

LESSON V—(April 30)

JESUS WASHING THE DISCIPLES' FEET

John 13. 1-14

GOLDEN TEXT: "By love serve one another."
Gal. 5. 13.

Primary Notes

*Our Thought of Christ:
Jesus is My Pattern.*

The idea of imitation must be strongly brought out in impressing this practical thought. What is a pattern? What is it for? How can we use it best? By following closely. If we do not keep close to the pattern the dress will not fit, the picture will be spoiled. If we try to change a good pattern we make a mistake. Keep this thought of Jesus the Pattern throughout the lesson, and impress it continuously, but most deeply at the close. In the development of the lesson make Jesus's example as beautiful, loving, unselfish, and helpful as you can. Then influence young hearts to follow such divine example.

Approach to the Lesson. Mary was a big girl, and had learned to sew. She thought now she might make herself a dress. Mother gave her a pattern that was just right, and Mary cut out the pretty stuff. But when she put the pieces together and tried on the dress it did not fit. She had not noticed the directions on the pattern, and had not cut out her frock like it at all. If she had been careful and tried harder she would not have made such mistakes. It was not the fault of the pattern, but Mary's fault, that the mistakes were made.

A pattern is something to follow. There are many kinds of patterns. A teacher may be a good pattern to follow. A boy may study and behave as teacher does, and then he is taking teacher for a pattern.

Jesus is our Pattern, and shows us what to do. We should make our lives like Jesus's life, and that will be following the best Pattern.

The Lesson. First, tell at what time the incident happened. It was at that last supper with his disciples, just before Jesus was put to death. You would think that the Saviour, on that sad night, would have enough on his heart without thinking of what he could do for his friends. But he loved them so that he wished to help them in every way. He did not think of himself. In that, too, he was a good Pattern.

Second, describe the service of Jesus as he took the towel, the basin, and the water and

long ago, were precious and costly. Bearing their sweet gifts for the dead body, these spice-bearers started in the early dawn of the day, and came to Jesus's tomb. They wondered, on the way, who would roll away the great stone, but when they came to the place, the stone was rolled away. They need not have been troubled about it at all. But when they went into the rocky cave of the tomb in the garden, they found not the body of the Lord Jesus. This troubled them much and they wondered how this strange thing could be.

The Angels' Message. Then two men in shining garments stood by the women as they waited, in trouble and fear, and asked them, "Why seek ye the living among the dead?" Surely the place to find a living man was not in the grave. Why should they look for Him there, who was risen as he said? "He is not here," the angels told them. "Remember," they said, "how he spake unto you when he was yet in Galilee." O, they had forgotten or had not understood and believed what Jesus said. Now the angels bade them remember that their Lord had told them that he was to die and rise again. Then they remembered. It all came back. They did not look longer for Jesus there, but hurried away to tell the rest that Jesus had risen. It seemed too strange to the others to believe. They thought the women must be mistaken. They too had forgotten, or did not believe the Lord himself. Then Peter ran to the place and stooping down saw the empty tomb, the folded linen clothes, and went away wondering.

It was true as the angels said. "He is risen from the dead." Teach Text, and lead to the Thought, "Jesus is My Risen Saviour." What could a dead Christ do for me? Nothing. What can the living Lord do? Everything.

Thought for Teachers. Make much of the Easter story. There will be some in the class to whom it is not yet familiar. Illustrations are excellent—seeds, bulbs, cocoons, butterflies, the resurrection plant, but they are meant for the arrest of attention and the illustration of the truth, and not to take the place of it.



Make the blessed story itself familiar and vivid as the supreme effort of the hour.