

means of sand table or blackboard, represent an Eastern sheepfold. How many of the children have seen some sheep? (Show a picture, or place some paper or cotton ones on the board.) In Palestine, where Jesus lived, there were a great many sheep. The men who took care of the sheep were called SHEPHERDS (print). Tell of the crook (outline) used by the shepherds to pull aside branches or long grass, etc., to allow the sheep to find a good pathway, to pull the sheep out of danger, etc., etc. The shepherd went before, the sheep followed him. He kept the sheep from wild animals and all harm, and led them to the best pastures.

At night, the flocks are safely shut in the fold. When morning comes, the shepherd of each flock stands in the doorway of the fold, and calls his own sheep by name. They know his voice, and follow him out to the pastures. Here, at the back of the sheepfold, we see a man climbing up over the wall. Who is he? Is he a good man? Why has he come?

Lesson—Now we have heard about the shepherd, and the sheep, and the robber. This is just the story that Jesus was telling the Pharisees, after He had made the blind man see. (Recall Lesson XI., preceding Quarter, ch. 9: 1-12.) Jesus was at Jeru-

salem at the time. He knew that the people understood all about the ways of the shepherds, and He wanted to teach them a lesson. So He told them that He is the Good Shepherd—kind and patient, calling His sheep (people) to come into the fold of God (explain). He is the Door. All must enter through Jesus. Jesus said, I am the Good Shepherd (print). The Good Shepherd giveth His life for the sheep. He wanted these people to know that He is soon going to give His life to save His people from sin and death; but they did not understand: only His own sheep (friends) knew His voice. He knows them, and they follow Him.

Lambs of the Flock—Who are the lambs of Jesus' flock? Should you follow the Shepherd? Will He lead you aright? Will He keep you from sin and harm?

Hymn—Sing Hymn 586, Book of Praise.

My Verse—All repeat—

Jesus loves all, and we know He loved us;
Love made Him suffer and die on the cross.
Only one way through the doorway we're told,
Only one way to God's heavenly fold:
Jesus, the Truth, the Life, and the Way;
Hark to His voice; when He calls you, obey!

Something to Think About—I should heed Jesus' voice.

FROM THE PLATFORM

By Rev. J. M. Duncan, B.D.

THE GOOD ^A SHEPHERD

Print on the blackboard, A SHEPHERD, and talk of an Eastern shepherd and his care for the flock. The bringing of the sheep into the fold at night to be guarded by the porter, the leading of them out to pasture in the morning, the protection of them from robbers and wild beasts, the shepherd's knowledge of his sheep, one by one, and their knowledge of him,—these are the main points to be touched. Now, Jesus, in the Lesson, calls Himself THE GOOD (Print) Shepherd. Bring out, by questions, what He does for the sheep, His people. He saves them, makes them free, provides for them (v. 9); He gives them abundant life (v. 10); He lays down His life for them, v. 11. Recall how the sheep in the East follow the shepherd when they hear His voice. Remind the scholars very earnestly and lovingly, that Jesus, the Good Shepherd, is each day calling us to follow Him. Should we not, every one, listen to and obey His voice, since He has loved us so much as to die for us?