

get that the child was hungry. Jesus watches over his own.

We turn to another scene: The day has been so full of good works that Jesus and his disciples have found no time to rest or to eat. Even now, at close of day, the crowds are following them at every step. Messengers come hurrying through the crowds. They bring a message from the centurion—that is, a captain over a hundred soldiers. What is it to have authority. What was the man who sent the messengers? Had he authority? Over how many?

This was the message: The centurion's servant was quite ill. Would Jesus come and heal him? After the messengers started the centurion remembered that Jesus had once healed a boy without seeing him. Jesus merely spoke the word, the centurion remembered, and the boy was made well. The centurion was born a heathen, but he was beginning to believe in our God. His messengers said to Jesus: "He is worthy that you should do this for him. He has built a costly church for our people." The centurion felt differently. He said to himself: "I am unworthy to have Jesus come to my house, or to go to him myself. I will send friends to tell him so, and to say, 'I have authority over soldiers. You have authority over disease. My soldiers obey me on the instant. Speak the word, Lord, and my servant is healed.'" Jesus turned to the people who were following him and said, "I have never found among you such trust as this."

After teaching that Jesus was touched by the centurion's belief in the goodness and mercy of the Lord, and that the servant was healed by the word spoken at a distance, we ask the children to give an account of these three miracles of our lesson. There will be no hesitancy in telling of the boat in the storm, the little girl who died, and the man who was a captain. These striking stories have caught their attention. Let us assure ourselves that with these stories they carry home the thought: Jesus is all-powerful. He is our Protector, having authority over us. We will trust him and obey him.

#### LESSON V. (April 29.)

#### JESUS AND JOHN THE BAPTIST. Luke 7. 18-28.

GOLDEN TEXT: "He hath done all things well." Mark 7. 37.

#### Primary Notes.



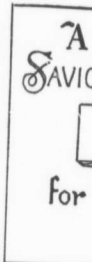
*Introductory.* Let me see your hands. They are not very big and strong. If you should try to do something with them that was too hard, you would find out how little power you had. Then if your

father should come with his strong hands and do it, you would know how much power he had. Power in the hands, to work, to lift, and to carry, is one kind. Then there is power in a word. The governor can set a man free from prison by his word, which is more powerful than another man's. When we are weak and helpless how good it is to have some one who is strong come near to use his great power for us! We will put on our circle of lesson thoughts the blessing of "Power." Jesus showed his great might while here on earth in many ways. He said in a word, and the centurion's servant was healed. It did not need to be a loud word either. The next day, going to the city of Nain, he found, as he came near the gate, a sad procession. They were carrying out a dead man, the only son of his mother, and she was a widow, with no one now to care for her on earth. Jesus was full of sorrow for her, and touched the bier, or what they were carrying him on, and said, "Young man, I say unto thee, Arise," and he sat up, and Jesus gave him back to his mother. What wonderful power was this, as well as wonderful pity! But in this lesson we learn more of Jesus's power and might and love.

*John's messengers.* John the Baptist, who was sent before Jesus came to make ready for the Lord, telling the people who was coming, now sent two of his own followers to ask the Saviour who he was. They were messengers, sent to ask a very important question and to carry back the answer. They said to Jesus that John had sent them to ask if he were the One who should come, or should they look for another? It is worth everything to know just who Jesus is.

*Jesus's message to John.* Before giving the men an answer in words Jesus gave them one in deeds. While the men stood by, that very hour, he healed many, and showed a power that must belong only to God. Surely there was no need to look for another when here was One who showed such might. Jesus said

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The Lord's m-  
and believe me-

#### Sub-

GOLDEN TEXT  
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the voice of Jesus,