

William Wye Smith gives a striking illustration. He says: "I once spoke to an old farmer about his drinking—a man who was very pious on Sunday, and who would have been vexed to be considered anything else than a christian. He said he had a long distance to haul his crop of wheat for sale in winter, and found it absolutely necessary to call at a halfway tavern and drink something. I said to him that Christ went about from place to place preaching, when he was upon earth, and was very kind and familiar, and talked to people on the way. Now if he should overtake Jesus on the road, and he going to the same market-town, what would he do with him? Why, he would ask him to ride, and give him a good seat on his sleigh, on his bags of wheat. But what would he do when he came to his halfway house? Would he leave Jesus sitting on the load of wheat in the wintry wind, while he himself went into the bar-room for his whisky? or would he take him into the bar with him? He interrupted me at this point, and said he 'didn't think it was right to talk about our Lord in this way.' But he would not answer my question. My dear boy, we need to find Christ's tracks every day in the week. We want to have him with us everywhere and at all times. And if it would degrade Christ to be with us and to do as we do, then we are degrading ourselves by going where Christ would not go and doing what Christ would not do. Now that is one very good way of finding 'the prints of Christ's shoe in the earth.' And the habit of thinking, 'What would Christ do if he were in my place?' or 'What would Christ say if he were here?'—this habit would soon become so strong and fixed that even in dangers and difficulties suddenly arising, the mind will decide at once: 'If Christ were in my place he would do so and so'; or, 'If Christ were here he would speak thus.'"

ADDED POINTS.

1. To teach christian doctrine we must teach the human life of Jesus Christ, in which God is revealed to us.
2. Though Jesus Christ is now in heaven, yet we can hold familiar fellowship with Him.
3. We should, at each step in the lesson, keep before us the truth we desire to teach, or the impression we desire to make.
4. We are to note the difference between relating our own experience and delivering a message entrusted to us.
5. God is the source of all light. His knowledge embraces all things; is not as man's, limited.
6. Sinners have in Jesus Christ an advocate who has never failed in any case entrusted to Him.
7. God's way of justification by faith puts the honor and burden of salvation on Jesus Christ.
8. Man's way of justification by works would rob Jesus Christ of His glory, and put the burden of our salvation on a weak and insecure foundation.
9. Since Jesus Christ has completed the work which He undertook as our Redeemer, we cannot add anything to it.
10. For great sinners God has provided in Jesus Christ an all-sufficient Saviour. "Him that cometh unto me I will in no wise cast out."

THE BLACKBOARD.

GOD IS LIGHT—Turn to him.
GOD IS LOVE—Confess sin.
GOD IS A SPIRIT—Abide in him.

LESSON XIII—December 26th, 1897.

God's Love in the Gift of His Son. 1 John 4: 9-16.

(Commit to memory verses 9-11).

GOLDEN TEXT: "God so loved the world that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life." John 5: 16.

PROVE THAT—Salvation is free to all. Rev. 22: 17.

SHORTER CATECHISM. Review Quest. 95-107.

LESSON HYMNS. Nos. 30, 26, 520, 519. (Old Hymnal, Nos. 17, 27, 19, 211)
 (375)