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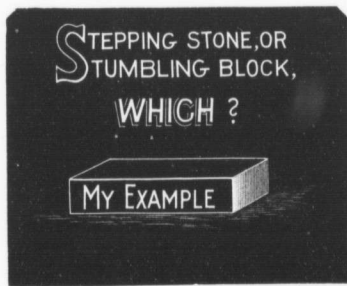
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tion of the early churches, composed partly of Jews and partly of Gentiles, and set in the midst of immoral heathenism. Master the facts concerning "the meats offered to idols." Deduce the practical lesson that a disciple of Christ should avoid everything that would lead another into sin or backsliding. Then apply this general principle to the moral questions which are kept in mind by your pupils in their most serious hours: to liquor-drinking; to dancing; to card-playing; to theater-going, etc., etc.... Notice Paul's various arguments, and call for a reading of the text which pithily presents each: (1) An argument from the final judgment; (2) From the weakness of our brothers; (3) From the love of Christ, who died for the weakest; (4) From the danger of misunderstanding—our lives are preserved in this world simply because we are Christ's epistles, "known and read of all men;" it would be disastrous if we were "read" and misunderstood; (5) From the true nature of "the kingdom of God.".... Show how each argument is applicable to modern church life.

References.

FOSTER'S Cyclopedia. Prose, 456, 4076, 5004-5007, 895, 22, 423, 424, 646, 4173-4177. Ver. 21: 3229-3236. Ver. 22: Prose, 2114, 3223, 3256.

Blackboard.



The blackboard puts a clearly defined question to each one of us. What is this? A stone. What is written on it? "My Example." What does that mean? It means this: that not one of us can escape personal responsibility. Your example means one of two things. It is either a help to others, or it is a hindrance. It is either a stepping-stone that helps some one else to climb up higher, or it is a stumbling-block in the path of your companion and associate. Ask yourself the question: My Example—stepping-stone or stumbling-block; Which?

Primary and Intermediate.

LESSON THOUGHT. *Thinking About Others First.*

Illustrative Story. Mary's mamma was going away to stay two days. Mary was only nine years old, but she was thoughtful and obedient, and her mamma could trust her. "I am going to leave you in charge, Mary," she said, "and I want you to keep an account in this little book of everything the cook buys, and of everything that is done which you think I would like to know." Mary was pleased, and she wrote down very carefully a little history of the two days' doings.

When her mamma came home she was ready to "give account" to her. Does this help you understand what Paul means when he says we must one day give account of ourselves to God?

[With brown, flat crayon make a path on the board. Tell the children to think of this as a picture of the pathway of life.] By and by we must come to the end of the path. Then our bodies die, and our spirits go into another life. Whether that will be a happy life depends upon how we have lived here. Would you like to know how to live so as to be sure that the other life will be a happy one? Then you must try to learn all you can from these Bible lessons.



[Put the Lesson Symbol on the board.] What does a light do? Yes, it is its business to shine. Even a very little light shines and makes a little place light. So the smallest child who has the light of Love in his heart will make a little place light and pleasant. [Make several little places on the path that look like stones and tangles of briars, etc.]

Let us see what a child with love in his heart will do as he goes along his life-path. [Label the obstructions: "Selfishness," "Ill-nature," "Untruth," etc.] Jennie's mamma told her how naughty it was to get angry. "But Helen gets mad," said Jennie, and mamma knew that it was true, and that Helen, who had joined the Church, was a stumbling-block to her little girl. A real little Christian, who tries to be like Jesus, will not put anything in the way to make another stumble, but will try to smooth away the rough places.

When Paul wrote this letter to the Roman Christians there were stumbling places in the way, just as now. Some of the Church members would buy and eat meat and drink wine which had first been offered to idols. Others thought this was very wrong, and they would find fault with one another, and maybe call hard names. Paul did not want them to do this. Love does not dispute, or say hard words, or even think hard thoughts. Love always tries to help. I will tell