

Blackboard.

The following exercise can be used if desired.
At the close erase all except the first letters,
leaving "Jesus can cast out evil. Believe him."

JESUS CAN CAST OUT EVIL.

Bring the afflicted to
Entreat them to come to
Lead them to
Invite them to come to
Encourage them to come to
Victory belongs to
Evil spirits fear

HIM.

The Primary Class.

Give a very brief account of the transfiguration of Christ, which took place just before the incident of this lesson, and which is in marked contrast with it. The contrast may be made a connecting link between the two.

Describe the condition of the poor boy: possessed of a devil that threw him often to the ground, and made his life miserable, and even put him in danger of burning and drowning.

The disciples were not able to cast the devil out of the boy. Jesus said, "Bring him unto me." How blessed the thought! He could do what his disciples could not. So now. In the very presence of Christ the evil spirit shows his power over the boy. The conversation between Jesus and the father must not be overlooked, since it shows the interest which Jesus had in the case, and the love of the father for his poor boy. It likewise shows the way out of trouble: "All things are possible to him that believeth." It also shows the depth and earnestness of the father's faith: "Lord, I believe; help thou mine unbelief."

The crowding of the people around, the rebuking of the evil spirit, the apparent lifelessness of the boy when the spirit left him, the strength given to him by Jesus, and the reason why the disciples could not do this, are all points of interest that ought not to be overlooked.

Prayer and believing in Jesus will enable us all to overcome every wicked spirit that tries to get us to do wrong.

Whisper-Song.

Jesus is first:
Jesus is last:
Saving from sin,
Present and past;
Saving us now,
Saving above:
Come, let all come!
And taste his love.

Miscellaneous.

PRAYER-MEETING TOPIC: "Help my unbelief." TEXTS: Heb. iv. 16; Psa xcv. 10; John xi. 40.

SUNDAY, OCT. 18, 1874.

LESSON III.—*The Mind of Christ.*
Mark viii. 33-42.

GOLDEN TEXT: Phil. ii. 5.

Berean Notes.

I. GENERAL STATEMENT.

The worker of miracles is now the Teacher: the Teacher not of multitudes, but of his chosen few; he teaches these not the mysteries of knowledge, not the mysteries of miracle-working, but the mystery of spiritual power—the lowly, childlike spirit.

II. NOTES AND ILLUSTRATIONS.

1. THE LOWLY MIND, vers. 33-35. (1) Its lack well known to the Lord. He had a knowledge of the wayside disputation, ver. 33. What a question for earnest men to be discussing! They had not gotten above that spirit of ecclesiastical wire-pulling and scheming into which some modern ministers seem to have fallen. (2) Its lack brought to the disciples' attention by a very plain question. Questions are good to probe with. HELD THEIR PEACE. Where all that can be said is humiliating one is not likely to say much. "Dignified silence" is sometimes the fruit of guilt. (3) Its value announced. The lowly mind brings promotion. FIRST . . . LAST OF ALL. This principle appears. 1. In God's providence. He humbles the proud. 2. In man's effort at self-discipline in humility. The more he goes down the higher he rises.

True greatness consists in perfect lowliness.
—Luther.

The spirit of the despot is the spirit of bondage; the spirit of service and helpfulness is freedom.

2. THE LOVING MIND, ver. 36. (1) Illustrated in an object lesson. Jesus first set the child in the midst, and then from the group selected the child as dearer to him than all the rest. (2) Love for childhood and love for God found together, that is, where one truly loves God he will love children.