20	Luke 9: 57-62	Luke 14: 25-35	Matt. 19: 23-30

NOTES AND EXPLANATIONS.

INTRODUCTORY. John does not give an account of the early years of Jesus. He begins his "Memoir" with the first day of his own acquaintance with him. During the forty days of our Lord's temptation, John had continued baptising at Bethabara, or Bethany, beyond Jordan. Deputations from the chief priests had come to him demanding whether he claimed to be the Christ or not. He refused to arrogate any honor to himself, but seeing Jesus in the crowd, he declared him to be the "the Lamb of God" who was to take away "the sin of the world," stating that he had been pointed out to him by inspiration. They seem to have paid no heed to what he said, but on repeating the same words to two of his own disciples the next day, they turned and followed Jesus. Read the foregoing part of the chapter.

Bethabara, or Bethany, as in the R. V., are probably two names for the same place. The Roman war blotted out the names of many places, so that the latter was lost in the former; the former meaning "Ferry-house," and the latter "Boat-house," see Judges 7: 24. The site was probably near Jericho, on the route travellers would take going eastward. A Roman road led through Jericho, and was continued on the farther side of Jordan by Heshbon. The road, possibly, which our Lord took when going and returning from the wilderness where he was tempted. The choice of the spot may have been determined on this account; perhaps also with some reference to the crossing, about the same place (if not the very same), of the Israelites under Joshua. There may have been in John's mind the idea of a new repentant nation again passing through the river to possess the land, and so prepare for their Messiah-king. (Reith).

LESSON PLAN. I. Pointing Disciples to Christ. vs. 35-39. II. Bringing a Brother to Christ. vs. 40-42. III. Leading a Friend to Christ. vs. 43-49.

I. POINTING DISCIPLES TO CHRIST. 35. The next day—after his testimony to the people. "He counts these never to be forgotten hours one by one." (Lange). **Two of his disciples**—one was Andrew and the other probably John himself. This we infer from the fact that John never names himself in his own Gospel; the account bears all the marks of being that of an eye-witness; and the only reason we can imagine for refraining from giving the name is John's habitual modesty. These two were probably present on the previous day and the impression then made led to their decision now. The first four disciples,—Peter, Andrew, James and John—were more formally called to discipleship afterwards (Matt. 4: 18, 21). Then they "forsook all and followed him." **36. Looking upon—**

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