

great wonders and miracles among the people." Acts 6. 8; Neh. 1. 10; 2 Chron. 16. 9; Matt. 17. 30; Heb. 13. 5. 7. "Wherefore wilt thou go to him to-day?" God's grace is promised in our times of need regardless of ceremonial regularity. "And find grace to help in time of need." Heb. 4. 16; John 7. 37; Matt. 11. 28; Rev. 22. 17; Acts 17. 30.

8. "Drive." The work of God must not be delayed. "So run that ye may obtain." 1 Cor. 9. 24; Heb. 4. 11; Acts 9. 38; Luke 12. 19; Isa. 32. 9.

9. "So she went and came to the man of God." The natural and urgent demand of the soul for a Mediator, intercessor. "He wondered that there was no intercessor." Isa. 59. 16; Jer. 7. 16; 1 Tim. 2. 1; Gal. 3. 30; Deut. 5. 5.

10. "Is it well with the child?" The tenderness of godly solicitude. "And be ye kind one to another, tender-hearted." Eph. 4. 32; Jas. 5. 11; Rom. 12. 10; Ruth 1. 8; Neh. 9. 17.

11. "It is well." God's will is always best. "Thy will be done." Matt. 6. 10; Acts 21. 14; Psa. 37. 7; 46. 10; Rom. 11. 33.

12. "Let her alone." Justice never condemns without knowledge. "Send her away; for she crieth after us." Matt. 15. 23. 24; 19. 14; Deut. 16. 18; Phil. 4. 8; Mark 10. 14.

13. "Did I desire a son?" Why, O why, was my poor heart thus broken? "All things work together for good to them that love God." Rom. 8. 28; Psa. 46. 1, 2; Heb. 12. 6, 12; Nah. 1. 7; Jer. 31. 14.

14. "And lay my staff upon the face of the child." To show that God uses means to accomplish his will. The prophet's staff touched by God's power might be remedial or restorative. "And he anointed the eyes of the blind man with the clay." John 9. 1-7; Luke 5. 4-6; Acts 27. 23-31; Matt. 9. 12.

15. "I will not leave thee." Persistency is spiritual genius. "But ye, brethren, be not weary in well-doing." 2 Thess. 3. 13; Gen. 32. 26; Luke 18. 1-5; 1 Cor. 15. 58.

16. "And he arose and followed her." Her faith was triumphant in this great test. "The trying of your faith worketh patience." Jas. 1. 3; 1 Pet. 1. 6, 7; Heb. 11. 17; Zech. 13. 9; Rev. 3. 10.

17. "The child is not awaked." Its sleep was that of death; its restoration to life was miraculous. "And the soul of the child came unto him again, and he revived." 1 Kings 17. 22, 23; 2 Kings 13. 21; Matt. 9. 18, 25; Luke 7. 12-15; John 11. 11-44.

18. "And prayed unto the Lord." To pray is to ask God for what you *think* you need, and to *get* his will. "Moses and Aaron called upon the Lord, and he answered them." Psa. 99. 6; 119. 58, 145; Luke 22. 42; Gen. 32. 26; Heb. 4. 16.

19. "Then he returned." Persistency, importunity, in prayer, is rewarded. "Though he will not rise and give him because he is his friend, yet because of his importunity he will." Luke 11. 8, 9; 18. 3-7; 1 Thess. 3. 10; James 5. 17; Psa. 40. 1; Eph. 6. 18.

20. "The child opened his eyes." To secure the will of God is the highest, fullest possible answer to prayer. "Laboring fervently for you in prayers, that ye may stand perfect and complete in all the will of God." Col. 4. 12; Rom. 1. 10; 8. 27; Dan. 4. 35; Eph. 1. 5, 9; Matt. 6. 9, 10.

21. "Take up thy son." God convinces men of his power and tenderness by evidence they cannot dispute. "Women received theirs dead raised to life again." Heb. 11. 35; Acts 15. 8; 1 John 5. 10; John 4. 46-53; Luke 5. 17-25.

22. "And fell at his feet." In renewed and grateful

submission to the prophet's God. "Submit yourselves therefore to God." James 4. 7; 1 Cor. 13. 57; Psa. 50. 14; 106. 1; 136. 2, 3; Neh. 11. 17.

23. "And took up her son and went out." The victory of faith had again been won, and may still be repeated. "And this is the victory that overcometh the world, even our faith." 1 John 5. 4; Isa. 25. 8; 1 Cor. 15. 54; Mark 16. 16; John 2. 15, 16.

Berean Methods.

Hints for the Teachers' Meeting and the Class.

Either read, or have the class read, the whole story of this woman, beginning with verse 8.... Call attention to her pure and noble character, as shown in verses 8, 9, 13, 23, 30. (See Additional Practical Lessons.)... Draw a map, showing Shunem, Carmel, the woman's journey, and the prophet's.... Describe the Oriental customs of riding, salutation, beds, etc., as shown in this lesson.... Show from this lesson how spiritual life is imparted to souls dead in sin: 1.) By earnest parents; 2.) By earnest prayer; 3.) By personal contact (not the staff, but the man, mouth to mouth, hand to hand); 4.) By persistent endeavor.... Show in this the picture of a soul's salvation.... Are you a Gehazi, content with "staff-service," or an Elisha, with personal power from personal holiness?... Has this lesson taught for the many mothers whose children die in their arms, but do not come back to them? Are their prayers answered? Yes, when they meet them in heaven, the years of their waiting will seem less to their thought than the hours of the Shunammite's child in death.

References. FREEMAN. Ver. 22: Ladies riding, 334. Ver. 23: Times of public instruction, 335. Vers. 26, 29: Formal salutations, 336, 767. Ver. 29: The girdle, 314.

Primary and Intermediate.

LESSON THOUGHT. *Jesus, the Lord of Life.* Teachers will need no help in making this story attractive to the little ones. It cannot be otherwise. Some simple blackboard helps may be used in telling the story to hold the eyes and make the story more life-like. It is always best to have whatever is used covered until the time comes to show it. The simple furnishings of the prophet's chamber may be drawn, or cut from paper and pinned to the board: a picture of a little boy, a picture of the prophet and the prophet's staff, etc. It is wonderful how the attention of the child will be held by the expectation of seeing something that is out of sight! Three prominent lessons may be drawn from this story, which would better be enforced while teaching the lesson story.

THE BEAUTY OF FAITH.

The rich, kind woman believed in Elisha's God. This led her to be kind to Elisha, to make him welcome to her home, to take pleasure in preparing a room for him. Teach that faith in God makes us kind to God's children and thoughtful of every thing which God has made. Talk about the beauty of a loving spirit which always tries to help and never to harm. Illustrate by the rose and the nettle.

THE POWER OF FAITH.

Teach that faith makes us look to God for help in time of trouble. Faith makes us do what we can, and then trust to God. The mother did all she could for her sick boy, and when he died she went to bring the prophet. It was Elisha's faith which made him go where