

makes Him known. Let the aim of the teaching be to bring out what the Lesson tells us about the Word. The conversation may gather about three points :

I. THE WORD IN THE BEGINNING, vs. 1-5. Fix attention upon "was in the beginning," not began to be, but existed already. The Word had no beginning. Point out that the Word in the beginning had to do with : (1) God (bring out the meaning of "was with God" and "was God"); (2) the world,—“all things” (teach that the Word was the creator of the world and the source of all life); (3) men, to whom He was "light" (see Lesson Explained). In v. 5 we have the foe of the Word,—darkness or sin. Speak of the great conflict between good and evil.

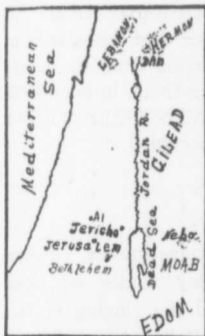
II. THE WORD IN THE WORLD, vs. 6-13. Question about John the forerunner of the Word (vs. 6-8), emphasizing his work as a witness to Jesus. Next, bring out these facts about the Light : (1) He was "the true light," the genuine, real, perfect light, from which all other light of reason, conscience,

the written word is borrowed. (2) He "lighteth every man." All the light which men have ever had has come from Him. (3) He "was in the world." Christ spoke to men even before He came in the flesh. (4) "The world knew Him not." So blinded were men by sin that they could not see Him. (5) "He came unto His own,"—the Jews. (6) "His own received Him not,"—would not own Him as their Saviour. Dwell on what He did for those who did receive Him, vs. 12-14.

III. THE WORD MADE FLESH, vs. 15-18. Bring out here : (1) the true humanity of our Saviour,—“was made flesh ;” (2) His beauty,—“glory ;” (3) His divine sonship ; (4) His superiority to all who had come before ; (5) His unfailing supplies of grace ; (6) His complete revelation of God.

In closing call attention to the picture in the HOME STUDY AND INTERMEDIATE QUARTERLIES and LEAFLETS, and urge every scholar to admit into his heart the "Light of the World."

THE GEOGRAPHY LESSON



Bethlehem, the birthplace of Jesus, lies about 5 miles south of Jerusalem. It is built on a rocky ridge about a mile long, with higher hills on every side. The inhabitants are Christians, and wear a peculiar kind of dress. At the eastern end of the town stands

the Church of the Nativity (the Birth of Christ). Beneath the floor is a rock-hewn cave, like those still used in the neighborhood as stables. This cave is supposed to be the place where Jesus was born. On one side is a recess cut in the rock which may have been a manger. Over the spot where our Lord is said to have been hang sixteen beautifully wrought lamps which are kept continually burning. The industries of Bethlehem, apart from farming, consist in the making of souvenirs for the thousands of pilgrims and tourists who visit the town.

ADDED HINTS AND HELPS

In this section will be found further assistance under various headings.

Lesson Points

When time and creatures began to be, then the Word was. v. 1.

Only a person can have real companionship with another person. v. 2.

The one who created the world has the power to redeem it. v. 3.

As the moon gets its light from the sun, so

all human wisdom is derived from Christ. v. 4.

No one can be neutral in the conflict between light and darkness. v. 5.

It is Christ's work to save the world ; it is ours to make Him known to the world. v. 7.

We cannot create light, but we can open our eyes to let it pour in. v. 9.

Our possession of Jesus is measured by our faith. v. 12.

Truth is the light that exposes : grace is the love that heals. v. 14.