

knows just how we feel, and is able to help and comfort us and keep us from sin. Our Lesson story tells us about this.

Review—John the Baptist went about telling people to get ready for Jesus (recall), and all the while God was getting Jesus ready for the people.

Lesson—While people are flocking to John to be baptized, Jesus the Mighty Worker is leaving His home at Nazareth, saying goodbye to Mary and Joseph, and starting out to do His great work.

The Baptism of Jesus—Here we see Jesus at the River Jordan talking with John. Jesus is asking John to baptize Him (Matt. 3 : 13-15), so that He would be fulfilling all that was expected of others, and to show also that He approved of John's baptism (Exposition).

The Dove, the Emblem of the Holy Spirit—How many can tell which is the gentlest of all birds? Yes, the dove. Have you ever heard its gentle "Coo Coo?" We cannot make a picture of the Holy Spirit, but the Spirit is represented by a dove, because that is the emblem of gentleness and purity. Just as Jesus came out of the water He looked up and saw the heavens opened and the Holy Spirit like a dove coming down and resting upon Him (sketch the form of wings) and a voice from heaven said,—

v. 11. This made Jesus sure that He was God's Son. The coming of the Holy Spirit upon Him gave Him the power to do His great work.

The Temptation of Jesus—Jesus had some hard lessons to learn to fit Him for this work. The Spirit led Him away to a lonely place, where He was without food for many days, and He was hungry. Oh ! now is the chance for the evil spirit, Satan, to tempt Jesus to do wrong. Listen to him : "If You are hungry, why do You not command these stones to become bread,—show Your power now." How did Jesus reply? Tell simply the other temptations, and how the Holy Spirit helped Jesus to put Satan away. The Holy Spirit can keep me from sin. When Satan saw that he could not persuade Jesus to do wrong he left Him for a time. If we refuse to obey Satan he will leave us too, but only for a time. We must watch and pray against Satan.

Golden Text—Repeat the Golden Text. Are we tempted to be proud? Jesus knows; He was tempted too. Are we tempted to listen to Satan's evil whisper? Jesus knows; He was tempted too. He knows how to keep us from sin.

Something to Think About—I should pray for the Holy Spirit.

FROM THE PLATFORM

"TRY HIM WITH A TEXT"

Print large on the blackboard the words "TRY HIM WITH A TEXT." It will set the School wondering. Tell the story of a certain man whose advice to those who were troubled by Satan's suggestions was, "Try him with a text." Remind the school that this was Jesus' way on that terrible day of temptation. State, in a few words, each temptation, and ask for the scripture text Jesus repelled it with. Then ask if Jesus had the Bible open before Him in this temptation hour. No, He repeated these texts from His memory and heart. In His childhood He had stored His mind with the Word of God and when He needed a text He had only to choose from His stores in memory. Impress the fact that in our Sabbath School studies we are storing our minds as Jesus did, and that, when temptation comes to us we can defeat Satan with the same sort of weapon.