

QUESTIONS FOR YOUNGER SCHOLARS.

Why were the disciples sad at the last supper? **Because Jesus was so soon to leave them.**

What did he speak to them? **Comforting words.**

Where did he say he was going? **To his Father's house.**

What would he make ready there? **A place for the disciples.**

How did he tell them to show their love for him? **By keeping his commandments.**

What did he promise them from God? **A Comforter.**

Why cannot the world receive this Comforter? **Because it does not know him.**

How could the disciples know him? **He would be in them.**

What sweet promise did Jesus give? **"I will come to you."**

To whom will Jesus manifest himself? **To those who love him.**

Who will not keep Jesus's words? **Those who do not love him.**

What name did Jesus give to the Comforter? **The Holy Ghost.**

What does the Comforter do? **Teach all things.**

What did Jesus say he would bring to mind? **Words Jesus had spoken.**

What did Jesus leave to his disciples? **Peace.**

Why is this a great gift? **Because it is from God.**

Words With Little People.

Does the Comforter promised by Jesus come to little disciples too? O, yes! Jesus never forgot the children. He knew that they would find it hard to bear trials and disappointments. He knew that it would often cost a struggle to be kind and patient. So he said he would send a great, strong, loving Helper. Do you let him help you and comfort you, little friends? He wants to; remember that.

Whisper Motto.

"My peace I give unto you."

General Statement.

At the supper-table Christ had spoken of his approaching departure, and that of itself was enough to fill their hearts with gloom, as they saw themselves left alone amid bitter enemies. He had said that one of those who had walked by his side for years, and were even then reclining around him at the table, should betray him to his enemies, and each looked at the others, half expecting to see the flush of conviction upon his face. He had just spoken to the boldest, most ardent soul among them, the recognized leader in the company, and declared that before sunrise even Simon Peter would deny that he knew him. Above all, there was the shadow of a coming sorrow upon his face, the darkness of the agony already gathering over him; and the eleven disciples felt a nameless terror closing in upon them. Their faces betrayed their trouble, and so the Saviour offered to them needed comfort. He told them that, true enough, he was going from them, but only to prepare for them a place, and in due time he would return and bring them to dwell with him in the mansions that awaited them there; and, promising to send to them the Comforter, to guide them in his absence, he tenderly pronounced his peace upon them, and exhorted them not to be afraid.

EXPLANATORY AND PRACTICAL NOTES.

Verse 1. Let not your heart be troubled. They were troubled at the warnings that one disciple should betray their Master and another deny him, and above all at the news that soon their Master himself would leave them. **Ye believe in God, believe also in me.** This may be, and in our opinion should be, translated, "Believe in God, believe also in me." They were bidden in their trouble to put their trust in God and also in his Son, their Saviour. These are not two different objects of faith, but the same. (1) *When we trust in Christ we trust in God.*

2. In my Father's house. Heaven, from which the Son came to earth, and the place where he now abides. (2) *The home of our Saviour will be our home also.* **Are many mansions.** Literally, "abiding places," homes where each follower of Christ may dwell. (3) *We are pilgrims here, we shall be at home hereafter.* **If it were not so.** If this life were all, and the only rewards of Christ's

service were on earth, he would have done his disciples great injustice. **I would have told you.** He would not have led his disciples up to this hour of parting and then left them, if there were no meeting beyond. **I go to prepare a place.** By his death as our ransom and by his intercession as our high-priest he enables us to enter heaven; and we know not what preparation he may be making for us there.

3. I will come again. This does not refer to a single event, but to a series of events, which are looked at in their unity of relation: 1. The coming of the Lord in his resurrection. 2. His coming in the personal experience of believers (verse 23). 3. His coming at death to the believer (Phil. 1. 23). 4. His coming at the end of the world. **Unto myself.** There is but little said in the Bible about our meeting with friends in heaven; there is much said about our meeting with Christ. **Where I am, there ye may be.** The thought