

spiritual life, eternal life, life which should satisfy all longings and all needs and all aspirations. And it was to be found in the Son of God, in Jesus. He is the "Prince (or Author) of Life"—all life and health and blessing coming from him and him alone.

It was a strange word to the Jews. For Jesus was he whom they had crucified. But here was the proof of its truth. He was risen again; these two apostles were witnesses of the fact; and from him had come the power which they exercised.

But why had the "Prince of Life" died? Why had he submitted himself to the cruel will of his enemies? That the Scriptures might be fulfilled, verse 18. The Scriptures showed that fallen man could not partake of that life which was in Christ but through sacrifice—the sacrifice of the living One. The Rock had to be rent that the streams might be poured out. Had he not died, those streams could never have flowed forth to us.

Of what gain is this discovery?

The streams which flowed from that riven Rock have gone forth into many parts of the world. Whole nations and continents have been enriched and blessed by the health-giving waters. Many enjoy the blessings of Christianity who pretend to discover their source in philosophy or knowledge. But not to know, and not to drink from the true source, is to go without the highest blessing. We all know how much sweeter is water drunk from the fountain when it comes bubbling up out of the earth than that which has been conveyed some distance before it reaches our lips. Just so real spiritual life must be drunk from the fountain. Pardon and peace and the gift of eternal life are only to be had from Christ himself. He who is the Prince of Life can alone dispense it. And so Peter bade the crowds in the temple lay bare their hearts before this bounteous source. He told them to repent—to empty themselves of their former life and their former hopes, and be converted—to receive that life which Jesus was willing to bestow. And numbers did so, (chapter 4.) They drank of the living water, and were satisfied. Have we?

BEREAN METHODS.

Hints for the Teachers' Meeting and the Class.

Draw a diagram of the courts of the temple, showing Solomon's Porch, the place of the lesson..... Describe the scene in a word-picture. (See General Statement.)The characteristics of this second discourse of Peter; 1. Preached in a place of sacred associations; 2. Preached under

impressive circumstances; 3. Its subject—Christ; 4. The aspects of Christ in this sermon, (see Analytical and Biblical outline;) 5. A practical discourse—its aim to produce faith in Christ. The power of faith as here shown. (See Additional Practical Lessons.)The spirit of Peter: 1. Self-denying; 2. Loyal to Christ; 3. Fearless; 4. Direct and practical; 5. Showing insight into truth.....Our duties toward Christ as here presented: 1. To recognize him; 2. To believe in him; 3. To repent of sin by his power; 4. To confess him; 5. To proclaim him—bear witness to him; 6. To look for his coming ILLUSTRATION. Story of Welsh prince Llewellyn, who missed his child, and seeing blood on his dog Gelert's jaws, thought the dog had killed his boy. He drew sword and slew the dog, but a few moments after found his child asleep uninjured, and beside him a robber dead, whom the faithful Gelert had slain. He had killed the preserver of his child. How much greater the remorse and sorrow of those who in this lesson realized that they had slain their Saviour!

References. FOSTER'S CYCLOPEDIA OF ILLUSTRATIONS: Ver. 13: Prose, 7172. Ver. 14: Prose, 715. Ver. 15: Prose, 7130. Ver. 16: Prose, 671. Ver. 17: Poetical, 1908. Ver. 18: Prose, 728; Poetical, 3252. Ver. 19: Prose, 4965, 4971, 4981.

Primary and Intermediate.

BY M. V. M.

LESSON THOUGHT. "In him was life."
SURROUNDINGS. Recall the scene at the Beautiful Gate of the temple. Speak of Solomon's porch, explaining that after the miracle, the apostles passed on to the temple, accompanied by the man who had been healed. Make marks to stand for the apostles and the healed man, and a good many short marks to represent the curious Jews who gathered around. Get children to tell what brings people together in crowds. What had they now come to see? Who spoke to them? Put Peter's sermon into simple words, showing that he wanted to take no glory for what he had done, but only wanted to show the people that Jesus had all power.

ILLUSTRATION. A little boy fell upon a sharp scythe and was cut so badly that the blood flowed in a great stream. He was so weak from loss of blood that they thought he would die. So his father let the doctor open a vein in his own arm, and gave some of his blood to the weak, fainting boy. The father gave life to his boy's body. Jesus gave life to the body of the lame man, but Jesus can do more than this.