

to ask Jesus to his house, but he wanted him to know that he believed all people and all troubles to be under his care and his word.

**Friday.** We see that this centurion or captain loved his family or household; he loved his neighbors and helped them; he loved his country; he loved the Church; and he loved God. He trusted and believed that Jesus could and would help him, so he asked that his good servant might be healed, and he was not refused this request.

**NATURE WORK.** Talk of the appearance of the trees, and if possible get some twigs and branches. Note the difference in their shades of color. Talk also of the different animals which are sleeping during these cold winter days. They have warm little houses in caves and in the banks of the rivers. They gather leaves and moss and sticks, and even mud the little beavers brought to make the house secure and warm.

**ART WORK.** Let the children see pictures of winter scenes and winter sports. Explain to them that this is a season with its own peculiar beauty.

**HAND WORK.** The kindergarten children may build a temple and houses with blocks, and with sticks they may represent soldiers and a captain in vertical positions. The soldiers may stand in horizontal position, they may lie down, they may be placed in slanting positions, and they may run.

The **TRANSITION CLASS** may write the words of the Golden Text upon the card, just under the copy.

**SCIENCE AT HOME WITH MOTHER.** There may be talks on love of home, love of country, and love for the Church. Though it was a captain of one hundred men whose neighbors said he had this love, yet each boy and each girl may have this love for the three great institutions of the world, the home, the Church, and the country.

### LESSON VIII. (February 23.)

**FAITH ENCOURAGED.** Luke 8. 41, 42, 49-55.

**GOLDEN TEXT.** "Fear not; believe only." (Luke 8. 50).

#### Primary Notes.



Perhaps the title of our lesson to-day is a little hard to understand. What is it? I think you will know what it means if we go back to the history of the Israelites, which we studied last year. [Recall the crossing of the Red Sea, the fall of Jericho, and Gideon's triumph, showing how the Israelites' faith in God was encouraged or made strong by seeing what he did for them.] To encourage, then,

means to make courage stronger, and "faith encouraged, means faith made stronger. [Print "faith."]

What is it to have faith in any one? To believe or trust such a one. Our lesson to-day is to encourage our faith in whom? [Print "In Jesus."] It seems as if the three years Jesus lived in Palestine, after leaving his home in Nazareth, were just spent in trying to make every one have faith in him, and encouraging the faith of those who were beginning to believe in him. Can you think how he did this? By his wonderful miracles and by the help he gave those in need.

Last Sunday we heard two wonderful stories. Who were helped by Jesus in Capernaum and in a city called Nain? [Review.] I wish we might stop and talk over all that Luke tells us about what Jesus did after this, but we must hurry over how he went "through all the cities and villages, preaching and telling the glad tidings" that he had come to bring. We have no time to tell of the storm on the lake that was quiet at his word, or how a man with an evil spirit was cured (Luke 8. 1, 22-39), for to-day we must go back to Capernaum with Jesus, for in that city there was a home where sorrow has come, a home where Jesus, the great Helper, was coming to turn sorrow into joy.

[Read verse 40, and picture the eager welcome given to Jesus by the waiting people; then tell of Jairus's coming. Try to make the children see the home he had left, the little daughter lying very sick, and the sorrowing parents; bring out clearly that it was because these parents had faith in Jesus that the father, trusting no one with the message, went himself to bring Jesus; picture the difficulty of the going because of the crowd; tell of the interruption on the way, of the blessing that came to the sick woman, and how her faith was encouraged. Now finish the story of Jairus's daughter.]

What help and comfort those loving hands of Jesus brought when they raised the little daughter from her bed and gave her to her mother! Jesus was ready and able to help, but suppose Jairus had said, "I have no faith that Jesus can cure my little girl," or, "I have no faith he will come to my house; he's too busy." What then? The little girl would not have been restored to life. Don't you see it was Jairus's faith that made him go for Jesus, and it was seeing his faith that brought Jesus to the sick girl's side? Jairus's faith was like a hand [draw a hand around "Faith"] that reached out and, taking hold of Jesus's power, brought it right into his home. It was the woman's faith that made her reach out her hand and touch his garment; it seems as if her faith was right in her hand, for Jesus said, not "Your touch has made you whole," but—[repeat Golden Text].

These stories are put in the Bible that we may see what Jesus is able to do, and to show us how our faith may take hold of his power in this same

and Gideon's triumph, showing how the Israelites' faith in God was encouraged or made strong by seeing what he did for them.] To encourage, then,