

This mother longed to be able to save her daughter from the evil spirit but she could not; none but Jesus could do it. Your mother has often longed to be able to set you free from sin, but she could not; none but Jesus can do it.

This mother prayed time after time till the answer came, Your mother has prayed a great many more times. Has the answer yet come?

Jesus is as willing as he was then. Your mother is as earnest as that mother was. If still unsaved, your own unwillingness is the only thing that hinders.

How strange, how sad, it would have seemed, if the unwillingness of the daughter had kept her from being set free! It would have shown what power the evil spirit had over her will. How strange, how sad, if your unwillingness is keeping you from deliverance! It shows what power the evil one has over your will.

How thankful that daughter would be to the mother for being so faithful, and to the kind Saviour for setting her free. How thankful we should be for praying fathers and mothers and for a helping Saviour.

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#### LESSON II.

April 10, 1898.

Dear Scholar:—

You are beginning life, It is bright before you. You have high hopes of what you will have in it and from it. It seems long as well as bright, as you look forward to it.

But wait a moment. The life you are really beginning never ends. The part of it that we can see in this world is only the beginning. It is only the getting ready for the life, that is to be lived forever after we leave this world.

This life is the school time. The real life is what comes after. If a scholar seeks only to have a good time at school he will not be fitted for life. And many a man is sorry to-day that he idled away his school years. They can never come back. Many are glad to-day for the way they worked in school years, when perhaps others were playing. And they were happier even in their school years than those who did not do their duty.

So, many, many, who have done the right in life, even though it cost some self-denial, are glad to-day in heaven that they did not idle life away.

The one who lives merely to have a good time, to enjoy life, is not happy here, and is sorry forever because both lives were missed; and a misspent life can never come back.

Those who trust in Christ and follow him, even though there be some cross to carry, something to bear or do that may not be very pleasant, are the happiest in this life, and are glad and thankful forever, that they were led to live such a life here. The one who trusts and follows Christ makes the best of life in both worlds.

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#### LESSON III.

April 17, 1898.

Dear Scholar:—

Did you ever see any one transfigured? No? Think a moment. Have you never been transfigured yourself? Perhaps you did not see it because you did not look in the glass at the time. But you have seen others get angry, mad; and give themselves up to it so that they looked hard and savage and cruel; the evil spirit within looking through and making them seem like some one scarcely human.

But there is a better side. You have seen many transfigured the other way; hearts full of love and kindness making the faces shine with joy and peace, so that it was a pleasure to look at them. How good it is when the good within shines out.

And now, dear scholar, a few facts.

1. The thought and feeling within, always shows without. It transfigures the face more or less into its own likeness.

2. This transfiguring tends to become fixed. The more any one kind of thought or feeling is allowed, the more lasting does the transfiguring become, until the face takes the character that it shall have forever.

3. Only Jesus can make the heart right so that it will transfigure the face into brightness that shall go on brightening forever. If he lives in the heart he will shine through the face in life, a little like he did that night on the mountain long ago.