

Record of Writers

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* THE *

PRIMARY QUARTERLY



Home Study Series

For the Little Ones

Sabbath School Publications

* Presbyterian Church in Canada *

Rev. R. Douglas Fraser,

Editor & Business Manager.

Confederation Life Building Toronto

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J. A. SIMMERS

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TORONTO, ONT.

The Primary Quarterly

Vol. V.

JANUARY, FEBRUARY, MARCH, 1900

No. 1

AN infant in its cradle slept,
And in its sleep it smiled—
And one by one three women
knelt

To kiss the fair-haired child ;
And each thought of the days to be
And breathed a prayer, half-silently.

One poured her love on many lives,
But knew love's toil and care ;
Its burdens oft had been to her
A heavy weight to bear ;
She stooped and murmured lovingly,
"Not burdened hands, dear child, for
thee."

One had not known the burdened hands,
But knew the empty heart ;
At life's banquet she had set
An unfed guest apart ;
"Oh, not," she whispered tenderly,
"An empty heart, dear child, for thee."

And one was old ; she had known care,
She had known loneliness ;
She knew God leads us by no path
His presence cannot bless ;
She smiled, and murmured trustfully,
"God's will, dear child, God's will for
thee !"
—Kate Tucker Goode, in the *Alkahest*

A great many of our children will have *JEWELS* this year, our new paper for the very little ones. Many schools have ordered it and many more will order. We should like to have *JEWELS* in the hands of every infant-class scholar. If your school has not ordered we shall be glad to send a sample copy to any address. A minister in Nova Scotia writes that he and his elders are making a house-to-house canvass of the congregation for *JEWELS* and *THE KING'S OWN*.

A Happy New Year !

So says the Editor of *THE PRIMARY QUARTERLY* to all the little people. It has given him great delight to speak to so many of you during the year that is ended now, and he hopes that you have thoroughly enjoyed the lessons. You have all grown a good deal since last New Year. You were five years old then and you are six years old now ; or perhaps you were six years old then and you are seven years old now. At any rate, you are growing big very fast and he cannot hope to talk to you through *THE PRIMARY QUARTERLY* very much longer. You will soon get too old for it.

This year we are to have a delightful time. The lessons begin with the little baby Jesus and the song of the angels, and every Sabbath we shall have something new about Him, how He grew to be a boy, and then a man, and what wonderful things He said and did. To study about Jesus is like having a very dear friend come to visit you. The day seems brighter because you know he is coming. It makes the year 1900 very bright to know that every Sabbath we shall have a visit from our dear Savior and Friend. May it be a very Happy New Year to you all ! The happiest thing will be to have the love of this Savior and Friend in your heart and always try to do what He wants you to do. It will make every morning like the ringing silver bells and every evening like a sweet song.

THE CENTURY FUND wants to know what the children are going to do for it this year of 1900. Of course there will be Children's Day. That will be in September. But Children's Day is only one day in the year, and the Fund does not want you to forget about

it all the rest of the time, and remember it only on Children's Day. Would it not be a nice thing to keep saving up pennies, so that when Children's Day comes, you may be able to put into the plate a good big gift? The children last November did very nobly. Their pennies were like the snowflakes which make the great drifts. But by laying up you could do better still; and besides, you would be thinking about it all the time, and asking questions about the Church and about the wonderful things God has done for us in the hundred years that are just ending. How little Canada was and how little our Church was a hundred years ago, and how great they are now! Think of how your fathers and grandfathers suffered and toiled when they first came into the country and how unselfish they were, building churches and sending missionaries to those who were poorer than themselves, so that now there is scarcely a place in Canada where there is not a church or minister within reach, and our Church has grown so large that we have our missionaries in many parts of the world.

Any reader of the PRIMARY QUARTERLY or any Sabbath School desirous of having pretty little mite boxes for the Century Fund sent will please address Rev. W. G. Wallace, 15 Madison Avenue, Toronto. Mr. Wallace is the secretary of the Century Fund Committee.

A good many teachers have been asking for questions from the Shorter Catechism as well as from the Primary Catechism in THE PRIMARY QUARTERLY and LEAFLETS. AS OUR readers will notice, we are meeting this desire and will give both Catechisms in each lesson. The order of the questions in the Shorter Catechism is the same followed by the older scholars so that, where the Primary Helps are used, as they sometimes are, by classes who have lately been transferred from the infant-class room to the main school, they will find in them all that they require. The Primary Catechism forms a good preparation. It runs on the same lines as the older book, and the questions are so arranged that it is gone over in two years.

We draw special attention to the pictures by which the lessons in THE PRIMARY QUARTERLY and LEAFLETS are illustrated. Nothing of the same excellence has been hitherto reached in any Canadian publication, and indeed there are only one or two publications elsewhere which attempt the same standard.

Which First?

This is a question which cannot be answered by the minister or the Sabbath-school teacher, but by the parents alone. It is the question as to which service the little children shall attend who are too young to go to both church and Sabbath school in the same day.

The usual answer is the Sabbath-school; for is it not specially intended for the children, and will the children not learn more there than in the church?

The question is important, because early habits are so strong. And the earliest habits are the strongest. Here is the problem, especially in the case of the boy. There comes a time when he has outgrown, or thinks he has outgrown, the Sabbath-school. What then? If he has not the church-going habit, away he drifts, and once caught in the stream of the churchless, how rarely is he brought in again?

Evidently love for the public services of the congregation cannot be implanted too early. When a child is taken regularly to church from three or four years of age, he gets the habit so firmly implanted in him as to become part of his very fibre. It is practically ineradicable. If he does not begin till he is nine or ten, he runs a serious risk of never really forming the church-going habit, although brought up in a Christian home.

"But what can these mites understand?" some one asks. Who shall say? "I must keep very still to-day, mother," whispered a little tot, scarce six years old, to her mother the other Sabbath, as she sat beside her in the pew, "for it's communion."

To the little one sitting with the older brothers and sisters and father and mother in the quiet and stillness of the house of God, the great congregation, the songs, the rev-

erent bowing of the heads in prayer, the big book, the minister, as he reads or prays or preaches, the gathering of the offerings, all these are most impressive. The habit of reverence is insensibly formed, and if the minister loves little children, there's many a tender bit will go to them while he is feeding the flock from the Word.

It is ideal, where the Sabbath-school and public worship follow one another and old and young alike can attend both. But where they are held at different times of the day, the question is worth thinking out, as to whether the wee ones of the house shall be robbed of their privilege of attending church for the sake of the Sabbath-school. The Sabbath-school certainly has nothing to gain by it. When the children grow old enough for both, they will be all the readier to benefit by the school because they have already learned so much in the church.

Truth Telling

Mrs. S. M. J. Henry

To assume that a child has told a lie is to take the first step toward making him a liar; and, to make him afraid of the consequences of having the truth known, is to finish the work. Sometimes a mother who would be horrified at the thought of what she is doing, will lead the children in an effort to conceal facts which would bring upon them the displeasure of the father if he knew them, and then unhesitatingly punish the same children for some other act of deception, with which she happens to have no part; and, by and by, will break her heart over the fact that she cannot depend upon their word.

To educate the child in truthfulness, he must be considered and taught, as an imaginative being, as well as one with the power of knowing ordinary facts. The world of his imagination is just as real to him as the world of material things; and the lights which play upon it may color everything he sees, hears and handles. Paul recognized this reality of the inner sight when he said, "While we look not at the things which are seen, but at the things which are not seen."

2 Cor. 4:18. This ability to behold the unseen is very quick in childhood; for "Heaven lies about us in our infancy."

"What have you been doing all the morning? Where have you been to get so muddy?" asked a mother of a boy of seven who had just run in for something. "And what are you getting out of the closet? And where are you going now?"

"I've been hunting an elephant in a frog pond, and I've got him, too; and I've got to have a strong rope to chain him up with, for he's awful big and strong." And the boy was off, wrapping a piece of cord which he had found, hastily about his hand.

"I declare," said the mother, "I don't know what to do with that child. I am worried to death. Of course I know that this is all play; but sometimes I don't know his play from the real. I am afraid he don't know what truth is."

"You mean you are afraid that he does not know what you mean by truth?"

"I suppose that is it, but truth is truth, you know."

"Yes; truth is truth, but it is very unfortunate that her name has been dragged down to the level of this world of opinions which change as often as the colors and shapes of the kaleidoscope, and, that because a statement does not happen to seem correct to you it is at once branded as untrue, and the one who made it as a liar. Now that child has just as good a right to call that creature of his imagination—maybe a stick, or some other boy—an elephant as the one who first invented the name had to apply it as he did. He was to succeed Adam in dominion, you know."

"Oh, I understand that; of course everybody would know that he is at play now; but just listen to this: he came in yesterday and told me, just as honestly as anyone could have done, that Mrs. Grey was going to have company, and wanted me to let her have a cake, for she was sick and could not bake one. I suspected him at once. I think I always do these days; and yet it did seem that he must be telling the truth from the way he looked, and I said: 'Are you sure,

Willie, that Mrs. Grey really sent you to ask me for the cake?' and he looked me right in the eye and said: 'Yes, mama, and she wants your cake basket, too.' 'Now, I am sure you are lying,' I said, 'for she would not want *that* with all her lovely silver and china.' 'But she does, mama,' he persisted, 'for her things all got broke when she went away and left Tige to keep house.' Then I was in despair; such a jumble of things which might possibly have happened, with others which were impossible, I believe nobody but Willie could put together. Tige is a dog of course, you understand, and is never allowed in the house. A few evenings before, as Mrs. Grey and I, with several others, including Willie and the Grey children, were talking and laughing about something which had happened, Mrs. Grey, who is a perfect home-hermit, said in a jocose way, 'When I go away for a week I shall leave Tige to keep house. That meant she would never go; and you see Will caught up that remark and used it to give himself away with.'

"But fearing that Mrs. Grey might really have wanted something, I ran over to see her about it, and found that my boy had made the whole thing out of whole cloth. I am getting so that I never know what to do when he speaks. I am almost afraid he is lying every time."

"Have you tried to find what was at the bottom of this one instance of untruth?"

"No; I just gave it up. It was so flagrant I didn't have the strength even to slap him."

"I wish you would please call him in and get him to talk that over with us. You begin it in a tender, sympathetic way, and let us see what comes of it."

"I don't feel very tender and sympathetic when I think about it, but I will try, if you think any good will come of it."

"No harm can come of it, and we may get some light for you."

"Well, light is what I want, that is sure."

After a moment of silence, in which she was evidently trying to bring herself into a proper temper, this mother arose, and going

to the door, called the child, who came quickly bounding in; a bright, beautiful boy. He and I were good friends, so that I had only to hold out my hand to have him come within my arm-clasp, where he stood playing with my watch-guard and waiting to see what it all meant.

"Oh, Willie," began his mother, bravely, "what about that cake for Mrs. Grey's company? What company is she going to have and when is it to be?"

"Oh, can we have it, mama?" and how his eyes sparkled. "'Cause, if we can, I must go and build up the house quick, where Tige broke it down, you know, and I must run and tell her, for I am her company, you see."

"Oh!"

That was all the mother could say for at least a minute. Light had broken in. But at last she asked, almost indignantly,

"Willie, why could you not have told me that you were playing and that Mrs. Grey was Nellie?"

"'Cause I wasn't playing, mama. It was 'honest Injun,' and she is just Mrs. Grey. Nellie is gone."

"Gone! Where?"

"Oh, to Europe, I guess; where children is before they's born."

"Oh! and who are you?"

"I am Mr. Grey."

"Indeed! I thought you were company?"

"Yes, am Mrs. Grey's company, and my train is awful slow. Toot! toot! toot! Say mama, can't I have some of that chocolate cake?"

"Yes, dear." Just as soon as she could control her tones: "Mama will put you up a nice dinner to take to Mrs. Grey. So you are a travelling man and just getting home, are you? Mama is very glad that she understands you at last."

"The child, in his eagerness, had slipped out to the commissary department, and the mother said, huskily, "Just to think that I accused him of lying! But he seems to have forgotten it."

"Ask him, please, my dear, if he has. See what he thought about that."

"I'll ask his pardon," she replied.

"So she called him back, saying, "Come here to mama, dear," and she drew him closely to her. "When you told me about Mrs. Grey yesterday I could not understand you, Willie, and I told you that you were lying. I am very sorry."

The child turned his face up and looked at her. Her eyes were full of tears. He did not like tears. The tone which she had used as well as the words were very perplexing, so he began to wriggle out of her arms.

"What does lying mean?" I ventured to ask.

"Oh, that mama has a headache, I guess."

"And what is a headache?"

"Oh, I don't know; just some nasty old thing that makes folks not want to do things."

Then we laughed, while the tears fell over our cheeks. Will looked from one to the other for a perplexed moment or two, and then with a loud "toot! toot!" called out in his biggest voice, "Chi-ca-go, Un-ion De-pot!" Need I add that a few minutes later the little man was on his way "home" to repair the ruin which Tige had wrought by his house-keeping, happy with the cake-basket well filled for "Mrs. Grey;" while the mother, for the first time in her life, began to see that child-study was a necessary preliminary to child-culture. Such simple little things to signify so much; but since they do signify, how important to comprehend!

The next thing in this case was to teach the child the necessity of so stating facts and fancies that he could be understood by older people.

"You see, Willie," the lesson ran, "when you said Mrs. Grey, mama, of course, thought you meant the real one, who is always Mrs. Grey; and mama knew that Mrs. Grey never allowed Tige in the house, that she would never leave him to keep house, and so mama thought that it was all something that never happened, and that you were telling a naughty story—a lie about the cake and all, and it made mama feel very discouraged. If you had just told her at

first that you were playing that Nellie was Mrs. Grey."

"But, mama," broke in the child, with a plaintive persistence in his tone, "we was not playing *that* time; sometimes we is, but we said first thing that this was all *truly*, and not play. She *was* Mrs. Grey and I *was* Mr. Grey for sure."

"Well, you see you will be obliged to say it so that others will understand you, if you expect to be heard and get what you want, for when it comes to truly, *truly* you are *not* Mr. Grey, and Nellie is *not* Mrs. Grey. Now, try and see if you can't fix that some way, so that it will be all straight as you mean it, and so that mama can know what you mean."

The child thought a moment, and then said: "I can't fix it, anyhow. That's the way 'tis, just Mrs. Grey."

"Well, all right; let it go until you really want something."

It was not long; for the two children were very busy in their play world. Soon Willie came rushing in to his mother, calling in great eagerness: "Doctor! doctor! you must come quick. Mrs. Grey has broken her arm."

This appeal brought no reply, and he repeated it, pulling at his mother's hand.

"What are you doing, Willie?" she asked, at last; "there is no doctor here, and Dr. Smith is always called to the Greys."

"O, I forgot. It is *my* little Mrs. Grey, mama, and you is the doctor. I's playing *truly*. Now, do you understand me, mama?"

"Yes, dear, you have done bravely. Now what would you like?"

"You to come, for she's truly hurted. She fell off the top of our house—I *mean*, she hit her toe and fell down—the truly top is the sky, I guess."

This little story is sufficient to indicate the beginnings of instruction by which a child may be taught to discriminate between the literal and the symbolic in speech; a lesson which cannot be too early taught, especially to a child who has a quick imagination, and is full of "play."

—Studies in Home and Child Life.

The Legend of St. George

By Margaret J. Preston

'Twas many and many an age ago—
Who readeth should understand—
That the tale I tell, they say, befell
Afar in an Eastern land.

In the pagan times of old it happed,
When saintly martyrs died
By flood and flame for the holy name
Of Him who was crucified.

In the oozy depths of a slimy marsh,
Unfathomed and foul and deep,
A dragon whose food was human blood
His fearful lair did keep.

With terror the frightened folk had fled
For fear of his blasting breath,
Yet day by day they sickened away
In an atmosphere of death.

And day by day he came not nigh
To poison the city's air,
The lot they drew, and two by two
They gave up their children fair

Wherewith to feed the monster grim,
Till heartened hope did fail,
Till everywhere there was wild despair,
And the streets were filled with wail.

At length, on the king's one daughter dear
The terrible lot did fall,
And he offered gold and treasures untold.
Rank, glory and honors—all—

To buy her life ; but they said him : "Nay,
Through thy command alone
Each day a twain of *ours* are slain,
And darest thou grudge thine *own* ?"

Then the princess fell at the royal feet
Like a hunted and wet-winged dove ;
"My father, shall I forbear to die
For the sake of the land I love ?"

So, all in her richest robes bedight,
'Mid the sobs of women and men,

With a bosom that shook, her course she
took
To the horrible dragon's den.

As, weeping her piteous doom, she neared,
It chanced that a Christian knight
Did fare that way on steed of gray,
And he paused at the rueful sight ;

"Oh ! sorrowful maiden, whence thy tears
And witherward dost thou go ?"
And, all dismayed, his steps she stayed
With the story of her woe.

"God see and save," now cried the knight,
"While I thy helper be !
For the name of Christ hath ever sufficed
To bid all evil flee."

To the dragon's lair forthwith he spurred,
And therein the monster found,
And with sudden advance he plunged his
lance,
And fastened him to the ground.

"Bring hither thy girdle, O princess fair,
To bind, withal, his strength ;"
And the maiden she brought it, golden-
wrought ;
And knotting its sleaven length.

Therewith he circled its steely scales,
And in her quivering hand
He laid the noose, soft-drawn and loose :
Then he gave her a quick command

To utter the sacred name of Christ—
And she spake it in faith and grief ;
And forever away did flee that day
Her heathenish unbelief.

Then slowly she to the city gates
The slimy horror drew,
And the king and his men took heart again,
And the dragon there they slew.

Henceforward the name that the good St.
George

Thus taught them to adore,
Through all their days, with heartiest praise,
They worshipped forever more.

—The Children's Friend.

Our Publications

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THE TEACHERS MONTHLY—50c. a year; 5 or more to one address, 40c. each.

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2. Orders for less than a year at proportionate rates.

3. Payment should accompany orders in every case.

ADDRESS

REV. R. DOUGLAS FRASER,
CONFEDERATION LIFE BUILDING
TORONTO

A Look Ahead

"Studies in the Life of Jesus" is the attractive title of the Lesson Scheme for 1900. We shall spend the whole year and the first six months of the year following with our Lord, as He lived among men and as He died on the cross and rose again, to go up once more into His Father's presence. What better way to end the old century and to begin the new than in tracing the footsteps of the man of Nazareth?

It is a rare opportunity for parents and for the teachers of the little ones. Eighteen months with Jesus, the babe, the boy, the man, the teacher, the preacher, the worker of miracles, the man whose life was without spot, and whose words were words of tenderest love. With Jesus, the sufferer, too; for we shall follow Him to Calvary, and we shall catch our last glimpse of Him as He ascends in a bright cloud to heaven.

There is no fairy tale that is more enticing than this very story of Jesus the Christ, and little children's memories hold fast all they get. It will be our own fault if in these eighteen months they do not receive such a knowledge of what Jesus was, said and did as shall abide with them a precious possession forever.

THIS GOLDEN TEXT FOR THIS FIRST QUARTER IS:

"THE SON OF MAN CAME NOT TO BE MINISTERED UNTO, BUT TO MINISTER."

And on each Sabbath of the twelve we are to see how

CHRIST SERVES AND SAVES MEN

1. His coming as a babe, Luke 2 : 1-16.
2. His way as a child, Luke 2 : 41-52.
3. His way prepared, Luke 3 : 1-17.
4. His recognition and testing, Matt. 3 : 13 to 4 : 11.
5. His first followers, John 1 : 35-46.
6. He announces the way of life, John 3 : 1-18.
7. He wins a wayward one, John 4 : 5-26.
8. He is rejected by His own, Luke 4 : 16-30.
9. He heals diseases, Mark 1 : 21-34.
10. He forgives sins, Mark 2 : 1-12.
11. He calls to His service, Mark 2 : 13-22.
12. HE SERVES AND SAVES MEN.

Lesson I.

THE BIRTH OF JESUS

January 7, 1900

Luke 2 : 1-16—Memory Verses, 8-11

Golden Text—Thou shalt call his name Jesus : for he shall save his people from their sins.—Matt. 1 : 21.

1 And it came to pass in those days, that there went out a decree from Cæ'sar August'us that all the world should be taxed.

2 (And this taxing was first made when Cyren'ius was governor of Syr'ia.)

3 And all went to be taxed, every one into his own city.

4 And Jo'seph also went up from Gal'ilee, out of the city of Naz'areth, into Judæ'a, unto the city of Da'vid, which is called Beth'lehem ; (because he was of the house and lineage of Da'vid :)

5 To be taxed with Ma'ry his espoused wife, being great with child.

6 And so it was, that, while they were there, the days were accomplished that she should be delivered.

7 And she brought forth her firstborn son, and wrapped him in swaddling clothes, and laid him in a manger ; because there was no room for them in the inn.

8 And there were in the same country shepherds abiding in the field, keeping watch over their flock by night.

9 And, lo, the angel of the Lord came

upon them, and the glory of the Lord shone round about them : and they were sore afraid.

10 And the angel said unto them, Fear not : for, behold, I bring you good tidings of great joy, which shall be to all people.

11 For unto you is born this day in the city of Da'vid a Saviour, which is Christ the Lord.

12 And this *shall be* a sign unto you ; Ye shall find the babe wrapped in swaddling clothes, lying in a manger.

13 And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host praising God, and saying,

14 Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace, good will toward men.

15 And it came to pass, as the angels were gone away from them into heaven, the shepherds said one to another, Let us now go even unto Beth'lehem, and see this thing which is come to pass, which the Lord hath made known unto us.

16 And they came with haste, and found Ma'ry, and Jo'seph, and the babe lying in a manger.

THE LESSON RETOLD

Mary and Joseph lived at Nazareth. They were good people and were related to King David, who had been born long before at Bethlehem and had lived there when a boy.

One day Mary and Joseph got a message to go up to Bethlehem and pay some tax money. So Joseph left his carpenter shop and took Mary and the money and started out. It was a long and tiresome journey.

It was quite dark when they got to Bethlehem, and they found themselves too late to get a place in the inn for the night. They were tired and poor and had no friends to stay with. What could they do? "You may have the stable if you like," said the man at the inn. So Mary and Joseph thanked him and went in where the asses and cattle were.

In the stable God sent Mary the little baby, Jesus, that had been promised her. She knew that He was the Son of God.

Mary wrapped the baby in some cloth and then, because she had no cradle, she



put Him to sleep in the manger among the straw. It was a strange cradle.

Near Bethlehem some shepherds were out on the hills taking care of their sheep through the dark night. All at once they saw a bright light shining round them. They were much frightened. But an angel spoke to them out of the brightness, and said, "Fear not. I have good news for you. Unto you is born this day, in the city of David, a Savior, which is Christ the Lord. If you go to Bethlehem you will find the lit-

tle babe lying in a manger."

Then the shepherds saw the sky full of angels all singing the same song—"Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace, good will toward men."

When the angels had gone away into heaven and it was dark again, the shepherds said: "Let us go to Bethlehem and see this thing." So they came and found it all just as the angel had said, and Mary showed them the babe lying in the manger. They went away and told what they had seen.

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

1. To what great king were Mary and Joseph related? Ans.—To King David.
2. Where did they live? Ans.—At Nazareth.
3. Why did they go to Bethelern? Ans.—To pay taxes.
4. Where did they stay all night? Ans.—In a stable.
5. Why? Ans.—Because there was no room for them in the inn.
6. What happened in the stable? Ans.—Christ was born.
7. Did His mother know who her child was? Ans.—Yes.
8. Who were spending the night in the fields near by? Ans.—Some shepherds.
9. What did they see that frightened them? Ans.—A bright light and the sky filled with angels.
10. What did the angels say? Ans.—"Glory to God in the highest and on earth peace, good will toward men."
11. What is the Golden Text? Ans.—"Thou shalt call His name Jesus; for He shall save His people from their sins."

A Happy New Year

Lads and lasses, don't you hear
Someo'ae knocking at your door?
Don't you know the glad New Year,
Comes to you and me once more?

How shall we receive this guest?
How improve the gifts he bears?
We must join, at his behest,
Earnest deeds with fervent prayers.

We must *do*, as well as pray,
We must battle for the right;
And with each succeeding day,
God will give us strength to fight.

Let us, then, with songs of cheer—
Little children though we be—
Welcome in the glad New Year.
Gift from God's Eternity.

I HAVE LEARNED Where Jesus is there is Joy TO-DAY THAT

Primary Catechism—65. What is a Christian?

A Christian is one who loves and follows Jesus Christ.

66. What does following Jesus Christ mean?

To follow Jesus Christ is to trust and obey Him.

Shorter Catechism—1. What is the chief end of man?

A. Man's chief end is to glorify God, and to enjoy Him forever.

Lesson Hymn

Far away in a goodly land,
Fair and bright,
Children with crowns of glory stand,
Robed in white,—
In white more pure than the spotless snow;
And their tongues unite
In the psalm which the angels sang long ago
On that still night.

Amen.

—Hymn 520, Book of Praise.

Lesson 11.

THE CHILD JESUS VISITS JERUSALEM January 14, 1900

Luke 2 : 41-52—Memory Verses, 49-52

Golden Text—And Jesus increased in wisdom and stature, and in favor with God and man.—Luke 2 : 52.

41 Now his parents went to Jeru'salem every year at the feast of the passover.

42 And when he was twelve years old, they went up to Jeru'salem after the custom of the feast.

43 And when they had fulfilled the days, as they returned, the child Je'sus tarried behind in Jeru'salem ; and Jo'seph and his mother knew not of it.

44 But they, supposing him to have been in the company, went a day's journey ; and they sought him among *their* kinsfolk and acquaintance.

45 And when they found him not, they turned back again to Jeru'salem, seeking him.

46 And it came to pass, that after three days they found him in the temple, sitting

in the midst of the doctors, both hearing them, and asking them questions.

47 And all that heard him were astonished at his understanding and answers.

48 And when they saw him, they were amazed : and his mother said unto him, Son, why hast thou thus dealt with us ? behold, thy father and I have sought thee sorrowing.

49 And he said unto them, How is it that ye sought me ? wist ye not that I must be about my Father's business ?

50 And they understood not the saying which he spake unto them.

51 And he went down with them, and came to Naz'areth, and was subject unto them : but his mother kept all these sayings in her heart.

52 And Jesus increased in wisdom and stature, and in favour with God and man.

THE LESSON RETOLD

Joseph was a carpenter and often the little boy Jesus helped him at his work.

While they were busy in the shop Jesus learned from Joseph and His mother a great deal about his Heavenly Father, and when He went to school He could say long pieces out of the Old Testament by heart.

When he was twelve years old, and quite a tall boy, He went with His parents to Jerusalem to the Passover. This was a great feast to which the people came from all parts. Jesus had never seen the Temple or so many people before. The people all stayed a whole week, living in tents or booths made of branches, and going to the Temple every day to worship.

On the last day of the feast Mary and Joseph started for home. When they had gone part way, they found that Jesus was not with them. They thought, "He is walking with some of our cousins perhaps." So they asked everybody they knew, but could not even hear of Him. Then they were afraid and started back for Jerusalem. They spent three days searching for the boy and then found Him sitting in the Temple listening to the teachers and asking them questions about His Father in Heaven. These learned men were surprised to see how much Jesus knew, but Mary began to tell how frightened she and Joseph had been. Jesus said, "Didn't you know, mother, that I would be in my Father's house ?"



So He went back home with them to Nazareth and the Bible says that He grew taller and wiser every day, that He obeyed Mary and Joseph in everything, and was pleasing to God and to everyone who knew Him.

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

1. What trade did Jesus learn? Ans.—He was a carpenter. 2. What else did he study? Ans.—His Father's Word. 3. Who was His Father? Ans.—God. 4. Where did Mary and Joseph take Him when He was twelve years old? Ans.—To the Passover. 5. What was the Passover? Ans.—A great feast to which everybody went. 6. Where was it held? Ans.—At Jerusalem. 7. What great building was there? Ans.—The Temple. 8. How long did the Passover last? Ans.—Several days. 9. What did Mary and Joseph find when they had started for home? Ans.—That Jesus was not with them. 10. What did they do when they couldn't find Him? Ans.—They went back to Jerusalem to look for Him. 11. How long did they look for Him? Ans.—Three days. 12. Where did they find Him? Ans.—In the temple listening to the wise men. 13. What did Jesus say? Ans.—I must be about My Father's business. 14. What is the Golden Text? Ans.—“And Jesus increased in wisdom and stature, and in favor with God and man.”

The Way that Jesus Grew

We marked one New Year morning
Their height upon the wall—
First Grace, then little Alice,
Next Hugh, who stood so tall.
“We've all grown,” Hugh said proudly,
His brown eyes bright and clear,

“If we keep on I wonder
How tall we'll be next year!”
Said little Alice gently—
Her eyes were soft and blue—
“I hope that we'll be growing
The way that Jesus grew.”



I HAVE LEARNED TO-DAY THAT I Should Love God's Work



Primary Catechism—67. Can a little child be a Christian?

Yes. Jesus said “Suffer the little children to come unto me, and forbid them not, for of such is the kingdom of God.”

Shorter Catechism—2. What rule hath God given to direct us how we may glorify and enjoy Him?

A. The word of God, which is contained in the Scriptures of the Old and New Testaments, is the only rule to direct us how we may glorify and enjoy Him.

Lesson Hymn

O, Thou, whose infant feet were found
Within Thy Father's shrine,
Whose years, with changeless virtue crowned,
Were all alike divine—

Dependent on Thy bounteous breath,
We seek Thy grace alone—
In childhood, manhood, age and death,
To keep us still Thine own!

Amen

—Hymn 521, Book of Praise.

Lesson III. **THE PREACHING OF JOHN THE BAPTIST** January 21, 1900

Luke 3 : 1-17—Memory Verses, 3-6

Golden Text—Prepare ye the way of the Lord.—Luke 3 : 4.

1 Now in the fifteenth year of the reign of Tibe'rius Cæ'sar Pon'tius Pi'lato being governor of Judæ'a and Her'od being tetrarch of Gal'ilee, and his brother Phil'ip tetrarch of Ituræ'a and of the region of Trachoni'tis and Lysa'nias the tetrarch of A'bile'ne,

2 An'nas and Cai'aphas being the high priests, the word of God came unto John the son of Zachari'as in the wilderness.

3 And he came into all the country about Jor'dan, preaching the baptism of repentance for the remission of sins ;

4 As it is written in the book of the words of Esa'as the prophet, saying, The voice of one crying in the wilderness, Prepare ye the way of the Lord, make his paths straight.

5 Every valley shall be filled, and every mountain and hill shall be brought low ; and the crooked shall be made straight, and the rough ways shall be made smooth ;

6 And all flesh shall see the salvation of God.

7 Then said he to the multitude that came forth to be baptized of him, O generation of vipers, who hath warned you to flee from the wrath to come ?

8 Bring forth therefore fruits worthy of repentance, and begin not to say within yourselves, We have A'braham to our father : for I say unto you, That God is able of these stones to raise up children unto A'braham.

9 And now also the axe is laid unto the root of the trees : every tree therefore which bringeth not forth good fruit is hewn down, and cast into the fire.

10 And the people asked him, saying, What shall we do then ?

11 He answereth and saith unto them, He that hath two coats, let him impart to him that hath none ; and he that hath meat, let him do likewise.

12 Then came also publicans to be baptized and said unto him, Master, what shall we do ?

13 And he said unto them, Exact no more than that which is appointed you.

14 And the soldiers likewise demanded of him, saying, And what shall we do ? And he said unto them, Do violence to no man neither accuse any falsely ; and be content with your wages.

15 And as the people were in expectation, and all men mused in their hearts of John, whether he were the Christ, or not ;

16 John answered, saying unto them all, I indeed baptize you with water ; but one mightier than I cometh, the latchet of whose shoes I am not worthy to unloose : he shall baptize you with the Holy Ghost and with fire :

17 Whose fan is in his hand, and he will thoroughly purge his floor, and will gather the wheat into his garner ; but the chaff he will burn with fire unquenchable.

THE LESSON RETOLD

While Jesus was growing up at Nazareth, there was a man called John living in the wilderness country among the caves and rocks. He had never seen Jesus, but he knew from God's word that He must soon come, and so he was looking for Him.

John was so good a man that some thought he must be the Savior that everyone was expecting. But he said, "I am not fit even to untie his shoes."

John used to preach beside the river Jordan and people came in crowds from the cities and towns to hear him. He was a strange-looking man, with a strong voice, and he wore rough clothes and ate queer food—locusts and wild honey, and he always used the same text—"Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand."



When John saw the proud Pharisees coming to hear him, he was angry, because he knew they were not sorry for their sins. He said to them fiercely, "Your hearts are like poisonous vipers. God will surely punish you, unless you turn from your sins."

When the soldiers heard John preaching like this even they were frightened. "What shall we do?" they cried. "Stop quarreling and grumbling about your wages," said the teacher.

"What shall we do?" asked the tax-gatherers. "Stop lying and stealing," said the voice.

Then everybody began to ask, "What shall we do?" And John answered, "Be ready always to be kind and generous to everyone that needs your help."

Thus John told how the great King would know his friends. "He is like that farmer over there fanning wheat. He will pick out the good and burn up the bad. He is like that woodman with the axe. He will cut down the trees that bear no fruit."

Then John took all those who wanted to be ready for Jesus and baptized them, to show that they wished to give up sin. That is why he is called John the Baptist.

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

1. Where did John the Baptist live? Ans.—In the wilderness. 2. Where did he preach? Ans.—Beside the river Jordan. 3. Who came to hear him? Ans.—Great crowds from the towns and cities. 4. Who did some think he was? Ans.—The Savior Himself. 5. What did John say? Ans.—That he had only come to get ready for Him. 6. What text did John use? Ans.—"Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand." 7. What does "repent" mean? Ans.—Be sorry for your sins and stop doing wrong. 8. Who did John say were like vipers? Ans.—The proud scribes and Pharisees. 9. What did he tell the soldiers to do? Ans.—To stop quarreling and grumbling. 10. The tax-gatherers? Ans.—To be honest. 11. The people? Ans.—To do all the good they could. 12. Who did John say was coming? Ans.—One so great that he was not fit to untie His shoes. 13. What is the Golden Text? Ans.—"Prepare ye the way of the Lord."



I HAVE LEARNED
TO-DAY THAT

I Should Turn from Sin



Primary Catechism—68. What do we mean by the ten commandments?

The ten commandments are God's holy law.

69. Which is the first commandment?

The first commandment is "Thou shalt have no other gods before me."

Shorter Catechism—3. What do the Scriptures principally teach?

A. The Scriptures principally teach what man is to believe concerning God, and what duty God requires of man.

Lesson Hymn

There is a city bright,
Closed are its gates to sin;
Nought that defileth,
Nought that defileth
Can ever enter in.

Saviour, I come to Thee,
O Lamb of God, I pray—
Cleanse me and save me,
Cleanse me and save me,
Wash all my sins away.

Amen.

—Hymn 587, Book of Praise.

Lesson IV. **THE BAPTISM AND TEMPTATION OF JESUS** January 28, 1900
 Matt. 3: 13 to 4: 11—Memory Verses, 3: 16, 17

Golden Text—This is my beloved Son, in whom I am well pleased.—Matt. 3: 17.

13 Then cometh Je'sus from Gal'ilee to Jor'dan unto John, to be baptised of him.

14 But John forbad him, saying, I have need to be baptized of thee, and comest thou to me?

15 And Je'sus answering said unto him, Suffer *it to be so* now: for thus it becometh us to fulfil all righteousness. Then he suffered him.

16 And Je'sus, when he was baptized, went up straightway out of the water: and, lo, the heavens were opened unto him, and he saw the Spirit of God descending like a dove, and lighting upon him:

17 And lo a voice from heaven, saying, This is my beloved Son, in whom I am well pleased.

Ch. 4. 1 Then was Je'sus led up of the spirit into the wilderness to be tempted of the devil.

2 And when he had fasted forty days and for nights, he was afterward an hungred.

3 And when the tempter came to him, he said, If thou be the Son of God, command that these stones be made bread.

4 But he answered and said, It is written, Man shall not live by bread alone, but by

every word that proceedeth out of the mouth of God.

5 Then the devil taketh him up into the holy city, and setteth him on a pinnacle of the temple,

6 And saith unto him, If thou be the Son of God, cast thyself down: for it is written, He shall give his angels charge concerning thee: and in *their* hands they shall bear thee up, lest at any time thou dash thy foot against a stone.

7 Je'sus said unto him, It is written again, Thou shalt not tempt the Lord thy God.

8 Again, the devil taketh him up into an exceeding high mountain, and sheweth him all the kingdoms of the world, and the glory of them;

9 And saith unto him, All these things will I give thee, if thou wilt fall down and worship me.

10 Then saith Je'sus unto him, Get thee hence, Satan: for it is written, Thou shalt worship the Lord thy God, and him only shalt thou serve.

11 Then the devil leaveth him, and, behold, angels came and ministered unto him.

THE LESSON RETOLD

One day, when John the Baptist was baptizing in the Jordan, he saw the very person he had said was coming. Jesus was standing on the bank and asked to be baptized.



John thought Jesus too good to be baptized by him, but Jesus made him to do it to show everybody that He belonged to God's kingdom, and wished to do all that God said.

When they had come up from the water, Jesus saw the sky open and the Spirit of God coming down like a dove upon Him and a voice said, "This is my beloved Son, in whom I am well pleased."

Then the same Spirit took Him away into a lonely country, where He was among the wild beasts for forty days and forty nights without anything to eat. He was almost dead with hunger.

Then Satan, who is very cunning, came and said, "Don't starve. Make these stones become bread." But Jesus had a Bible verse ready—He had learned it when He was a little boy—"Man shall not live by bread alone."

Then Satan tried again. He set Jesus on the very highest peak of the Temple and said, "Drop down; God will take care of you." But Jesus said, "That would be wrong. I must not tempt God."

Then Satan tried a third time to make Jesus do wrong. He took Him up into a very high mountain and showed him all the

beautiful countries and all the cities, and palaces, and said, "If you will only worship me, you shall have all these." Jesus was poor; but He would not sin, and so He said, "No, I shall worship no one else but God."

Then the Devil left Him and the angels came and fed and comforted Him. The angels will come to us when we resist sin.

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

1. Why did Jesus need to be baptized? Ans.—To show that He belonged to the kingdom of God. 2. Who baptized Him? Ans.—John the Baptist. 3. What happened when Jesus had come up from the water? Ans.—The Holy Spirit rested upon Him and God said, "This is my beloved Son." 4. Where did the Spirit then take Jesus? Ans.

—Into the wilderness. 5. What happened there? Ans.—Satan came and tempted Him. 6. Could Satan get Jesus to do what he wanted? Ans.—No. 7. How many times did he try? Ans.—Three times. 8. Who came when Satan went away? Ans.—Angels to feed and comfort Him. 9. What is the Golden Text?

Bessie's Temptation

Miss Murray said that Bessie could have the little clippings which she was dropping into the waste basket, as she shaped some beautiful patterns of bright red paper for the kindergarten class.

Bessie's hands were nearly full, when a puff of wind blew one of the prettiest red patterns off the table and right into the basket. "Now's your chance," said the tempter, "Miss Murray did not see. She'll think it's only one of the clippings"; and Bessie's hand was in the basket.

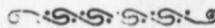
Suddenly something choked her. It was yesterday's Bible verse—"Thou shalt not steal."

"Who's stealing?" said Bessie. "Thou shalt not," said the verse.

She dropped the paper on the floor. "I guess I won't," she gasped. The bell rang to begin. As Bessie passed to her seat, she laid the stray paper back on the table, and went to her place the happiest little girl in the whole room. It makes us lappy when we are tempted to do wrong and don't.



I HAVE LEARNED TO-DAY THAT I Should Resist Temptation



Primary Catechism — 70. What is meant by having other gods before God?

Worshipping anything but the true God, or loving anything more than God.

Shorter Catechism—4. What is God?

A. God is a Spirit, infinite, eternal, and unchangeable in his being, wisdom, power, holiness, justice, goodness and truth.

Lesson Hymn

Yield not to temptation, for yielding is sin;
Each victory will help you some other to win;
Fight manfully onward; dark passions sub-
due;

Look ever to Jesus — He will carry you
through.

Ask the Saviour to help you,
Comfort, strengthen, and keep you;
He is willing to aid you,
He will carry you through.

Amen.

—Hymn 530, Book of Praise.

Lesson V.

THE FIRST DISCIPLES OF JESUS

February 4, 1900

John 1 : 35-46—Memory Verses, 35-37

Golden Text—They followed Jesus.—John 1 : 37.

35 Again the next day after John stood, and two of his disciples ;

36 And looking upon Je'sus as he walked, he saith, Behold the Lamb of God !

37 And the two disciples heard him speak, and they followed Je'sus.

38 Then Je'sus turned, and saw them following, and saith unto them, What seek ye? They said unto him, Rab'bi, (which is to say, being interpreted, Master,) where dwellest thou?

39 He saith unto them, Come and see. They came and saw where he dwelt, and abode with him that day : for it was about the tenth hour.

40 One of the two which heard John *speak*, and followed him, was An'drew, Si'mon Pe'ter's brother.

41 He first findeth his own brother Si'mon,

and saith unto him, We have found the Messias, which is, being interpreted, the Christ.

42 And he brought him to Je'sus. And when Je'sus beheld him, he said, Thou art Si'mon the son of Jo'na : thou shalt be called Ce'phas, which is by interpretation, A stone.

43 The day following Je'sus would go forth into Gal'ilee, and findeth Phil'ip, and saith unto him, Follow me.

44 Now Phil'ip was of Beth'saida, the city of An'drew and Pe'ter.

45 Philip findeth Nathan'ael, and saith unto him, We have found him, of whom Mo'ses in the law, and the prophets, did write, Je'sus of Naz'areth, the son of Jo'seph.

46 And Nathan'ael said unto him, Can there any good thing come of Naz'areth? Philip saith unto him, Come and see.

THE LESSON RETOLD

God wanted all the world to know that His Son was greater and stronger than Satan. So Jesus did not stay any longer alone in the wilderness but came back to the Jordan—where John was baptizing.

When John the Baptist saw Him, he said to two young men who were there, "Behold the Lamb of God," and these men

whose names were John and Andrew, went and followed Jesus.

Jesus heard their footsteps and turning round said, "Whom are you looking for?" They said, "Master, where do you stay?" Jesus said, "Come and see."

When Andrew found out that Jesus was the Savior, he hurried away to get his brother Simon to introduce him to his new Friend.

When Jesus saw Simon, He knew that he would by and by be a strong, brave man ; so He told him his name would be Peter, meaning a rock.

John and Andrew and Peter stayed with Jesus all that day and got well acquainted with Him.

The next morning Jesus was going to a place called Galilee. On the way they met another young fisherman from the same town as Andrew and Peter.

His name was Philip. Jesus spoke first and said, "Follow Me." Then Philip turned at once and walked them.

Philip had a student friend called Nathanael, who knew a great deal about the Old Testament. Philip thought, "He must meet Jesus, too." So he went to look for him ; and found



him at last sitting under a shady fig tree studying the Bible. Said Philip, "We've found the very man you are reading about—Jesus of Nazareth."

Nathanael was surprised when Philip said He came from Nazareth. "Can anything good come from such an ignorant place?" he asked. "Come and see," said his friend.

When Nathanael saw Jesus, he, too, wor-

shipped Him, saying, "Thou art the Son of God. Thou art the King of Israel."

After this these men left their homes and their fishing and went about all the time with Jesus. They were called His disciples or learners, and He taught them all about His Heavenly Father, and said, "They are My friends." They were His friends because they loved Him and did what He said.

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

1. After Satan went away, did Jesus stay long in the wilderness? Ans.—No. 2. Where did He go? Ans.—Back to the river Jordan where John was still baptizing. 3. What did John say of Jesus to two of his friends? Ans.—"Behold the Lamb of God." 4. What did they do? Ans.—They followed Jesus down the road. 5. What were their names? Ans.—John and Andrew. 6. What was their business? Ans.—They were fishermen. 7. Where did they stay that night? Ans.—With their new Master. 8. Whom did Andrew bring to Jesus? Ans.—His brother Simon. 9. What name did Jesus give him? Ans.—Peter, meaning a rock. 10. Whom did Jesus call next? Ans.—A young man called Philip. 11. Whom did Philip bring? Ans.—His friend Nathanael. 12. Did Nathanael believe all that Philip told him about Jesus? Ans.—No. 13. How did he feel when he saw Jesus himself? He worshipped Him. 14.—What were all these men called? Ans.—The disciples. 15. What does "disciple" mean? Ans.—A pupil or learner. 16. What other name did Jesus give them? Ans.—He called them His friends. 17. What is the Golden Text? "They followed Jesus."



I HAVE LEARNED TO-DAY THAT I Should Bring Others to Jesus



Primary Catechism—71. Which is the second commandment?

The second commandment is, "Thou shalt not make unto thee any graven image, or any likeness of any thing that is in heaven above, or that is in the earth beneath, or that is in the water under the earth. Thou shalt not bow down thyself to them, nor serve them."

Shorter Catechism—5. Are there more Gods than one?

There is but One only, the living and true God.

6. How many persons are there in the Godhead?

A. There are three persons in the Godhead; the Father, the Son, and the Holy Ghost; and these three are one God, the same in substance, equal in power and glory.

*It will be sufficient for the little ones just now to learn only the portion of the longer commandments given.

Lesson Hymn

Little hearts may love Thee well
Little lips Thy love may tell,
Little hymns Thy praises swell:
Hear us, Holy Jesus.

Little deeds of love may shine,
Little lives may be divine,
Little ones be wholly Thine:
Hear us, Holy Jesus.

Jesus, from Thy heavenly throne
Watching o'er each little one,
Till our life on earth is done,
Hear us, Holy Jesus.

Amen

—Hymn 580, Book of Praise

Lesson VI.

JESUS AND NICODEMUS

February 11, 1900

John 3 : 1-18—Memory Verses, 14-17

Golden Text—For 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 3 : 16.

1 There was a man of the Pharisees, named Nic'odemus, a ruler of the Jews :

2 The same came to Je'sus by night, and said unto him, Rab'bi, we know that thou art a teacher come from God : for no man can do these miracles that thou doest, except God be with him.

3 Je'sus answered and said unto him, Verily, verily, I say unto thee, Except a man be born again, he cannot see the kingdom of God.

4 Nic'odemus saith unto him, How can a man be born when he is old? can he enter the second time into his mother's womb, and be born?

5 Jesus answered, Verily, verily, I say unto thee, Except a man be born of water and of the Spirit, he cannot enter into the kingdom of God.

6 That which is born of the flesh is flesh ; and that which is born of the Spirit is spirit.

7 Marvel not that I said unto thee, Ye must be born again.

8 The wind bloweth where it listeth, and thou hearest the sound thereof, but canst not tell whence it cometh, and whither it goeth : so is every one that is born of the Spirit.

9 Nic'odemus answered and said unto him, How can these things be ?

10 Jesus answered and said unto him, Art thou a master of Is'rael, and knowest not these things ?

11 Verily, verily, I say unto thee, We speak that we do know, and testify that we have seen ; and ye receive not our witness.

12 If I have told you earthly things, and ye believe not, how shall ye believe, if I tell you of heavenly things ?

13 And no man hath ascended up to heaven, but he that came down from heaven, even the Son of man which is in heaven.

14 And as Mo'ses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, even so must the Son of man be lifted up :

15 That whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have eternal life.

16 For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life.

17 For God sent not his Son into the world to condemn the world ; but that the world through him might be saved.

18 He that believeth on him is not condemned : but he that believeth not is is condemned already, because he hath not believed in the name of the only begotten Son of God.

THE LESSON RETOLD

Nicodemus was a rich ruler who lived in a grand house in Jerusalem. He wanted to talk with Jesus, but he was afraid his friends would laugh at him. His friends were called Pharisees. They were proud men.

So he went at night when Jesus was resting on the roof-verandah, where it was cool and quiet.

Jesus was glad to see Nicodemus, for he knew he must be in earnest or he would not have come at all.

He wanted to ask Jesus about the " Kingdom of God." He thought he and all the other Jews belonged to it just because they were Jews ; but Jesus said, " Ye must be born again." Nicodemus supposed that meant that he must turn into a baby again. He was mistaken. Jesus meant that his heart must be



made new and good by God's Spirit.

Nicodemus said, "But, how?" Just then the wind blew. "Listen to that," said Jesus. "You can't tell where it comes from or where it goes to. You can only tell that it is blowing." So God alone can know how hearts are made new. We cannot tell.

Jesus told him, too, that just as the people who were bitten by the serpents were made well when they looked at the serpent of brass which God had told Moses to lift up on a pole, so everyone who should look to Jesus, when He would be lifted up, should have everlasting life.

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

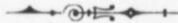
1. Who was Nicodemus? Ans.—A rich ruler in Jerusalem. 2. At what time did he go to see Jesus? Ans.—At night. 3. Why did he not go in daytime? Ans.—He was afraid his friends would laugh at him. 4. What did he want to talk about? Ans.—The Kingdom of God. 5. What did Jesus say to him? Ans.—"Ye must be born again." 6. Did Nicodemus understand Jesus? Ans.—No, not at first. 7. What did Jesus tell him God's spirit was like? Ans.—Like the wind. 8. Why? Ans.—Because it moves

so quietly that nobody can see it. 9. Where does God's Spirit work? Ans.—In men's hearts. 10. What did God tell Moses to do with the serpent of brass? Ans.—To lift it up on a pole. 11. What happened then? Ans.—Those who were bitten by the poisonous serpents and looked at it were healed. 12. What did Jesus say about Himself? Ans.—That he would be lifted up. He meant on the Cross, and everyone that looked to Him should have everlasting life. 13. What is the Golden Text?

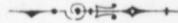
Whosoever Will

Whosoever heareth shout, shout the sound,
Send the blessed tidings all the world around!
Spread the joyful news wherever man is
found,
"Whosoever will" may come!

Whosoever cometh need not delay;
Now the door is open, enter while you may:
Jesus is the true, the only living Way;
"Whosoever will" may come.



I HAVE LEARNED TO-DAY THAT I Must be Born Again



Primary Catechism—72. What is the danger in using images or pictures in the worship of God?

We may come to worship the image or picture instead of God.

Shorter Catechism—7. What are the decrees of God?

The decrees of God are, his eternal purpose, according to the counsel of his will, whereby, for his own glory, he hath fore-ordained whatsoever comes to pass.

Lesson Hymn

As when the Hebrew prophet raised
The brazen serpent high,
The wounded looked, and straight were
cured,
The people ceased to die.

So from the Saviour on the cross
A healing virtue flows;
Who looks to Him with lively faith
Is saved from endless woes.

Amen.

—Hymn 125, Book of Praise.

Lesson VII.

JESUS AT JACOB'S WELL

February 18, 1900

John 4 : 5-26—Memory Verses, 11-14

Golden Text—God is a Spirit : and they that worship him must worship him in spirit and in truth.—John 4 : 24.

5 Then cometh he to a city of Sama'ria, which is called Sy'char, near to the parcel of ground that Ja'cob gave to his son Jo'seph.

6 Now Ja'cob's well was there. Je'sus therefore, being wearied with his journey, sat thus on the well : and it was about the sixth hour.

7 There cometh a woman of Sama'ria to draw water : Je'sus saith unto her, Give me to drink.

8 (For his disciples were gone away unto the city to buy meat.)

9 Then saith the woman of Sama'ria unto him, How is it that thou, being a Jew, askest drink of me, which am a woman of Sama'ria? for the Jews have no dealings with the Samar'itans.

10 Je'sus answered and said unto her, If thou knewest the gift of God, and who it is that saith to thee, Give me to drink ; thou wouldest have asked of him, and he would have given thee living water.

11 The woman saith unto him, Sir, thou hast nothing to draw with, and the well is deep : from whence then hast thou that living water?

12 Art thou greater than our father Ja'cob, which gave us the well, and drank thereof himself, and his children, and his cattle?

13 Je'sus answered and said unto her,

Whosoever drinketh of this water shall thirst again :

14 But whosoever drinketh of the water that I shall give him shall never thirst ; but the water that I shall give him shall be in him a well of water springing up into everlasting life.

15 The woman saith unto him, Sir, give me this water, that I thirst not, neither come hither to draw.

16 Je'sus saith unto her, Go, call thy husband, and come hither.

17 The woman answered and said, I have no husband. Je'sus said unto her, Thou hast well said, I have no husband :

18 For thou hast had five husbands ; and he whom thou now hast is not thy husband : in that saidst thou truly.

19 The woman saith unto him, Sir, I perceive that thou art a prophet.

20 Our fathers worshipped in this mountain ; and ye say, that in Jeru'salem is the place where men ought to worship.

21 Je'sus saith unto her, Woman, believe me, the hour cometh, when ye shall neither in this mountain, nor yet at Jeru'salem, worship the Father.

22 Ye worship ye know not what : we know what we worship : for salvation is of the Jews.

23 But the hour cometh, and now is, when the true worshippers shall worship the Father in spirit and in truth : for the Father seeketh such to worship him.

24 God is a Spirit : and they that worship him must worship him in spirit and in truth.

25 The woman saith unto him, I know that Messias cometh, which is called Christ : when he is come, he will tell us all things.

26 Je'sus saith unto her, I that speak unto thee am he.

THE LESSON RETOLD

One cool summer morning Jesus and His disciples got up early to go on a long journey.

About noon they reached a city called Sychar. There was a place near there where visitors often went. It was Ja'cob's well.

The sun was now very hot and Jesus was tired with walking and very thirsty, so He sat down on the edge of the well to rest. The disciples said, "We will



go to the town and buy food and come back here for dinner."

When they had gone, a Samaritan woman came with a pitcher for water. Jesus said, "Give Me to drink."

The woman saw that Jesus was a Jew. "Why do you ask me?" she said, "Jews and Samaritans are not good friends." "If you only knew who I am," said Jesus, "you would ask Me for living water." "The well is deep," she answered. "How could you get it, Sir, without a pitcher?"

Then Jesus told her that living water was quite different from any other. "If it will save the trouble of coming here every day," the woman said, "Please give it to me."

Jesus saw that she did not know Him or understand His words. "Go call your hus-

band," he said.

When the woman saw that Jesus knew all about her, she was afraid and began to talk of something else. "I see you are a prophet. Perhaps you could settle which is the right place to worship. The Jews say Jerusalem. We think this mountain." Jesus said, "The time has come when it no longer matters about the place. God is a Spirit and they that worship Him must worship Him in spirit and in truth. He is in every place watching for true worshippers." The woman said, "When Christ comes he will settle everything." Jesus said, "I AM HE."

Then the woman dropped her pitcher and ran to call her friends. "Come," she said, "see a man which told me all things that ever I did. Is not this the Christ?"

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

1. How did Jesus and his disciples get from place to place? Ans.—They walked.
2. Where did the disciples leave Jesus to rest? Ans.—At Jacob's well."
3. Who came for water? Ans.—A Samaritan woman.
4. What did Jesus talk to her about? Ans.—Living water.
5. What did He mean by living water? Ans.—Eternal life.
6. Did the woman know who Jesus was? Ans.—No.
7. What did she ask Him? Ans.—Where was the proper place to worship.
8. What did Jesus tell her? Ans.—That the place didn't matter at all, that a true heart was what God looked for.
9. What is the Golden Text? Ans.—"God is a Spirit, and they that worship Him must worship Him in spirit and in truth."
10. What more did Jesus tell her? Ans.—That He Himself was the Christ.
11. What did she then do? Ans.—She left her pitcher and went away to the city and told everybody that she had seen the Christ, and that He was at the well.

I HAVE LEARNED
TO-DAY THAT

Jesus Alone Can Satisfy

Primary Catechism—73. Which is the third commandment?

The third commandment is, "Thou shalt not take the name of the Lord thy God in vain."

Shorter Catechism—8. How doth God execute his decrees?

A. God executeth his decrees in the works of creation and providence.

9. What is the work of creation?

A. The work of creation is, God's making all things of nothing, by the word of his power, in the space of six days, and all very good.

Lesson Hymn

"Lord, thou hast here Thy ninety and nine;
Are they not enough for Thee?"

But the Shepherd made answer: "This of Mine

Has wandered away from Me;
And, although the road be rough and steep,

I go to the desert to find My sheep."

Amen.

—Hymn 134, Book of Praise.

Lesson VIII.

JESUS REJECTED AT NAZARETH

February 25, 1900

Luke 4 : 16-30—Memory Verses, 17-19

Golden Text—He came unto his own, and his own received him not.—John 1 : 11.

16 And he came to Nazareth, where he had been brought up: and, as his custom was, he went into the synagogue on the sabbath day, and stood up for to read.

17 And there was delivered unto him the book of the prophet E'saias. And when he had opened the book, he found the place where it was written,

18 The Spirit of the Lord is upon me, because he hath anointed me to preach the gospel to the poor; he hath sent me to heal the brokenhearted, to preach deliverance to the captives, and recovering of sight to the blind, to set at liberty them that are bruised,

19 To preach the acceptable year of the Lord.

20 And he closed the book, and he gave it again to the minister, and sat down. And the eyes of all them that were in the synagogue were fastened on him.

21 And he began to say unto them, This day is this scripture fulfilled in your ears.

22 And all bare him witness, and wondered at the gracious words which proceeded out of his mouth. And they said, Is not this Jo'seph's son?

23 And he said unto them, Ye will surely

say unto me this proverb, Physician, heal thyself: whatsoever we have heard done in Caper'naum, do also here in thy country.

24 And he said, Verily I say unto you, No prophet is accepted in his own country.

25 But I tell you of a truth, many widows were in Israel in the days of Eli'as, when the heaven was shut up three years and six months, when great famine was throughout all the land;

26 But unto none of them was Eli'as sent save unto Sarep'ta, a city of Si'don, unto a woman that was a widow.

27 And many lepers were in Is'rael in the time of Elis'eus the prophet; and none of them was cleansed, saving Na'aman the Syr'ian.

28 And all they in the synagogue, when they heard these things, were filled with wrath,

29 And rose up, and thrust him out of the city, and led him unto the brow of the hill whereon their city was built, that they might cast him down headlong.

30 But he passing through the midst of them went his way.

THE LESSON RETOLD

After Jesus had grown to be a man, and had been away a long time from Nazareth, He came back to His old home for a visit. He was very anxious to see Nazareth again.

The first place He went to was the Synagogue, or church, where he had always gone every Sabbath since He was little.

His old neighbors were glad when they saw him come in, because they had heard of the wonderful things He had done in other places and of the great sermons he had preached. So they handed Jesus the Bible and asked Him to read.

While He was finding the place everyone watched to see what He would do.

Jesus opened the Old Testament and read some verses written by Isaiah. They were about the great Savior that should some day come to save His people. When He had finished reading He handed the book to the minister and sat down and began to teach.

How His old friends watched and listened!



Jesus told them that He Himself was that Savior of whom He had just read. Then the people began to whisper, "How can that be? Why, we know all His relations. His mother is Mary; and His sisters, are they not living right here?"

Jesus knew that they did not trust Him. He knew, too, that they were just waiting to see if he would show them a miracle or sign. He said: "The reason I cannot give you a sign is because you do not believe that

I am God." When the people heard this they were so angry that they got up from their seats. They took hold of Jesus roughly. They dragged Him away out of doors to the top of a high hill. It was the same one He had so often climbed when He and these same men were boys together. Now they were going to throw Him over to be crushed to death on the rocks beneath.

But Jesus hid Himself, and though they looked everywhere for Him, He was gone.

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

1. Where did Jesus spend the Sabbath when He came to Nazareth to visit? Ans.—In God's house. 2. What did He do there? Ans.—He read and taught. 3. What did Jesus tell the people? Ans.—That He was the Savior who Isaiah said was to come. 4. Did they believe Him? Ans.—No. 5. How did they want Jesus to prove His words? Ans.—By working a miracle.

6. Why did Jesus not do so? Ans.—Because they did not believe that He was God. 7. Then, how did they try to kill Him? Ans.—By throwing Him down from a high rock. 8. How did Jesus get away? Ans.—He hid Himself. 9. What is the Golden Text? Ans.—"He came unto His own and His own received Him not." 10. Was this no not very sinful and foolish? Ans.—Yes.

The Call

To-day the Saviour calls;
Oh, listen now!
Within these sacred walls
To Jesus bow.

The Spirit calls to-day,
Yield to His power;
Oh, grieve Him not away!
'Tis mercy's hour.

I HAVE LEARNED TO-DAY THAT It is a Great Sin to Reject Jesus

Primary Catechism — 74. What are some of the common ways of taking God's name in vain?

Profane swearing and speaking about God and holy things in a light and thoughtless way.

Shorter Catechism—10. How did God create man?

A. God created man male and female, after his own image, in knowledge, righteousness, and holiness, with dominion over the creatures.

Lesson Hymn

If I ask Him to receive me,
Will He say me nay?
"Not till earth and not till heaven
Pass away!"
Finding, following, keeping, struggling,
Is He sure to bless?
"Angels, martyrs, saints and prophets,
Answer, Yes!"
Amen.

—Hymn 132, Book of Praise.

Lesson IX.

JESUS HEALING IN CAPERNAUM

March 4, 1900

Mark 1 : 21-34—Memory Verses, 32-34

Golden Text—And he healed many that were sick.—Mark 1 : 34.

21 And they went into Caper'naum; and straightway on the sabbath day he entered into the synagogue, and taught.

22 And they were astonished at his doctrine: for he taught them as one that had authority, and not as the scribes.

23 And there was in their synagogue a man with an unclean spirit; and he cried out,

24 Saying, Let us alone; what have we to do with thee, thou Je'sus of Naz'areth? art thou come to destroy us? I know thee who thou art, the Holy One of God.

25 And Je'sus rebuked him, saying, Hold thy peace, and come out of him.

26 And when the unclean spirit had torn him, and cried with a loud voice, he came out of him.

27 And they were all amazed, insomuch that they questioned among themselves, saying, What thing is this? what new doctrine is this? for with authority commandeth

he even the unclean spirits, and they do obey him.

28 And immediately his fame spread abroad throughout all the region round about Gal'ilee.

29 And forthwith, when they were come out of the synagogue, they entered into the house of Si'mon and An'drew, with James and John.

30 But Si'mon's wife's mother lay sick of a fever, and anon they tell him of her.

31 And he came and took her by the hand, and lifted her up; and immediately the fever left her, and she ministered unto them.

32 And at even, when the sun did set, they brought unto him all that were diseased, and them that were possessed of devils.

33 And all the city was gathered together at the door.

34 And he healed many that were sick of divers diseases, and cast out many devils; and suffered not the devils to speak, because they knew him.

THE LESSON RETOLD

When Jesus had been turned away from His old home He went to stay for some time at Capernaum, on the edge of the sea of Galilee. It was not far away.



The first Sabbath Jesus was teaching in the synagogue, when a man with a terrible sickness came in. The poor fellow had an unclean spirit. None of the doctors could help him.

As soon as the evil spirit saw Jesus it began shouting and making a great noise. Jesus stopped preaching; and turning to the evil spirit, said quietly, "Come out of him." Then the unclean spirit obeyed and came out in a rage, leaving the man bruised and bleeding, but quite cured.

Then all the people began to say, "Who can this man Jesus be to do such things? We never saw the like of this before." And they ran to tell what they had seen.

After church Jesus went home to dinner with His friends, Simon and Andrew. As soon as He was in the house they told Jesus about Simon's mother-in-law, who was very ill with fever. Jesus went right to her and took her hand, and lifted her up. At once she was so well that she waited on the

company at table.

Soon everybody in Capernaum had heard where Jesus was staying, and that evening at sundown such a crowd as gathered at Simon's house! There were the blind and lame and people with crooked bodies. The deaf and dumb came, and many who had

evil spirits. Everyone in the city had brought some sick friend to be cured.

Then Jesus went out among the crowd and touched all those who were sick, and scattered the evil spirits, and sent everyone home well and strong and happy. Jesus always delights to make people happy.

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

1. After leaving Nazareth where did Jesus go? Ans.—To Capernaum. 2. What happened when He was preaching in the synagogue? Ans.—A man with an unclean spirit came in. 3. What did the unclean spirit begin to do? Ans.—To shout and cry out. 4. What did Jesus do? Ans.—He told it to come out of the man. 5. Did it obey Him? Ans.—Yes, at once. 6. How did all the people feel? Ans.—Very much surprised. 7. Why were they surprised? Ans.—Because it was thought that no one could cure this sickness. 8. Where did Jesus go after

church? Ans.—To Simon's house. 9. Who was very ill there? Ans.—Simon's wife's mother. 10. Did Jesus cure her? Ans.—Yes. 11. Did Jesus do anything more that day? Ans.—He cured many other sick people. 12. How did they hear of Him? Ans.—Those who had seen Him at the synagogue ran and told others. 13. Where did they all come at sun-down? Ans.—To Simon's house. 14. Whom did they bring with them? Ans.—All their sick friends. 15. What did Jesus do for them? Ans.—He cured them all.

An Evil Temper

Eddy had been very angry with his sister Susie. "Once upon a time," said his mother, "there was a man that had a wild beast in a cage. It was very fierce, and every time it got angry, it sprang out of the cage and bit people."

"Bad man, bad man," said Eddy; "Wasn't there any door to the cage?"

"Yes," said his mother, "There were two strong doors. And my little boy has a

wild beast in a cage, and just now it got out and hurt Susie; here it is;" and she opened his mouth and touched Eddy's red tongue.

"Where is the cage?" asked Eddy.

"Your mouth, little man!"

"Where are the doors?"

"Your white teeth and your red lips, and God will help you, if you ask Him, to 'keep the door of your lips.'" Eddie learned by and by to be a good doorkeeper.

I HAVE LEARNED
TO-DAY THAT

Jesus is the Great Healer

Primary Catechism—75. Which is the fourth commandment?

The fourth commandment is, "Remember the Sabbath day to keep it holy."

Shorter Catechism—11. What are God's works of providence?

A. God's works of providence are, his most holy, wise, and powerful preserving and governing all his creatures, and all their actions.

Lesson Hymn

And, lo! Thy touch brought life and health
Gave speech and strength and sight;
And youth renewed and frenzy calmed
Owned Thee, the Lord of light.
And now, O Lord, be near to bless
Almighty as of yore,
In crowded street, by restless couch,
As by Gennesaret's shore

Amen.

—Hymn 38, Book of Praise.

Lesson X.

THE PARALYTIC HEALED

March 11, 1900

Mark 2 : 1-12—Memory Verses, 9-12

Golden Text—The Son of man hath power on earth to forgive sins.—Mark 2 : 10.

1 And again he entered into Caper'naum, after *some* days ; and it was noised that he was in the house.

2 And straightway many were gathered together, insomuch that there was no room to receive *them*, no, not so much as about the door : and he preached the word unto them.

3 And they come unto him, bringing one sick of the palsy, which was borne of four.

4 And when they could not come nigh unto him for the press, they uncovered the roof where he was : and when they had broken *it* up, they let down the bed wherein the sick of the palsy lay.

5 When Je'sus saw their faith, he said unto the sick of the palsy, Son, thy sins be forgiven thee.

6 But there were certain of the scribes sitting there, and reasoning in their hearts,

7 Why doth this *man* thus speak blasphemies ? who can forgive sins but God only ?

8 And immediately when Je'sus perceived in his spirit that the^r so reasoned within themselves, he said unto them, Why reason ye these things in your hearts ?

9 Whether is it easier to say to the sick of the palsy, *Thy* sins be forgiven thee ; or to say, Arise, and take up thy bed, and walk ?

10 But that ye may know that the Son of man hath power on earth to forgive sins, (he saith to the sick of the palsy,)

11 I say unto thee, Arise, and take up thy bed, and go thy way into thine house.

12 And immediately he arose, took up the bed, and went forth before them all ; insomuch that they were all amazed, and glorified God, saying, We never saw it on this fashion.

THE LESSON RETOLD

The next winter Jesus came back again to Capernaum, and when the crowds knew of it, they came flocking to Simon's house to hear Him.

There was a poor sick man in Capernaum. He was paralyzed, and could move neither his arms nor his legs. He lay all day on a

mattress and had to be carried from one place to another.

He felt sure that Jesus could cure him ; so he begged four of his friends to carry him quickly to Simon's house. But they were too late. The doorways were blocked and they could not get even within sight of Jesus.

The sick man was terribly disappointed. Then he thought of a plan. He said, "Let me down through the roof." So the four friends tied a long rope to each corner of his mattress, and then they carried him up an outside stair-case to the top of the house. They soon made a big hole in the tiles. Thus they let their sick friend down through the opening to where Jesus stood.

How the people wondered at the queer sight !

But Jesus was pleased to see how much the sick man trusted Him and said, "Son, thy sins be forgiven thee."

There were some proud scribes in the room watching everything. They wanted to catch Jesus making a mistake. They whispered angrily together because Jesus had said He could forgive sins. Jesus said, "I will show you that I have



power to forgive sins"; and He said to the sick man, "Arise, and take up thy bed and walk." Then the man got up, put his mattress on his shoulder and walked out through the crowd to his home strong and well. Everybody wondered at the sight and gave praise to God. It had been a very strange time. God seemed to be near.

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

1. To what city did Jesus now come back. Ans.—To Capernaum, "his own city." 2. Who wanted to see Him as soon as He came back? Ans.—A man who was paralyzed. 3. What did the man do? Ans.—He got four friends to carry him to Simon's house 4. Could they get in? Ans.—No, it was too much crowded. 5. Did they go away then? Ans.—No. They carried the man up to the roof and let him down to where Jesus stood? 6. Was Jesus displeased to be interrupted? Ans.—No. 7. What did He say? Ans.—"Son, thy sins be forgiven thee." 8. Who thought that Jesus could not forgive sins? Ans.—The scribes. 9. How did Jesus prove that He could? Ans.—By telling the man to take up his bed and walk. 10. What did all the people think? Ans.—They were much surprised and praised God. What is the Golden Text?

Bobby's Friend and Bobby's Faith

A little street boy in London had both his legs broken by a dray and was taken to the hospital to die.

Beside him lay another little sufferer of his own age, who said, "Bobby, did you ever hear of Jesus?" "No, I never did." "Bobby, my teacher in the mission school told us that Jesus would take us to heaven when we died and we'd never be hungry any more, or have pain any more, if we asked Him."

"But how can I ask Him, if I don't know

where he is?" "Bobby, teacher says He goes round. Perhaps He'll come to this hospital to-night." "But I can't keep my eyes open; my legs is so bad." "Bobby, hold up your hand and He'll know what you want."

They got his hand up. It dropped with weakness. Bursting into tears he said, "I give it up." And then his little friend took his own pillow and propped up Bobby's hand and there it lay till he died. Bobby did not know much, but he had much faith.

I HAVE LEARNED
TO-DAY THAT

Jesus Forgives Sins

Primary Catechism—76. Which day of the week is our Sabbath?

The first day of the week is our Sabbath.

77. Why is our Sabbath called the Lord's Day?

Because on that day Jesus Christ rose from the dead.

Shorter Catechism—12. What special act of providence did God exercise toward man in the estate wherein he was created?

A. When God had created man, he entered into a covenant of life with him, upon condition of perfect obedience; forbidding him to eat of the tree of knowledge of good and evil, upon the pain of death.

Lesson Hymn

There is welcome for the sinner,
And more graces for the good;
There is mercy with the Savior;
There is healing in His blood.

If our love were but more simple,
We should take Him at His word,
And our lives would be all sunshine
In the sweetness of our Lord.

Amen.

—Hymn 131, Book of Praise.

Lesson XI.

JESUS AT MATTHEW'S HOUSE

March 18, 1900

Mark 2 : 13-22—Memory Verses, 15-17

Golden Text—He said unto him, Follow me.—Luke 5 : 27

13 And he went forth again by the sea side ; and all the multitude resorted unto him, and he taught them.

14 And as he passed by, he saw Le'vi the son of Alpha'e'us sitting at the receipt of custom, and said unto him, Follow me. And he arose and followed him.

15 And it came to pass, that, as Je'sus sat at meat in his house, many publicans and sinners sat also together with Je'sus and his disciples : for there were many, and they followed him.

16 And when the scribes and Phar'isees saw him eat with publicans and sinners, they said unto his disciples, How is it that he eateth and drinketh with publicans and sinners ?

17 When Je'sus heard it, he saith unto them, They that are whole have no need of the physician, but they that are sick : I came not to call the righteous, but sinners to repentance.

18 And the disciples of John and of the Pharisees used to fast : and they come and say unto him, Why do the disciples of John and of the Phar'isees fast, but thy disciples fast not ?

19 And Je'sus said unto them, Can the children of the bridechamber fast, while the bridegroom is with them ? as long as they have the bridegroom with them, they cannot fast.

20 But the days will come, when the bridegroom shall be taken away from them, and then shall they fast in those days.

21 No man also seweth a piece of new cloth on an old garment : else the new piece that filled it up taketh away from the old, and the rent is made worse.

22 And no man putteth new wine into old bottles : else the new wine doth burst the bottles, and the wine is spilled, and the bottles will be marred : but new wine must be put into new bottles.

THE LESSON RETOLD

Simon's house was quite too small to hold all the people who wanted to see and hear Jesus. So He went and taught by the sea-side, where there was plenty of room.

On His way back to the city He saw the

streets crowded with people, for Capernaum was a great place for shipping and all kinds of buying and selling.

At one street corner Jesus saw a man sitting in a little office with great piles of money before him. His name was Levi or Matthew. Every person who passed through the office was paying taxes.

Now the Jews hated the tax collectors, or publicans, as they were called, for they were often greedy and cruel.

Jesus spoke to the man at the desk, whose name was Matthew, and said, "follow Me."

Then Matthew left his work at once and walked away with Jesus and became one of His disciples.

Matthew had a great many friends in Capernaum who were in the same business as himself and he invited them all to a great farewell dinner at his house to meet his new Master.

But the proud scribes and Pharisees were very much shocked that Jesus would be seen eating with publicans and sinners.



Then Jesus said, "It is those who are sick that need a doctor. It is the sinners I came to save, not those who think they are good."

There were some, too, who thought it was not quite right to eat and drink and to enjoy oneself. They said to Jesus, "Why don't your disciples fast?"

Jesus said, "They cannot fast while the bridegroom is with them." He meant that where He was everyone had a right to be happy and glad.

Though so many were finding fault with Him, Jesus showed them kindly and gently

that His teaching was altogether different from that of the scribes and Pharisees. These people pretended to serve God; but instead of showing their love by being kind and helpful, they made hard rules for others to keep which they broke themselves.

Jesus said, that to expect to please God in this way was just as foolish as to patch an old worn-out coat with strong new cloth—the hole only gets larger. It is like putting fresh wine into dried-up wine-skins—they will burst some day and the wine will be lost. One must serve God with a new heart.

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

1. Why did Jesus preach by the wayside? Ans.—Because there was room there for the crowds to hear Him.
2. What kind of a place was Capernaum? Ans.—A busy city.
3. What was Matthew doing when Jesus called him. Ans.—Gathering taxmoney.
4. What did Jesus say? Ans.—Follow me.
5. Did Matthew obey? Ans.—Yes, at once.
6. What did he do before leaving his old friends? Ans.—He invited them to meet Jesus at dinner.
7. Who were angry at Jesus for going? Ans.—The scribes and Pharisees.
8. What did Jesus say? Ans.—That He came to save sinners.
9. Did the

- Pharisees think they themselves were sinners? Ans.—No.
10. Why? Ans.—Because they kept certain rules.
11. What was one of these rules? Ans.—That they should fast very often.
12. Did the disciples of Jesus fast? Ans.—No.
13. Why? Ans.—Because when Jesus was with them they were so happy.
14. What did Jesus say about the rules of the Pharisees? Ans.—That they were like an old, worn-out coat, or an old wine-skin. They were no use and wouldn't do for His disciples.
15. What is the Golden Text? Ans.—"He said unto him, Follow Me."

"Follow Me"

If I come to Jesus,
He will make me glad;
He will give me pleasure,
When my heart is sad.

If I come to Jesus,
He will take my hand,
He will kindly lead me
To a better land.

I HAVE LEARNED TO-DAY THAT I Should Come when Jesus Calls

Primary Catechism—78. How should we spend the Lord's Day?

We should spend the Lord's Day in rest, in worship, and in doing good.

Shorter Catechism—13. Did our first parents continue in the estate wherein they were created?

A. Our first parents, being left to the freedom of their own will, fell from the estate wherein they were created, by sinning against God.

Lesson Hymn

"Follow me," the Master said:

We will follow Jesus;

By His word and Spirit led,

We will follow Jesus;

Still for us He lives to plead,

At the throne doth intercede,

Offers help in time of need;

We will follow Jesus.

Amen.

—Hymn 534, Book of Praise.

Lesson XII.

REVIEW—First Quarter

March 25, 1900

Golden Text—The Son of man came not to be ministered unto, but to minister.—Mark 10 : 45.



Primary Catechism—Review questions 65-78.

Shorter Catechism—14. *What is sin?*
A. Sin is any want of conformity unto, or transgression of, the law of God.

Lesson Hymn

Rest of the weary,
Joy of the sad,
Hope of the dreary,
Light of the glad,
Home of the stranger,
Strength to the end,
Refuge from danger,
Savior and Friend.

Ever confessing,
Thee, I will raise
Unto Thee blessing,
Glory and praise ;
All my endeavor,
World without end,
Thine to be ever,
Savior and Friend.

Amen.

—Hymn 95, Book of Praise.

Lesson Title**Golden Text**

LESSON I.	The Birth of Jesus.	Thou shalt call his name Jesus : for he shall save his people from their sins.—Matt. 1 : 21.
LESSON II.	The Child Jesus visits Jerusalem.	And Jesus increased in wisdom and stature, and in favor with God and man.—Luke 2 : 52.
LESSON III.	The Preaching of John the Baptist.	Prepare ye the way of the Lord.—Luke 3 : 4.
LESSON IV.	The Baptism and Temptation of Jesus.	This is my beloved Son, in whom I am well pleased.—Matt. 3 : 17.
LESSON V.	The first Disciples of Jesus.	They followed Jesus.—John 1 : 37.
LESSON VI.	Jesus and Nicodemus.	For 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 3 : 16.
LESSON VII.	Jesus at Jacob's well.	God is a Spirit ; and they that worship him must worship him in spirit and in truth.—John 4 : 24.
LESSON VIII.	Jesus rejected at Nazareth.	He came unto his own, and his own received him not.—John 1 : 11.
LESSON IX.	Jesus healing in Capernaum.	And he healed many that were sick.—Mark 1 : 34.
LESSON X.	The Paralytic healed.	The Son of Man hath power on earth to forgive sins.—Mark 2 : 10.
LESSON XI.	Jesus at Matthew's house.	He said unto him, Follow me.—Luke 5 : 27.
LESSON XII.	Review.	The Son of man came not to be ministered unto, but to minister.—Mark 10 : 45.

FOR WRITTEN ANSWERS

Write in the spaces below (or get some one to do so for you) some one thing that you have learned from each lesson.

LESSON I. The Birth of Jesus.

LESSON VI. Jesus and Nicodemus.

LESSON II. The Child Jesus Visits Jerusalem.

LESSON VII. Jesus at Jacob's Well.

LESSON III. The Preaching of John the Baptist.

LESSON VIII. Jesus Rejected at Nazareth.

LESSON IV. The Baptism and Temptation of Jesus.

LESSON IX. Jesus Healing in Capernaum.

LESSON V. The First Disciples of Jesus.

LESSON X. The Paralytic Healed.

LESSON XI. Jesus at Matthew's House.

Mrs. Redman

AN ORDER OF SERVICE, PRIMARY CLASSES

First Quarter, 1900

I. TEACHER—The Lord is in His holy temple.

CLASS—Let all the earth keep silence before Him.

II. SILENT PRAYER, followed by The Lord's Prayer.

III. OPENING HYMN.

IV. COLLECTION.

V. BIRTHDAY OFFERING AND PRAYER. This prayer should be more especially for missions. If no offering is presented, still have the prayer.

VI. GESTURE HYMN.

VII. SUPPLEMENTAL LESSON. Recite Golden Texts for the Quarter, as far as learned.

TEACHER—What did Jesus say about little children?

CLASS—Suffer the little children to come unto me, and forbid them not; for of such is the kingdom of heaven.

TEACHER—Let us hear what message Jesus has for us to-day.

VIII. THE LESSON for the day, with Golden Text, Lesson Hymn and Catechism.

IX. PRAYER. In simple words and short clauses by the teacher, the children repeating.

X. SING LESSON HYMN for the Quarter, 525, Book of Praise—

I want to be like Jesus,
Engaged in doing good,
So that of me it may be said:
"She hath done what she could."

XI. IN CONCERT. The Lord shall preserve thy going out and coming in from this time forth, and even for evermore.

XII. DISMISSAL.

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Vol. V. No. 1

Jan.-March, 1900

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* THE *

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The Primary Quarterly

Vol. V.

JANUARY, FEBRUARY, MARCH, 1900

No. 1

AN infant in its cradle slept,
And in its sleep it smiled—
And one by one three women
knelt

To kiss the fair-haired child ;
And each thought of the days to be
And breathed a prayer, half-silently.

One poured her love on many lives,
But knew love's toil and care ;
Its burdens oft had been to her
A heavy weight to bear ;
She stooped and murmured lovingly,
"Not burdened hands, dear child, for
thee."

One had not known the burdened hands,
But knew the empty heart ;
At life's banquet she had set
An unfed guest apart ;
"Oh, not," she whispered tenderly,
"An empty heart, dear child, for thee."

And one was old ; she had known care,
She had known loneliness ;
She knew God leads us by no path
His presence cannot bless ;
She smiled, and murmured trustfully,
"God's will, dear child, God's will for
thee !"
—Kate Tucker Goode, in the *Alkahest*

A great many of our children will have *JEWELS* this year, our new paper for the very little ones. Many schools have ordered it and many more will order. We should like to have *JEWELS* in the hands of every infant-class scholar. If your school has not ordered we shall be glad to send a sample copy to any address. A minister in Nova Scotia writes that he and his elders are making a house-to-house canvass of the congregation for *JEWELS* and *THE KING'S OWN*.

A Happy New Year !

So says the Editor of *THE PRIMARY QUARTERLY* to all the little people. It has given him great delight to speak to so many of you during the year that is ended now, and he hopes that you have thoroughly enjoyed the lessons. You have all grown a good deal since last New Year. You were five years old then and you are six years old now ; or perhaps you were six years old then and you are seven years old now. At any rate, you are growing big very fast and he cannot hope to talk to you through *THE PRIMARY QUARTERLY* very much longer. You will soon get too old for it.

This year we are to have a delightful time. The lessons begin with the little baby Jesus and the song of the angels, and every Sabbath we shall have something new about Him, how He grew to be a boy, and then a man, and what wonderful things He said and did. To study about Jesus is like having a very dear friend come to visit you. The day seems brighter because you know he is coming. It makes the year 1900 very bright to know that every Sabbath we shall have a visit from our dear Savior and Friend. May it be a very Happy New Year to you all ! The happiest thing will be to have the love of this Savior and Friend in your heart and always try to do what He wants you to do. It will make every morning like the ringing silver bells and every evening like a sweet song.

THE CENTURY FUND wants to know what the children are going to do for it this year of 1900. Of course there will be Children's Day. That will be in September. But Children's Day is only one day in the year, and the Fund does not want you to forget about

it all the rest of the time, and remember it only on Children's Day. Would it not be a nice thing to keep saving up pennies, so that when Children's Day comes, you may be able to put into the plate a good big gift? The children last November did very nobly. Their pennies were like the snowflakes which make the great drifts. But by laying up you could do better still; and besides, you would be thinking about it all the time, and asking questions about the Church and about the wonderful things God has done for us in the hundred years that are just ending. How little Canada was and how little our Church was a hundred years ago, and how great they are now! Think of how your fathers and grandfathers suffered and toiled when they first came into the country and how unselfish they were, building churches and sending missionaries to those who were poorer than themselves, so that now there is scarcely a place in Canada where there is not a church or minister within reach, and our Church has grown so large that we have our missionaries in many parts of the world.

Any reader of the PRIMARY QUARTERLY or any Sabbath School desirous of having pretty little mite boxes for the Century Fund sent will please address Rev. W. G. Wallace, 15 Madison Avenue, Toronto. Mr. Wallace is the secretary of the Century Fund Committee.

A good many teachers have been asking for questions from the Shorter Catechism as well as from the Primary Catechism in THE PRIMARY QUARTERLY and LEAFLETS. AS OUR readers will notice, we are meeting this desire and will give both Catechisms in each lesson. The order of the questions in the Shorter Catechism is the same followed by the older scholars so that, where the Primary Helps are used, as they sometimes are, by classes who have lately been transferred from the infant-class room to the main school, they will find in them all that they require. The Primary Catechism forms a good preparation. It runs on the same lines as the older book, and the questions are so arranged that it is gone over in two years.

We draw special attention to the pictures by which the lessons in THE PRIMARY QUARTERLY and LEAFLETS are illustrated. Nothing of the same excellence has been hitherto reached in any Canadian publication, and indeed there are only one or two publications elsewhere which attempt the same standard.

Which First?

This is a question which cannot be answered by the minister or the Sabbath-school teacher, but by the parents alone. It is the question as to which service the little children shall attend who are too young to go to both church and Sabbath school in the same day.

The usual answer is the Sabbath-school; for is it not specially intended for the children, and will the children not learn more there than in the church?

The question is important, because early habits are so strong. And the earliest habits are the strongest. Here is the problem, especially in the case of the boy. There comes a time when he has outgrown, or thinks he has outgrown, the Sabbath-school. What then? If he has not the church-going habit, away he drifts, and once caught in the stream of the churchless, how rarely is he brought in again?

Evidently love for the public services of the congregation cannot be implanted too early. When a child is taken regularly to church from three or four years of age, he gets the habit so firmly implanted in him as to become part of his very fibre. It is practically ineradicable. If he does not begin till he is nine or ten, he runs a serious risk of never really forming the church-going habit, although brought up in a Christian home.

"But what can these mites understand?" some one asks. Who shall say? "I must keep very still to-day, mother," whispered a little tot, scarce six years old, to her mother the other Sabbath, as she sat beside her in the pew, "for it's communion."

To the little one sitting with the older brothers and sisters and father and mother in the quiet and stillness of the house of God, the great congregation, the songs, the rev-

erent bowing of the heads in prayer, the big book, the minister, as he reads or prays or preaches, the gathering of the offerings, all these are most impressive. The habit of reverence is insensibly formed, and if the minister loves little children, there's many a tender bit will go to them while he is feeding the flock from the Word.

It is ideal, where the Sabbath-school and public worship follow one another and old and young alike can attend both. But where they are held at different times of the day, the question is worth thinking out, as to whether the wee ones of the house shall be robbed of their privilege of attending church for the sake of the Sabbath-school. The Sabbath-school certainly has nothing to gain by it. When the children grow old enough for both, they will be all the readier to benefit by the school because they have already learned so much in the church.

Truth Telling

Mrs. S. M. J. Henry

To assume that a child has told a lie is to take the first step toward making him a liar; and, to make him afraid of the consequences of having the truth known, is to finish the work. Sometimes a mother who would be horrified at the thought of what she is doing, will lead the children in an effort to conceal facts which would bring upon them the displeasure of the father if he knew them, and then unhesitatingly punish the same children for some other act of deception, with which she happens to have no part; and, by and by, will break her heart over the fact that she cannot depend upon their word.

To educate the child in truthfulness, he must be considered and taught, as an imaginative being, as well as one with the power of knowing ordinary facts. The world of his imagination is just as real to him as the world of material things; and the lights which play upon it may color everything he sees, hears and handles. Paul recognized this reality of the inner sight when he said, "While we look not at the things which are seen, but at the things which are not seen."

2 Cor. 4:18. This ability to behold the unseen is very quick in childhood; for "Heaven lies about us in our infancy."

"What have you been doing all the morning? Where have you been to get so muddy?" asked a mother of a boy of seven who had just run in for something. "And what are you getting out of the closet? And where are you going now?"

"I've been hunting an elephant in a frog pond, and I've got him, too; and I've got to have a strong rope to chain him up with, for he's awful big and strong." And the boy was off, wrapping a piece of cord which he had found, hastily about his hand.

"I declare," said the mother, "I don't know what to do with that child. I am worried to death. Of course I know that this is all play; but sometimes I don't know his play from the real. I am afraid he don't know what truth is."

"You mean you are afraid that he does not know what you mean by truth?"

"I suppose that is it, but truth is truth, you know."

"Yes; truth is truth, but it is very unfortunate that her name has been dragged down to the level of this world of opinions which change as often as the colors and shapes of the kaleidoscope, and, that because a statement does not happen to seem correct to you it is at once branded as untrue, and the one who made it as a liar. Now that child has just as good a right to call that creature of his imagination—maybe a stick, or some other boy—an elephant as the one who first invented the name had to apply it as he did. He was to succeed Adam in dominion, you know."

"Oh, I understand that; of course everybody would know that he is at play now; but just listen to this: he came in yesterday and told me, just as honestly as anyone could have done, that Mrs. Grey was going to have company, and wanted me to let her have a cake, for she was sick and could not bake one. I suspected him at once. I think I always do these days; and yet it did seem that he must be telling the truth from the way he looked, and I said: 'Are you sure,

Willie, that Mrs. Grey really sent you to ask me for the cake?' and he looked me right in the eye and said: 'Yes, mama, and she wants your cake basket, too.' 'Now, I am sure you are lying,' I said, 'for she would not want that with all her lovely silver and china.' 'But she does, mama,' he persisted, 'for her things all got broke when she went away and left Tige to keep house.' Then I was in despair; such a jumble of things which might possibly have happened, with others which were impossible, I believe nobody but Willie could put together. Tige is a dog of course, you understand, and is never allowed in the house. A few evenings before, as Mrs. Grey and I, with several others, including Willie and the Grey children, were talking and laughing about something which had happened, Mrs. Grey, who is a perfect home-hermit, said in a jocose way, 'When I go away for a week I shall leave Tige to keep house. That meant she would never go; and you see Will caught up that remark and used it to give himself away with.'

"But fearing that Mrs. Grey might really have wanted something, I ran over to see her about it, and found that my boy had made the whole thing out of whole cloth. I am getting so that I never know what to do when he speaks. I am almost afraid he is lying every time."

"Have you tried to find what was at the bottom of this one instance of untruth?"

"No; I just gave it up. It was so flagrant I didn't have the strength even to slap him."

"I wish you would please call him in and get him to talk that over with us. You begin it in a tender, sympathetic way, and let us see what comes of it."

"I don't feel very tender and sympathetic when I think about it, but I will try, if you think any good will come of it."

"No harm can come of it, and we may get some light for you."

"Well, light is what I want, that is sure."

After a moment of silence, in which she was evidently trying to bring herself into a proper temper, this mother arose, and going

to the door, called the child, who came quickly bounding in; a bright, beautiful boy. He and I were good friends, so that I had only to hold out my hand to have him come within my arm-clasp, where he stood playing with my watch-guard and waiting to see what it all meant.

"Oh, Willie," began his mother, bravely, "what about that cake for Mrs. Grey's company? What company is she going to have and when is it to be?"

"Oh, can we have it, mama?" and how his eyes sparkled. "'Cause, if we can, I must go and build up the house quick, where Tige broke it down, you know, and I must run and tell her, for I am her company, you see."

"Oh!"

That was all the mother could say for at least a minute. Light had broken in. But at last she asked, almost indignantly,

"Willie, why could you not have told me that you were playing and that Mrs. Grey was Nellie?"

"'Cause I wasn't playing, mama. It was 'honest Injun,' and she is just Mrs. Grey. Nellie is gone."

"Gone! Where?"

"Oh, to Europe, I guess; where children is before they's born."

"Oh! and who are you?"

"I am Mr. Grey."

"Indeed! I thought you were company?"

"Yes, am Mrs. Grey's company, and my train is awful slow. Toot! toot! toot! Say mama, can't I have some of that chocolate cake?"

"Yes, dear." Just as soon as she could control her tones: "Mama will put you up a nice dinner to take to Mrs. Grey. So you are a travelling man and just getting home, are you? Mama is very glad that she understands you at last."

"The child, in his eagerness, had slipped out to the commissary department, and the mother said, huskily, "Just to think that I accused him of lying! But he seems to have forgotten it."

"Ask him, please, my dear, if he has. See what he thought about that."

"I'll ask his pardon," she replied.

"So she called him back, saying, "Come here to mama, dear," and she drew him closely to her. "When you told me about Mrs. Grey yesterday I could not understand you, Willie, and I told you that you were lying. I am very sorry."

The child turned his face up and looked at her. Her eyes were full of tears. He did not like tears. The tone which she had used as well as the words were very perplexing, so he began to wriggle out of her arms.

"What does lying mean?" I ventured to ask.

"Oh, that mama has a headache, I guess."

"And what is a headache?"

"Oh, I don't know; just some nasty old thing that makes folks not want to do things."

Then we laughed, while the tears fell over our cheeks. Will looked from one to the other for a perplexed moment or two, and then with a loud "toot! toot!" called out in his biggest voice, "Chi-ca-go, Un-ion De-pot!" Need I add that a few minutes later the little man was on his way "home" to repair the ruin which Tige had wrought by his house-keeping, happy with the cake-basket well filled for "Mrs. Grey;" while the mother, for the first time in her life, began to see that child-study was a necessary preliminary to child-culture. Such simple little things to signify so much; but since they do signify, how important to comprehend!

The next thing in this case was to teach the child the necessity of so stating facts and fancies that he could be understood by older people.

"You see, Willie," the lesson ran, "when you said Mrs. Grey, mama, of course, thought you meant the real one, who is always Mrs. Grey; and mama knew that Mrs. Grey never allowed Tige in the house, that she would never leave him to keep house, and so mama thought that it was all something that never happened, and that you were telling a naughty story—a lie about the cake and all, and it made mama feel very discouraged. If you had just told her at

first that you were playing that Nellie was Mrs. Grey."

"But, mama," broke in the child, with a plaintive persistence in his tone, "we was not playing *that* time; sometimes we is, but we said first thing that this was all *truly*, and not play. She *was* Mrs. Grey and I *was* Mr. Grey for sure."

"Well, you see you will be obliged to say it so that others will understand you, if you expect to be heard and get what you want, for when it comes to truly, *truly* you are *not* Mr. Grey, and Nellie is *not* Mrs. Grey. Now, try and see if you can't fix that some way, so that it will be all straight as you mean it, and so that mama can know what you mean."

The child thought a moment, and then said: "I can't fix it, anyhow. That's the way 'tis, just Mrs. Grey."

"Well, all right; let it go until you really want something."

It was not long; for the two children were very busy in their play world. Soon Willie came rushing in to his mother, calling in great eagerness: "Doctor! doctor! you must come quick. Mrs. Grey has broken her arm."

This appeal brought no reply, and he repeated it, pulling at his mother's hand.

"What are you doing, Willie?" she asked, at last; "there is no doctor here, and Dr. Smith is always called to the Greys."

"O, I forgot. It is *my* little Mrs. Grey, mama, and you is the doctor. I's playing *truly*. Now, do you understand me, mama?"

"Yes, dear, you have done bravely. Now what would you like?"

"You to come, for she's truly hurted. She fell off the top of our house—I *mean*, she hit her toe and fell down—the truly top is the sky, I guess."

This little story is sufficient to indicate the beginnings of instruction by which a child may be taught to discriminate between the literal and the symbolic in speech; a lesson which cannot be too early taught, especially to a child who has a quick imagination, and is full of "play."

—Studies in Home and Child Life.

The Legend of St. George

By Margaret J. Preston

'Twas many and many an age ago—
Who readeth should understand—
That the tale I tell, they say, befell
Afar in an Eastern land.

In the pagan times of old it happed,
When saintly martyrs died
By flood and flame for the holy name
Of Him who was crucified.

In the oozy depths of a slimy marsh,
Unfathomed and foul and deep,
A dragon whose food was human blood
His fearful lair did keep.

With terror the frightened folk had fled
For fear of his blasting breath,
Yet day by day they sickened away
In an atmosphere of death.

And day by day he came not nigh
To poison the city's air,
The lot they drew, and two by two
They gave up their children fair

Wherewith to feed the monster grim,
Till heartened hope did fail,
Till everywhere there was wild despair,
And the streets were filled with wail.

At length, on the king's one daughter dear
The terrible lot did fall,
And he offered gold and treasures untold.
Rank, glory and honors—all—

To buy her life ; but they said him : "Nay,
Through thy command alone
Each day a twain of *ours* are slain,
And darest thou grudge thine *own* ?"

Then the princess fell at the royal feet
Like a hunted and wet-winged dove ;
"My father, shall I forbear to die
For the sake of the land I love ?"

So, all in her richest robes bedight,
'Mid the sobs of women and men,

With a bosom that shook, her course she
took
To the horrible dragon's den.

As, weeping her piteous doom, she neared,
It chanced that a Christian knight
Did fare that way on steed of gray,
And he paused at the rueful sight ;

"Oh ! sorrowful maiden, whence thy tears
And witherward dost thou go ?"
And, all dismayed, his steps she stayed
With the story of her woe.

"God see and save," now cried the knight,
"While I thy helper be !
For the name of Christ hath ever sufficed
To bid all evil flee."

To the dragon's lair forthwith he spurred,
And therein the monster found,
And with sudden advance he plunged his
lance,
And fastened him to the ground.

"Bring hither thy girdle, O princess fair,
To bind, withal, his strength ;"
And the maiden she brought it, golden-
wrought ;
And knotting its sleaven length.

Therewith he circled its steely scales,
And in her quivering hand
He laid the noose, soft-drawn and loose :
Then he gave her a quick command

To utter the sacred name of Christ—
And she spake it in faith and grief ;
And forever away did flee that day
Her heathenish unbelief.

Then slowly she to the city gates
The slimy horror drew,
And the king and his men took heart again,
And the dragon there they slew.

Henceforward the name that the good St.
George

Thus taught them to adore,
Through all their days, with heartiest praise,
They worshipped forever more.

—The Children's Friend.

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ADDRESS

REV. R. DOUGLAS FRASER,
CONFEDERATION LIFE BUILDING
TORONTO

A Look Ahead

"Studies in the Life of Jesus" is the attractive title of the Lesson Scheme for 1900. We shall spend the whole year and the first six months of the year following with our Lord, as He lived among men and as He died on the cross and rose again, to go up once more into His Father's presence. What better way to end the old century and to begin the new than in tracing the footsteps of the man of Nazareth?

It is a rare opportunity for parents and for the teachers of the little ones. Eighteen months with Jesus, the babe, the boy, the man, the teacher, the preacher, the worker of miracles, the man whose life was without spot, and whose words were words of tenderest love. With Jesus, the sufferer, too; for we shall follow Him to Calvary, and we shall catch our last glimpse of Him as He ascends in a bright cloud to heaven.

There is no fairy tale that is more enticing than this very story of Jesus the Christ, and little children's memories hold fast all they get. It will be our own fault if in these eighteen months they do not receive such a knowledge of what Jesus was, said and did as shall abide with them a precious possession forever.

THIS GOLDEN TEXT FOR THIS FIRST QUARTER IS:

"THE SON OF MAN CAME NOT TO BE MINISTERED UNTO, BUT TO MINISTER."

And on each Sabbath of the twelve we are to see how

CHRIST SERVES AND SAVES MEN

1. His coming as a babe, Luke 2 : 1-16.
2. His way as a child, Luke 2 : 41-52.
3. His way prepared, Luke 3 : 1-17.
4. His recognition and testing, Matt. 3 : 13 to 4 : 11.
5. His first followers, John 1 : 35-46.
6. He announces the way of life, John 3 : 1-18.
7. He wins a wayward one, John 4 : 5-26.
8. He is rejected by His own, Luke 4 : 16-30.
9. He heals diseases, Mark 1 : 21-34.
10. He forgives sins, Mark 2 : 1-12.
11. He calls to His service, Mark 2 : 13-22.
12. HE SERVES AND SAVES MEN.

Lesson I.

THE BIRTH OF JESUS

January 7, 1900

Luke 2 : 1-16—Memory Verses, 8-11

Golden Text—Thou shalt call his name Jesus : for he shall save his people from their sins.—Matt. 1 : 21.

1 And it came to pass in those days, that there went out a decree from Cæ'sar August'us that all the world should be taxed.

2 (And this taxing was first made when Cyren'ius was governor of Syr'ia.)

3 And all went to be taxed, every one into his own city.

4 And Jo'seph also went up from Gal'ilee, out of the city of Naz'areth, into Judæ'a, unto the city of Da'vid, which is called Beth'lehem ; (because he was of the house and lineage of Da'vid :)

5 To be taxed with Ma'ry his espoused wife, being great with child.

6 And so it was, that, while they were there, the days were accomplished that she should be delivered.

7 And she brought forth her firstborn son, and wrapped him in swaddling clothes, and laid him in a manger ; because there was no room for them in the inn.

8 And there were in the same country shepherds abiding in the field, keeping watch over their flock by night.

9 And, lo, the angel of the Lord came

upon them, and the glory of the Lord shone round about them : and they were sore afraid.

10 And the angel said unto them, Fear not : for, behold, I bring you good tidings of great joy, which shall be to all people.

11 For unto you is born this day in the city of Da'vid a Saviour, which is Christ the Lord.

12 And this shall be a sign unto you ; Ye shall find the babe wrapped in swaddling clothes, lying in a manger.

13 And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host praising God, and saying,

14 Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace, good will toward men.

15 And it came to pass, as the angels were gone away from them into heaven, the shepherds said one to another, Let us now go even unto Beth'lehem, and see this thing which is come to pass, which the Lord hath made known unto us.

16 And they came with haste, and found Ma'ry, and Jo'seph, and the babe lying in a manger.

THE LESSON RETOLD

Mary and Joseph lived at Nazareth. They were good people and were related to King David, who had been born long before at Bethlehem and had lived there when a boy.

One day Mary and Joseph got a message to go up to Bethlehem and pay some tax money. So Joseph left his carpenter shop and took Mary and the money and started out. It was a long and tiresome journey.

It was quite dark when they got to Bethlehem, and they found themselves too late to get a place in the inn for the night. They were tired and poor and had no friends to stay with. What could they do? "You may have the stable if you like," said the man at the inn. So Mary and Joseph thanked him and went in where the asses and cattle were.

In the stable God sent Mary the little baby, Jesus, that had been promised her. She knew that He was the Son of God.

Mary wrapped the baby in some cloth and then, because she had no cradle, she



put Him to sleep in the manger among the straw. It was a strange cradle.

Near Bethlehem some shepherds were out on the hills taking care of their sheep through the dark night. All at once they saw a bright light shining round them. They were much frightened. But an angel spoke to them out of the brightness, and said, "Fear not. I have good news for you. Unto you is born this day, in the city of David, a Savior, which is Christ the Lord. If you go to Bethlehem you will find the lit-

tle babe lying in a manger."

Then the shepherds saw the sky full of angels all singing the same song—"Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace, good will toward men."

When the angels had gone away into heaven and it was dark again, the shepherds said: "Let us go to Bethlehem and see this thing." So they came and found it all just as the angel had said, and Mary showed them the babe lying in the manger. They went away and told what they had seen.

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

1. To what great king were Mary and Joseph related? Ans.—To King David.
2. Where did they live? Ans.—At Nazareth.
3. Why did they go to Bethelern? Ans.—To pay taxes.
4. Where did they stay all night? Ans.—In a stable.
5. Why? Ans.—Because there was no room for them in the inn.
6. What happened in the stable? Ans.—Christ was born.
7. Did His mother know who her child was? Ans.—Yes.
8. Who were spending the night in the fields near by? Ans.—Some shepherds.
9. What did they see that frightened them? Ans.—A bright light and the sky filled with angels.
10. What did the angels say? Ans.—"Glory to God in the highest and on earth peace, good will toward men."
11. What is the Golden Text? Ans.—"Thou shalt call His name Jesus; for He shall save His people from their sins."

A Happy New Year

Lads and lasses, don't you hear
Someo'ae knocking at your door?
Don't you know the glad New Year,
Comes to you and me once more?

How shall we receive this guest?
How improve the gifts he bears?
We must join, at his behest,
Earnest deeds with fervent prayers.

We must *do*, as well as pray,
We must battle for the right;
And with each succeeding day,
God will give us strength to fight.

Let us, then, with songs of cheer—
Little children though we be—
Welcome in the glad New Year.
Gift from God's Eternity.

I HAVE LEARNED Where Jesus is there is Joy TO-DAY THAT

Primary Catechism—65. What is a Christian?

A Christian is one who loves and follows Jesus Christ.

66. What does following Jesus Christ mean?

To follow Jesus Christ is to trust and obey Him.

Shorter Catechism—1. What is the chief end of man?

A. Man's chief end is to glorify God, and to enjoy Him forever.

Lesson Hymn

Far away in a goodly land,
Fair and bright,
Children with crowns of glory stand,
Robed in white,—
In white more pure than the spotless snow;
And their tongues unite
In the psalm which the angels sang long ago
On that still night.

Amen.

—Hymn 520, Book of Praise.

Lesson 11.

THE CHILD JESUS VISITS JERUSALEM January 14, 1900

Luke 2 : 41-52—Memory Verses, 49-52

Golden Text—And Jesus increased in wisdom and stature, and in favor with God and man.—Luke 2 : 52.

41 Now his parents went to Jeru'salem every year at the feast of the passover.

42 And when he was twelve years old, they went up to Jeru'salem after the custom of the feast.

43 And when they had fulfilled the days, as they returned, the child Je'sus tarried behind in Jeru'salem ; and Jo'seph and his mother knew not of it.

44 But they, supposing him to have been in the company, went a day's journey ; and they sought him among *their* kinsfolk and acquaintance.

45 And when they found him not, they turned back again to Jeru'salem, seeking him.

46 And it came to pass, that after three days they found him in the temple, sitting

in the midst of the doctors, both hearing them, and asking them questions.

47 And all that heard him were astonished at his understanding and answers.

48 And when they saw him, they were amazed : and his mother said unto him, Son, why hast thou thus dealt with us ? behold, thy father and I have sought thee sorrowing.

49 And he said unto them, How is it that ye sought me ? wist ye not that I must be about my Father's business ?

50 And they understood not the saying which he spake unto them.

51 And he went down with them, and came to Naz'areth, and was subject unto them : but his mother kept all these sayings in her heart.

52 And Jesus increased in wisdom and stature, and in favour with God and man.

THE LESSON RETOLD

Joseph was a carpenter and often the little boy Jesus helped him at his work.

While they were busy in the shop Jesus learned from Joseph and His mother a great deal about his Heavenly Father, and when He went to school He could say long pieces out of the Old Testament by heart.

When he was twelve years old, and quite a tall boy, He went with His parents to Jerusalem to the Passover. This was a great feast to which the people came from all parts. Jesus had never seen the Temple or so many people before. The people all stayed a whole week, living in tents or booths made of branches, and going to the Temple every day to worship.

On the last day of the feast Mary and Joseph started for home. When they had gone part way, they found that Jesus was not with them. They thought, "He is walking with some of our cousins perhaps." So they asked everybody they knew, but could not even hear of Him. Then they were afraid and started back for Jerusalem. They spent three days searching for the boy and then found Him sitting in the Temple listening to the teachers and asking them questions about His Father in Heaven. These learned men were surprised to see how much Jesus knew, but Mary began to tell how frightened she and Joseph had been. Jesus said, "Didn't you know, mother, that I would be in my Father's house ?"



So He went back home with them to Nazareth and the Bible says that He grew taller and wiser every day, that He obeyed Mary and Joseph in everything, and was pleasing to God and to everyone who knew Him.

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

1. What trade did Jesus learn? Ans.—He was a carpenter. 2. What else did he study? Ans.—His Father's Word. 3. Who was His Father? Ans.—God. 4. Where did Mary and Joseph take Him when He was twelve years old? Ans.—To the Passover. 5. What was the Passover? Ans.—A great feast to which everybody went. 6. Where was it held? Ans.—At Jerusalem. 7. What great building was there? Ans.—The Temple. 8. How long did the Passover last? Ans.—Several days. 9. What did Mary and Joseph find when they had started for home? Ans.—That Jesus was not with them. 10. What did they do when they couldn't find Him? Ans.—They went back to Jerusalem to look for Him. 11. How long did they look for Him? Ans.—Three days. 12. Where did they find Him? Ans.—In the temple listening to the wise men. 13. What did Jesus say? Ans.—I must be about My Father's business. 14. What is the Golden Text? Ans.—“And Jesus increased in wisdom and stature, and in favor with God and man.”

The Way that Jesus Grew

We marked one New Year morning
Their height upon the wall—
First Grace, then little Alice,
Next Hugh, who stood so tall.
“We've all grown,” Hugh said proudly,
His brown eyes bright and clear,

“If we keep on I wonder
How tall we'll be next year!”
Said little Alice gently—
Her eyes were soft and blue—
“I hope that we'll be growing
The way that Jesus grew.”



I HAVE LEARNED TO-DAY THAT I Should Love God's Work



Primary Catechism—67. Can a little child be a Christian?

Yes. Jesus said “Suffer the little children to come unto me, and forbid them not, for of such is the kingdom of God.”

Shorter Catechism—2. What rule hath God given to direct us how we may glorify and enjoy Him?

A. The word of God, which is contained in the Scriptures of the Old and New Testaments, is the only rule to direct us how we may glorify and enjoy Him.

Lesson Hymn

O, Thou, whose infant feet were found
Within Thy Father's shrine,
Whose years, with changeless virtue crowned,
Were all alike divine—

Dependent on Thy bounteous breath,
We seek Thy grace alone—
In childhood, manhood, age and death,
To keep us still Thine own!

Amen

—Hymn 521, Book of Praise.

Lesson III. **THE PREACHING OF JOHN THE BAPTIST** January 21, 1900

Luke 3 : 1-17—Memory Verses, 3-6

Golden Text—Prepare ye the way of the Lord.—Luke 3 : 4.

1 Now in the fifteenth year of the reign of Tibe'rius Cæ'sar Pon'tius Pi'late being governor of Judæ'a and Her'od being tetrarch of Gal'ilee, and his brother Phil'ip tetrarch of Ituræ'a and of the region of Trachoni'tis and Lysa'nias the tetrarch of A'bile'ne,

2 An'nas and Cai'aphas being the high priests, the word of God came unto John the son of Zachari'as in the wilderness.

3 And he came into all the country about Jor'dan, preaching the baptism of repentance for the remission of sins ;

4 As it is written in the book of the words of Esa'as the prophet, saying, The voice of one crying in the wilderness, Prepare ye the way of the Lord, make his paths straight.

5 Every valley shall be filled, and every mountain and hill shall be brought low ; and the crooked shall be made straight, and the rough ways shall be made smooth ;

6 And all flesh shall see the salvation of God.

7 Then said he to the multitude that came forth to be baptized of him, O generation of vipers, who hath warned you to flee from the wrath to come ?

8 Bring forth therefore fruits worthy of repentance, and begin not to say within yourselves, We have A'braham to our father : for I say unto you, That God is able of these stones to raise up children unto A'braham.

9 And now also the axe is laid unto the root of the trees : every tree therefore which bringeth not forth good fruit is hewn down, and cast into the fire.

10 And the people asked him, saying, What shall we do then ?

11 He answereth and saith unto them, He that hath two coats, let him impart to him that hath none ; and he that hath meat, let him do likewise.

12 Then came also publicans to be baptized and said unto him, Master, what shall we do ?

13 And he said unto them, Exact no more than that which is appointed you.

14 And the soldiers likewise demanded of him, saying, And what shall we do ? And he said unto them, Do violence to no man neither accuse any falsely ; and be content with your wages.

15 And as the people were in expectation, and all men mused in their hearts of John, whether he were the Christ, or not ;

16 John answered, saying unto them all, I indeed baptize you with water ; but one mightier than I cometh, the latchet of whose shoes I am not worthy to unloose : he shall baptize you with the Holy Ghost and with fire :

17 Whose fan is in his hand, and he will thoroughly purge his floor, and will gather the wheat into his garner ; but the chaff he will burn with fire unquenchable.

THE LESSON RETOLD

While Jesus was growing up at Nazareth, there was a man called John living in the wilderness country among the caves and rocks. He had never seen Jesus, but he knew from God's word that He must soon come, and so he was looking for Him.

John was so good a man that some thought he must be the Savior that everyone was expecting. But he said, "I am not fit even to untie his shoes."

John used to preach beside the river Jordan and people came in crowds from the cities and towns to hear him. He was a strange-looking man, with a strong voice, and he wore rough clothes and ate queer food—locusts and wild honey, and he always used the same text—"Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand."



When John saw the proud Pharisees coming to hear him, he was angry, because he knew they were not sorry for their sins. He said to them fiercely, "Your hearts are like poisonous vipers. God will surely punish you, unless you turn from your sins."

When the soldiers heard John preaching like this even they were frightened. "What shall we do?" they cried. "Stop quarreling and grumbling about your wages," said the teacher.

"What shall we do?" asked the tax-gatherers. "Stop lying and stealing," said the voice.

Then everybody began to ask, "What shall we do?" And John answered, "Be ready always to be kind and generous to everyone that needs your help."

Thus John told how the great King would know his friends. "He is like that farmer over there fanning wheat. He will pick out the good and burn up the bad. He is like that woodman with the axe. He will cut down the trees that bear no fruit."

Then John took all those who wanted to be ready for Jesus and baptized them, to show that they wished to give up sin. That is why he is called John the Baptist.

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

1. Where did John the Baptist live? Ans.—In the wilderness. 2. Where did he preach? Ans.—Beside the river Jordan. 3. Who came to hear him? Ans.—Great crowds from the towns and cities. 4. Who did some think he was? Ans.—The Savior Himself. 5. What did John say? Ans.—That he had only come to get ready for Him. 6. What text did John use? Ans.—"Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand." 7. What does "repent" mean? Ans.—Be sorry for your sins and stop doing wrong. 8. Who did John say were like vipers? Ans.—The proud scribes and Pharisees. 9. What did he tell the soldiers to do? Ans.—To stop quarreling and grumbling. 10. The tax-gatherers? Ans.—To be honest. 11. The people? Ans.—To do all the good they could. 12. Who did John say was coming? Ans.—One so great that he was not fit to untie His shoes. 13. What is the Golden Text? Ans.—"Prepare ye the way of the Lord."



I HAVE LEARNED
TO-DAY THAT

I Should Turn from Sin



Primary Catechism—68. What do we mean by the ten commandments?

The ten commandments are God's holy law.

69. Which is the first commandment?

The first commandment is "Thou shalt have no other gods before me."

Shorter Catechism—3. What do the Scriptures principally teach?

A. The Scriptures principally teach what man is to believe concerning God, and what duty God requires of man.

Lesson Hymn

There is a city bright,
Closed are its gates to sin;
Nought that defileth,
Nought that defileth
Can ever enter in.

Saviour, I come to Thee,
O Lamb of God, I pray—
Cleanse me and save me,
Cleanse me and save me,
Wash all my sins away.

Amen.

—Hymn 587, Book of Praise.

Lesson IV. **THE BAPTISM AND TEMPTATION OF JESUS** January 28, 1900
 Matt. 3: 13 to 4: 11—Memory Verses, 3: 16, 17

Golden Text—This is my beloved Son, in whom I am well pleased.—Matt. 3: 17.

13 Then cometh Je'sus from Gal'ilee to Jor'dan unto John, to be baptised of him.

14 But John forbad him, saying, I have need to be baptized of thee, and comest thou to me?

15 And Je'sus answering said unto him, Suffer *it to be so* now: for thus it becometh us to fulfil all righteousness. Then he suffered him.

16 And Je'sus, when he was baptized, went up straightway out of the water: and, lo, the heavens were opened unto him, and he saw the Spirit of God descending like a dove, and lighting upon him:

17 And lo a voice from heaven, saying, This is my beloved Son, in whom I am well pleased.

Ch. 4. 1 Then was Je'sus led up of the spirit into the wilderness to be tempted of the devil.

2 And when he had fasted forty days and for nights, he was afterward an hungred.

3 And when the tempter came to him, he said, If thou be the Son of God, command that these stones be made bread.

4 But he answered and said, It is written, Man shall not live by bread alone, but by

every word that proceedeth out of the mouth of God.

5 Then the devil taketh him up into the holy city, and setteth him on a pinnacle of the temple,

6 And saith unto him, If thou be the Son of God, cast thyself down: for it is written, He shall give his angels charge concerning thee: and in *their* hands they shall bear thee up, lest at any time thou dash thy foot against a stone.

7 Je'sus said unto him, It is written again, Thou shalt not tempt the Lord thy God.

8 Again, the devil taketh him up into an exceeding high mountain, and sheweth him all the kingdoms of the world, and the glory of them;

9 And saith unto him, All these things will I give thee, if thou wilt fall down and worship me.

10 Then saith Je'sus unto him, Get thee hence, Satan: for it is written, Thou shalt worship the Lord thy God, and him only shalt thou serve.

11 Then the devil leaveth him, and, behold, angels came and ministered unto him.

THE LESSON RETOLD

One day, when John the Baptist was baptizing in the Jordan, he saw the very person he had said was coming. Jesus was standing on the bank and asked to be baptized.



John thought Jesus too good to be baptized by him, but Jesus made him to do it to show everybody that He belonged to God's kingdom, and wished to do all that God said.

When they had come up from the water, Jesus saw the sky open and the Spirit of God coming down like a dove upon Him and a voice said, "This is my beloved Son, in whom I am well pleased."

Then the same Spirit took Him away into a lonely country, where He was among the wild beasts for forty days and forty nights without anything to eat. He was almost dead with hunger.

Then Satan, who is very cunning, came and said, "Don't starve. Make these stones become bread." But Jesus had a Bible verse ready—He had learned it when He was a little boy—"Man shall not live by bread alone."

Then Satan tried again. He set Jesus on the very highest peak of the Temple and said, "Drop down; God will take care of you." But Jesus said, "That would be wrong. I must not tempt God."

Then Satan tried a third time to make Jesus do wrong. He took Him up into a very high mountain and showed him all the

beautiful countries and all the cities, and palaces, and said, "If you will only worship me, you shall have all these." Jesus was poor; but He would not sin, and so He said, "No, I shall worship no one else but God."

Then the Devil left Him and the angels came and fed and comforted Him. The angels will come to us when we resist sin.

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

1. Why did Jesus need to be baptized? Ans.—To show that He belonged to the kingdom of God. 2. Who baptized Him? Ans.—John the Baptist. 3. What happened when Jesus had come up from the water? Ans.—The Holy Spirit rested upon Him and God said, "This is my beloved Son." 4. Where did the Spirit then take Jesus? Ans.

—Into the wilderness. 5. What happened there? Ans.—Satan came and tempted Him. 6. Could Satan get Jesus to do what he wanted? Ans.—No. 7. How many times did he try? Ans.—Three times. 8. Who came when Satan went away? Ans.—Angels to feed and comfort Him. 9. What is the Golden Text?

Bessie's Temptation

Miss Murray said that Bessie could have the little clippings which she was dropping into the waste basket, as she shaped some beautiful patterns of bright red paper for the kindergarten class.

Bessie's hands were nearly full, when a puff of wind blew one of the prettiest red patterns off the table and right into the basket. "Now's your chance," said the tempter, "Miss Murray did not see. She'll think it's only one of the clippings"; and Bessie's hand was in the basket.

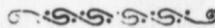
Suddenly something choked her. It was yesterday's Bible verse—"Thou shalt not steal."

"Who's stealing?" said Bessie. "Thou shalt not," said the verse.

She dropped the paper on the floor. "I guess I won't," she gasped. The bell rang to begin. As Bessie passed to her seat, she laid the stray paper back on the table, and went to her place the happiest little girl in the whole room. It makes us lappy when we are tempted to do wrong and don't.



I HAVE LEARNED TO-DAY THAT I Should Resist Temptation



Primary Catechism — 70. What is meant by having other gods before God?

Worshipping anything but the true God, or loving anything more than God.

Shorter Catechism—4. What is God?

A. God is a Spirit, infinite, eternal, and unchangeable in his being, wisdom, power, holiness, justice, goodness and truth.

Lesson Hymn

Yield not to temptation, for yielding is sin;
Each victory will help you some other to win;
Fight manfully onward; dark passions sub-
due;

Look ever to Jesus — He will carry you
through.

Ask the Saviour to help you,
Comfort, strengthen, and keep you;
He is willing to aid you,
He will carry you through.

Amen.

—Hymn 530, Book of Praise.

Lesson V.

THE FIRST DISCIPLES OF JESUS

February 4, 1900

John 1 : 35-46—Memory Verses, 35-37

Golden Text—They followed Jesus.—John 1 : 37.

35 Again the next day after John stood, and two of his disciples ;

36 And looking upon Je'sus as he walked, he saith, Behold the Lamb of God !

37 And the two disciples heard him speak, and they followed Je'sus.

38 Then Je'sus turned, and saw them following, and saith unto them, What seek ye? They said unto him, Rab'bi, (which is to say, being interpreted, Master,) where dwellest thou?

39 He saith unto them, Come and see. They came and saw where he dwelt, and abode with him that day : for it was about the tenth hour.

40 One of the two which heard John *speak*, and followed him, was An'drew, Si'mon Pe'ter's brother.

41 He first findeth his own brother Si'mon,

and saith unto him, We have found the Messias, which is, being interpreted, the Christ.

42 And he brought him to Je'sus. And when Je'sus beheld him, he said, Thou art Si'mon the son of Jo'na : thou shalt be called Ce'phas, which is by interpretation, A stone.

43 The day following Je'sus would go forth into Gal'ilee, and findeth Phil'ip, and saith unto him, Follow me.

44 Now Phil'ip was of Beth'saida, the city of An'drew and Pe'ter.

45 Philip findeth Nathan'ael, and saith unto him, We have found him, of whom Mo'ses in the law, and the prophets, did write, Je'sus of Naz'areth, the son of Jo'seph.

46 And Nathan'ael said unto him, Can there any good thing come of Naz'areth? Philip saith unto him, Come and see.

THE LESSON RETOLD

God wanted all the world to know that His Son was greater and stronger than Satan. So Jesus did not stay any longer alone in the wilderness but came back to the Jordan—where John was baptizing.

When John the Baptist saw Him, he said to two young men who were there, "Behold the Lamb of God," and these men

whose names were John and Andrew, went and followed Jesus.

Jesus heard their footsteps and turning round said, "Whom are you looking for?" They said, "Master, where do you stay?" Jesus said, "Come and see."

When Andrew found out that Jesus was the Savior, he hurried away to get his brother Simon to introduce him to his new Friend.

When Jesus saw Simon, He knew that he would by and by be a strong, brave man ; so He told him his name would be Peter, meaning a rock.

John and Andrew and Peter stayed with Jesus all that day and got well acquainted with Him.

The next morning Jesus was going to a place called Galilee. On the way they met another young fisherman from the same town as Andrew and Peter.

His name was Philip. Jesus spoke first and said, "Follow Me." Then Philip turned at once and walked them.

Philip had a student friend called Nathanael, who knew a great deal about the Old Testament. Philip thought, "He must meet Jesus, too." So he went to look for him ; and found



him at last sitting under a shady fig tree studying the Bible. Said Philip, "We've found the very man you are reading about—Jesus of Nazareth."

Nathanael was surprised when Philip said He came from Nazareth. "Can anything good come from such an ignorant place?" he asked. "Come and see," said his friend.

When Nathanael saw Jesus, he, too, wor-

shipped Him, saying, "Thou art the Son of God. Thou art the King of Israel."

After this these men left their homes and their fishing and went about all the time with Jesus. They were called His disciples or learners, and He taught them all about His Heavenly Father, and said, "They are My friends." They were His friends because they loved Him and did what He said.

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

1. After Satan went away, did Jesus stay long in the wilderness? Ans.—No. 2. Where did He go? Ans.—Back to the river Jordan where John was still baptizing. 3. What did John say of Jesus to two of his friends? Ans.—"Behold the Lamb of God." 4. What did they do? Ans.—They followed Jesus down the road. 5. What were their names? Ans.—John and Andrew. 6. What was their business? Ans.—They were fishermen. 7. Where did they stay that night? Ans.—With their new Master. 8. Whom did Andrew bring to Jesus? Ans.—His brother Simon. 9. What name did Jesus give him? Ans.—Peter, meaning a rock. 10. Whom did Jesus call next? Ans.—A young man called Philip. 11. Whom did Philip bring? Ans.—His friend Nathanael. 12. Did Nathanael believe all that Philip told him about Jesus? Ans.—No. 13. How did he feel when he saw Jesus himself? He worshipped Him. 14.—What were all these men called? Ans.—The disciples. 15. What does "disciple" mean? Ans.—A pupil or learner. 16. What other name did Jesus give them? Ans.—He called them His friends. 17. What is the Golden Text? "They followed Jesus."



I HAVE LEARNED TO-DAY THAT I Should Bring Others to Jesus



Primary Catechism—71. Which is the second commandment?

The second commandment is, "Thou shalt not make unto thee any graven image, or any likeness of any thing that is in heaven above, or that is in the earth beneath, or that is in the water under the earth. Thou shalt not bow down thyself to them, nor serve them."

Shorter Catechism—5. Are there more Gods than one?

There is but One only, the living and true God.

6. How many persons are there in the Godhead?

A. There are three persons in the Godhead; the Father, the Son, and the Holy Ghost; and these three are one God, the same in substance, equal in power and glory.

*It will be sufficient for the little ones just now to learn only the portion of the longer commandments given.

Lesson Hymn

Little hearts may love Thee well
Little lips Thy love may tell,
Little hymns Thy praises swell:
Hear us, Holy Jesus.

Little deeds of love may shine,
Little lives may be divine,
Little ones be wholly Thine:
Hear us, Holy Jesus.

Jesus, from Thy heavenly throne
Watching o'er each little one,
Till our life on earth is done,
Hear us, Holy Jesus.

Amen

—Hymn 580, Book of Praise

Lesson VI.

JESUS AND NICODEMUS

February 11, 1900

John 3 : 1-18—Memory Verses, 14-17

Golden Text—For 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 3 : 16.

1 There was a man of the Pharisees, named Nic'odemus, a ruler of the Jews :

2 The same came to Je'sus by night, and said unto him, Rab'bi, we know that thou art a teacher come from God : for no man can do these miracles that thou doest, except God be with him.

3 Je'sus answered and said unto him, Verily, verily, I say unto thee, Except a man be born again, he cannot see the kingdom of God.

4 Nic'odemus saith unto him, How can a man be born when he is old? can he enter the second time into his mother's womb, and be born?

5 Jesus answered, Verily, verily, I say unto thee, Except a man be born of water and of the Spirit, he cannot enter into the kingdom of God.

6 That which is born of the flesh is flesh ; and that which is born of the Spirit is spirit.

7 Marvel not that I said unto thee, Ye must be born again.

8 The wind bloweth where it listeth, and thou hearest the sound thereof, but canst not tell whence it cometh, and whither it goeth : so is every one that is born of the Spirit.

9 Nic'odemus answered and said unto him, How can these things be ?

10 Jesus answered and said unto him, Art thou a master of Is'rael, and knowest not these things ?

11 Verily, verily, I say unto thee, We speak that we do know, and testify that we have seen ; and ye receive not our witness.

12 If I have told you earthly things, and ye believe not, how shall ye believe, if I tell you of heavenly things ?

13 And no man hath ascended up to heaven, but he that came down from heaven, even the Son of man which is in heaven.

14 And as Mo'ses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, even so must the Son of man be lifted up :

15 That whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have eternal life.

16 For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life.

17 For God sent not his Son into the world to condemn the world ; but that the world through him might be saved.

18 He that believeth on him is not condemned : but he that believeth not is is condemned already, because he hath not believed in the name of the only begotten Son of God.

THE LESSON RETOLD

Nicodemus was a rich ruler who lived in a grand house in Jerusalem. He wanted to talk with Jesus, but he was afraid his friends would laugh at him. His friends were called Pharisees. They were proud men.

So he went at night when Jesus was resting on the roof-verandah, where it was cool and quiet.

Jesus was glad to see Nicodemus, for he knew he must be in earnest or he would not have come at all.

He wanted to ask Jesus about the " Kingdom of God." He thought he and all the other Jews belonged to it just because they were Jews ; but Jesus said, " Ye must be born again." Nicodemus supposed that meant that he must turn into a baby again. He was mistaken. Jesus meant that his heart must be



made new and good by God's Spirit.

Nicodemus said, "But, how?" Just then the wind blew. "Listen to that," said Jesus. "You can't tell where it comes from or where it goes to. You can only tell that it is blowing." So God alone can know how hearts are made new. We cannot tell.

Jesus told him, too, that just as the people who were bitten by the serpents were made well when they looked at the serpent of brass which God had told Moses to lift up on a pole, so everyone who should look to Jesus, when He would be lifted up, should have everlasting life.

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

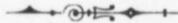
1. Who was Nicodemus? Ans.—A rich ruler in Jerusalem. 2. At what time did he go to see Jesus? Ans.—At night. 3. Why did he not go in daytime? Ans.—He was afraid his friends would laugh at him. 4. What did he want to talk about? Ans.—The Kingdom of God. 5. What did Jesus say to him? Ans.—"Ye must be born again." 6. Did Nicodemus understand Jesus? Ans.—No, not at first. 7. What did Jesus tell him God's spirit was like? Ans.—Like the wind. 8. Why? Ans.—Because it moves

so quietly that nobody can see it. 9. Where does God's Spirit work? Ans.—In men's hearts. 10. What did God tell Moses to do with the serpent of brass? Ans.—To lift it up on a pole. 11. What happened then? Ans.—Those who were bitten by the poisonous serpents and looked at it were healed. 12. What did Jesus say about Himself? Ans.—That he would be lifted up. He meant on the Cross, and everyone that looked to Him should have everlasting life. 13. What is the Golden Text?

Whosoever Will

Whosoever heareth shout, shout the sound,
Send the blessed tidings all the world around!
Spread the joyful news wherever man is
found,
"Whosoever will" may come!

Whosoever cometh need not delay;
Now the door is open, enter while you may:
Jesus is the true, the only living Way;
"Whosoever will" may come.



I HAVE LEARNED TO-DAY THAT I Must be Born Again



Primary Catechism—72. What is the danger in using images or pictures in the worship of God?

We may come to worship the image or picture instead of God.

Shorter Catechism—7. What are the decrees of God?

The decrees of God are, his eternal purpose, according to the counsel of his will, whereby, for his own glory, he hath fore-ordained whatsoever comes to pass.

Lesson Hymn

As when the Hebrew prophet raised
The brazen serpent high,
The wounded looked, and straight were
cured,
The people ceased to die.
So from the Saviour on the cross
A healing virtue flows;
Who looks to Him with lively faith
Is saved from endless woes.
Amen.

—Hymn 125, Book of Praise.

Lesson VII.

JESUS AT JACOB'S WELL

February 18, 1900

John 4 : 5-26—Memory Verses, 11-14

Golden Text—God is a Spirit : and they that worship him must worship him in spirit and in truth.—John 4 : 24.

5 Then cometh he to a city of Sama'ria, which is called Sy'char, near to the parcel of ground that Ja'cob gave to his son Jo'seph.

6 Now Ja'cob's well was there. Je'sus therefore, being wearied with his journey, sat thus on the well : and it was about the sixth hour.

7 There cometh a woman of Sama'ria to draw water : Je'sus saith unto her, Give me to drink.

8 (For his disciples were gone away unto the city to buy meat.)

9 Then saith the woman of Sama'ria unto him, How is it that thou, being a Jew, askest drink of me, which am a woman of Sama'ria? for the Jews have no dealings with the Samar'itans.

10 Je'sus answered and said unto her, If thou knewest the gift of God, and who it is that saith to thee, Give me to drink ; thou wouldest have asked of him, and he would have given thee living water.

11 The woman saith unto him, Sir, thou hast nothing to draw with, and the well is deep : from whence then hast thou that living water?

12 Art thou greater than our father Ja'cob, which gave us the well, and drank thereof himself, and his children, and his cattle?

13 Je'sus answered and said unto her,

Whosoever drinketh of this water shall thirst again :

14 But whosoever drinketh of the water that I shall give him shall never thirst ; but the water that I shall give him shall be in him a well of water springing up into everlasting life.

15 The woman saith unto him, Sir, give me this water, that I thirst not, neither come hither to draw.

16 Je'sus saith unto her, Go, call thy husband, and come hither.

17 The woman answered and said, I have no husband. Je'sus said unto her, Thou hast well said, I have no husband :

18 For thou hast had five husbands ; and he whom thou now hast is not thy husband : in that saidst thou truly.

19 The woman saith unto him, Sir, I perceive that thou art a prophet.

20 Our fathers worshipped in this mountain ; and ye say, that in Jeru'salem is the place where men ought to worship.

21 Je'sus saith unto her, Woman, believe me, the hour cometh, when ye shall neither in this mountain, nor yet at Jeru'salem, worship the Father.

22 Ye worship ye know not what : we know what we worship : for salvation is of the Jews.

23 But the hour cometh, and now is, when the true worshippers shall worship the Father in spirit and in truth : for the Father seeketh such to worship him.

24 God is a Spirit : and they that worship him must worship him in spirit and in truth.

25 The woman saith unto him, I know that Messias cometh, which is called Christ : when he is come, he will tell us all things.

26 Je'sus saith unto her, I that speak unto thee am he.

THE LESSON RETOLD

One cool summer morning Jesus and His disciples got up early to go on a long journey.

About noon they reached a city called Sychar. There was a place near there where visitors often went. It was Ja'cob's well.

The sun was now very hot and Jesus was tired with walking and very thirsty, so He sat down on the edge of the well to rest. The disciples said, "We will



go to the town and buy food and come back here for dinner."

When they had gone, a Samaritan woman came with a pitcher for water. Jesus said, "Give Me to drink."

The woman saw that Jesus was a Jew. "Why do you ask me?" she said, "Jews and Samaritans are not good friends." "If you only knew who I am," said Jesus, "you would ask Me for living water." "The well is deep," she answered. "How could you get it, Sir, without a pitcher?"

Then Jesus told her that living water was quite different from any other. "If it will save the trouble of coming here every day," the woman said, "Please give it to me."

Jesus saw that she did not know Him or understand His words. "Go call your hus-

band," he said.

When the woman saw that Jesus knew all about her, she was afraid and began to talk of something else. "I see you are a prophet. Perhaps you could settle which is the right place to worship. The Jews say Jerusalem. We think this mountain." Jesus said, "The time has come when it no longer matters about the place. God is a Spirit and they that worship Him must worship Him in spirit and in truth. He is in every place watching for true worshippers." The woman said, "When Christ comes he will settle everything." Jesus said, "I AM HE."

Then the woman dropped her pitcher and ran to call her friends. "Come," she said, "see a man which told me all things that ever I did. Is not this the Christ?"

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

1. How did Jesus and his disciples get from place to place? Ans.—They walked.
2. Where did the disciples leave Jesus to rest? Ans.—At Jacob's well."
3. Who came for water? Ans.—A Samaritan woman.
4. What did Jesus talk to her about? Ans.—Living water.
5. What did He mean by living water? Ans.—Eternal life.
6. Did the woman know who Jesus was? Ans.—No.
7. What did she ask Him? Ans.—Where was the proper place to worship.
8. What did Jesus tell her? Ans.—That the place didn't matter at all, that a true heart was what God looked for.
9. What is the Golden Text? Ans.—"God is a Spirit, and they that worship Him must worship Him in spirit and in truth."
10. What more did Jesus tell her? Ans.—That He Himself was the Christ.
11. What did she then do? Ans.—She left her pitcher and went away to the city and told everybody that she had seen the Christ, and that He was at the well.

I HAVE LEARNED
TO-DAY THAT

Jesus Alone Can Satisfy

Primary Catechism—73. Which is the third commandment?

The third commandment is, "Thou shalt not take the name of the Lord thy God in vain."

Shorter Catechism—8. How doth God execute his decrees?

A. God executeth his decrees in the works of creation and providence.

9. What is the work of creation?

A. The work of creation is, God's making all things of nothing, by the word of his power, in the space of six days, and all very good.

Lesson Hymn

"Lord, thou hast here Thy ninety and nine;
Are they not enough for Thee?"

But the Shepherd made answer: "This of Mine

Has wandered away from Me;
And, although the road be rough and steep,

I go to the desert to find My sheep."

Amen.

—Hymn 134, Book of Praise.

Lesson VIII.

JESUS REJECTED AT NAZARETH

February 25, 1900

Luke 4 : 16-30—Memory Verses, 17-19

Golden Text—He came unto his own, and his own received him not.—John 1 : 11.

16 And he came to Nazareth, where he had been brought up: and, as his custom was, he went into the synagogue on the sabbath day, and stood up for to read.

17 And there was delivered unto him the book of the prophet E'saias. And when he had opened the book, he found the place where it was written,

18 The Spirit of the Lord is upon me, because he hath anointed me to preach the gospel to the poor; he hath sent me to heal the brokenhearted, to preach deliverance to the captives, and recovering of sight to the blind, to set at liberty them that are bruised,

19 To preach the acceptable year of the Lord.

20 And he closed the book, and he gave it again to the minister, and sat down. And the eyes of all them that were in the synagogue were fastened on him.

21 And he began to say unto them, This day is this scripture fulfilled in your ears.

22 And all bare him witness, and wondered at the gracious words which proceeded out of his mouth. And they said, Is not this Jo'seph's son?

23 And he said unto them, Ye will surely

say unto me this proverb, Physician, heal thyself: whatsoever we have heard done in Caper'naum, do also here in thy country.

24 And he said, Verily I say unto you, No prophet is accepted in his own country.

25 But I tell you of a truth, many widows were in Israel in the days of Eli'as, when the heaven was shut up three years and six months, when great famine was throughout all the land;

26 But unto none of them was Eli'as sent save unto Sarep'ta, a city of Si'don, unto a woman that was a widow.

27 And many lepers were in Is'rael in the time of Elis'eus the prophet; and none of them was cleansed, saving Na'aman the Syr'ian.

28 And all they in the synagogue, when they heard these things, were filled with wrath,

29 And rose up, and thrust him out of the city, and led him unto the brow of the hill whereon their city was built, that they might cast him down headlong.

30 But he passing through the midst of them went his way.

THE LESSON RETOLD

After Jesus had grown to be a man, and had been away a long time from Nazareth, He came back to His old home for a visit. He was very anxious to see Nazareth again.

The first place He went to was the Synagogue, or church, where he had always gone every Sabbath since He was little.

His old neighbors were glad when they saw him come in, because they had heard of the wonderful things He had done in other places and of the great sermons he had preached. So they handed Jesus the Bible and asked Him to read.

While He was finding the place everyone watched to see what He would do.

Jesus opened the Old Testament and read some verses written by Isaiah. They were about the great Savior that should some day come to save His people. When He had finished reading He handed the book to the minister and sat down and began to teach.

How His old friends watched and listened!



Jesus told them that He Himself was that Savior of whom He had just read. Then the people began to whisper, "How can that be? Why, we know all His relations. His mother is Mary; and His sisters, are they not living right here?"

Jesus knew that they did not trust Him. He knew, too, that they were just waiting to see if he would show them a miracle or sign. He said: "The reason I cannot give you a sign is because you do not believe that

I am God." When the people heard this they were so angry that they got up from their seats. They took hold of Jesus roughly. They dragged Him away out of doors to the top of a high hill. It was the same one He had so often climbed when He and these same men were boys together. Now they were going to throw Him over to be crushed to death on the rocks beneath.

But Jesus hid Himself, and though they looked everywhere for Him, He was gone.

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

1. Where did Jesus spend the Sabbath when He came to Nazareth to visit? Ans.—In God's house. 2. What did He do there? Ans.—He read and taught. 3. What did Jesus tell the people? Ans.—That He was the Savior who Isaiah said was to come. 4. Did they believe Him? Ans.—No. 5. How did they want Jesus to prove His words? Ans.—By working a miracle.

6. Why did Jesus not do so? Ans.—Because they did not believe that He was God. 7. Then, how did they try to kill Him? Ans.—By throwing Him down from a high rock. 8. How did Jesus get away? Ans.—He hid Himself. 9. What is the Golden Text? Ans.—"He came unto His own and His own received Him not." 10. Was this no not very sinful and foolish? Ans.—Yes.

The Call

To-day the Saviour calls;
Oh, listen now!
Within these sacred walls
To Jesus bow.

The Spirit calls to-day,
Yield to His power;
Oh, grieve Him not away!
'Tis mercy's hour.

I HAVE LEARNED TO-DAY THAT It is a Great Sin to Reject Jesus

Primary Catechism — 74. What are some of the common ways of taking God's name in vain?

Profane swearing and speaking about God and holy things in a light and thoughtless way.

Shorter Catechism—10. How did God create man?

A. God created man male and female, after his own image, in knowledge, righteousness, and holiness, with dominion over the creatures.

Lesson Hymn

If I ask Him to receive me,
Will He say me nay?
"Not till earth and not till heaven
Pass away!"
Finding, following, keeping, struggling,
Is He sure to bless?
"Angels, martyrs, saints and prophets,
Answer, Yes!"
Amen.

—Hymn 132, Book of Praise.

Lesson IX.

JESUS HEALING IN CAPERNAUM

March 4, 1900

Mark 1 : 21-34—Memory Verses, 32-34

Golden Text—And he healed many that were sick.—Mark 1 : 34.

21 And they went into Caper'naum; and straightway on the sabbath day he entered into the synagogue, and taught.

22 And they were astonished at his doctrine: for he taught them as one that had authority, and not as the scribes.

23 And there was in their synagogue a man with an unclean spirit; and he cried out,

24 Saying, Let us alone; what have we to do with thee, thou Je'sus of Naz'areth? art thou come to destroy us? I know thee who thou art, the Holy One of God.

25 And Je'sus rebuked him, saying, Hold thy peace, and come out of him.

26 And when the unclean spirit had torn him, and cried with a loud voice, he came out of him.

27 And they were all amazed, insomuch that they questioned among themselves, saying, What thing is this? what new doctrine is this? for with authority commandeth

he even the unclean spirits, and they do obey him.

28 And immediately his fame spread abroad throughout all the region round about Gal'ilee.

29 And forthwith, when they were come out of the synagogue, they entered into the house of Si'mon and An'drew, with James and John.

30 But Si'mon's wife's mother lay sick of a fever, and anon they tell him of her.

31 And he came and took her by the hand, and lifted her up; and immediately the fever left her, and she ministered unto them.

32 And at even, when the sun did set, they brought unto him all that were diseased, and them that were possessed of devils.

33 And all the city was gathered together at the door.

34 And he healed many that were sick of divers diseases, and cast out many devils; and suffered not the devils to speak, because they knew him.

THE LESSON RETOLD

When Jesus had been turned away from His old home He went to stay for some time at Capernaum, on the edge of the sea of Galilee. It was not far away.



The first Sabbath Jesus was teaching in the synagogue, when a man with a terrible sickness came in. The poor fellow had an unclean spirit. None of the doctors could help him.

As soon as the evil spirit saw Jesus it began shouting and making a great noise. Jesus stopped preaching; and turning to the evil spirit, said quietly, "Come out of him." Then the unclean spirit obeyed and came out in a rage, leaving the man bruised and bleeding, but quite cured.

Then all the people began to say, "Who can this man Jesus be to do such things? We never saw the like of this before." And they ran to tell what they had seen.

After church Jesus went home to dinner with His friends, Simon and Andrew. As soon as He was in the house they told Jesus about Simon's mother-in-law, who was very ill with fever. Jesus went right to her and took her hand, and lifted her up. At once she was so well that she waited on the

company at table.

Soon everybody in Capernaum had heard where Jesus was staying, and that evening at sundown such a crowd as gathered at Simon's house! There were the blind and lame and people with crooked bodies. The deaf and dumb came, and many who had

evil spirits. Everyone in the city had brought some sick friend to be cured.

Then Jesus went out among the crowd and touched all those who were sick, and scattered the evil spirits, and sent everyone home well and strong and happy. Jesus always delights to make people happy.

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

1. After leaving Nazareth where did Jesus go? Ans.—To Capernaum. 2. What happened when He was preaching in the synagogue? Ans.—A man with an unclean spirit came in. 3. What did the unclean spirit begin to do? Ans.—To shout and cry out. 4. What did Jesus do? Ans.—He told it to come out of the man. 5. Did it obey Him? Ans.—Yes, at once. 6. How did all the people feel? Ans.—Very much surprised. 7. Why were they surprised? Ans.—Because it was thought that no one could cure this sickness. 8. Where did Jesus go after

church? Ans.—To Simon's house. 9. Who was very ill there? Ans.—Simon's wife's mother. 10. Did Jesus cure her? Ans.—Yes. 11. Did Jesus do anything more that day? Ans.—He cured many other sick people. 12. How did they hear of Him? Ans.—Those who had seen Him at the synagogue ran and told others. 13. Where did they all come at sun-down? Ans.—To Simon's house. 14. Whom did they bring with them? Ans.—All their sick friends. 15. What did Jesus do for them? Ans.—He cured them all.

An Evil Temper

Eddy had been very angry with his sister Susie. "Once upon a time," said his mother, "there was a man that had a wild beast in a cage. It was very fierce, and every time it got angry, it sprang out of the cage and bit people."

"Bad man, bad man," said Eddy; "Wasn't there any door to the cage?"

"Yes," said his mother, "There were two strong doors. And my little boy has a

wild beast in a cage, and just now it got out and hurt Susie; here it is;" and she opened his mouth and touched Eddy's red tongue.

"Where is the cage?" asked Eddy.

"Your mouth, little man!"

"Where are the doors?"

"Your white teeth and your red lips, and God will help you, if you ask Him, to 'keep the door of your lips.'" Eddie learned by and by to be a good doorkeeper.

I HAVE LEARNED
TO-DAY THAT

Jesus is the Great Healer

Primary Catechism—75. Which is the fourth commandment?

The fourth commandment is, "Remember the Sabbath day to keep it holy."

Shorter Catechism—11. What are God's works of providence?

A. God's works of providence are, his most holy, wise, and powerful preserving and governing all his creatures, and all their actions.

Lesson Hymn

And, lo! Thy touch brought life and health
Gave speech and strength and sight;
And youth renewed and frenzy calmed
Owned Thee, the Lord of light.
And now, O Lord, be near to bless
Almighty as of yore,
In crowded street, by restless couch,
As by Gennesaret's shore

Amen.

—Hymn 38, Book of Praise.

Lesson X.

THE PARALYTIC HEALED

March 11, 1900

Mark 2 : 1-12—Memory Verses, 9-12

Golden Text—The Son of man hath power on earth to forgive sins.—Mark 2 : 10.

1 And again he entered into Caper'naum, after *some* days; and it was noised that he was in the house.

2 And straightway many were gathered together, insomuch that there was no room to receive *them*, no, not so much as about the door: and he preached the word unto them.

3 And they come unto him, bringing one sick of the palsy, which was borne of four.

4 And when they could not come nigh unto him for the press, they uncovered the roof where he was: and when they had broken *it* up, they let down the bed wherein the sick of the palsy lay.

5 When Je'sus saw their faith, he said unto the sick of the palsy, Son, thy sins be forgiven thee.

6 But there were certain of the scribes sitting there, and reasoning in their hearts,

7 Why doth this *man* thus speak blasphemies? who can forgive sins but God only?

8 And immediately when Je'sus perceived in his spirit that the^r so reasoned within themselves, he said unto them, Why reason ye these things in your hearts?

9 Whether is it easier to say to the sick of the palsy, *Thy* sins be forgiven thee; or to say, Arise, and take up thy bed, and walk?

10 But that ye may know that the Son of man hath power on earth to forgive sins, (he saith to the sick of the palsy,)

11 I say unto thee, Arise, and take up thy bed, and go thy way into thine house.

12 And immediately he arose, took up the bed, and went forth before them all; insomuch that they were all amazed, and glorified God, saying, We never saw it on this fashion.

THE LESSON RETOLD

The next winter Jesus came back again to Capernaum, and when the crowds knew of it, they came flocking to Simon's house to hear Him.

There was a poor sick man in Capernaum. He was paralyzed, and could move neither his arms nor his legs. He lay all day on a

mattress and had to be carried from one place to another.

He felt sure that Jesus could cure him; so he begged four of his friends to carry him quickly to Simon's house. But they were too late. The doorways were blocked and they could not get even within sight of Jesus.

The sick man was terribly disappointed. Then he thought of a plan. He said, "Let me down through the roof." So the four friends tied a long rope to each corner of his mattress, and then they carried him up an outside stair-case to the top of the house. They soon made a big hole in the tiles. Thus they let their sick friend down through the opening to where Jesus stood.

How the people wondered at the queer sight!

But Jesus was pleased to see how much the sick man trusted Him and said, "Son, thy sins be forgiven thee."

There were some proud scribes in the room watching everything. They wanted to catch Jesus making a mistake. They whispered angrily together because Jesus had said He could forgive sins. Jesus said, "I will show you that I have



power to forgive sins"; and He said to the sick man, "Arise, and take up thy bed and walk." Then the man got up, put his mattress on his shoulder and walked out through the crowd to his home strong and well. Everybody wondered at the sight and gave praise to God. It had been a very strange time. God seemed to be near.

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

1. To what city did Jesus now come back. Ans.—To Capernaum, "his own city." 2. Who wanted to see Him as soon as He came back? Ans.—A man who was paralyzed. 3. What did the man do? Ans.—He got four friends to carry him to Simon's house 4. Could they get in? Ans.—No, it was too much crowded. 5. Did they go away then? Ans.—No. They carried the man up to the roof and let him down to where Jesus stood? 6. Was Jesus displeased to be interrupted? Ans.—No. 7. What did He say? Ans.—"Son, thy sins be forgiven thee." 8. Who thought that Jesus could not forgive sins? Ans.—The scribes. 9. How did Jesus prove that He could? Ans.—By telling the man to take up his bed and walk. 10. What did all the people think? Ans.—They were much surprised and praised God. What is the Golden Text?

Bobby's Friend and Bobby's Faith

A little street boy in London had both his legs broken by a dray and was taken to the hospital to die.

Beside him lay another little sufferer of his own age, who said, "Bobby, did you ever hear of Jesus?" "No, I never did." "Bobby, my teacher in the mission school told us that Jesus would take us to heaven when we died and we'd never be hungry any more, or have pain any more, if we asked Him."

"But how can I ask Him, if I don't know

where he is?" "Bobby, teacher says He goes round. Perhaps He'll come to this hospital to-night." "But I can't keep my eyes open; my legs is so bad." "Bobby, hold up your hand and He'll know what you want."

They got his hand up. It dropped with weakness. Bursting into tears he said, "I give it up." And then his little friend took his own pillow and propped up Bobby's hand and there it lay till he died. Bobby did not know much, but he had much faith.

I HAVE LEARNED
TO-DAY THAT

Jesus Forgives Sins

Primary Catechism—76. Which day of the week is our Sabbath?

The first day of the week is our Sabbath.

77. Why is our Sabbath called the Lord's Day?

Because on that day Jesus Christ rose from the dead.

Shorter Catechism—12. What special act of providence did God exercise toward man in the estate wherein he was created?

A. When God had created man, he entered into a covenant of life with him, upon condition of perfect obedience; forbidding him to eat of the tree of knowledge of good and evil, upon the pain of death.

Lesson Hymn

There is welcome for the sinner,
And more graces for the good;
There is mercy with the Savior;
There is healing in His blood.

If our love were but more simple,
We should take Him at His word,
And our lives would be all sunshine
In the sweetness of our Lord.

Amen.

—Hymn 131, Book of Praise.

Lesson XI.

JESUS AT MATTHEW'S HOUSE

March 18, 1900

Mark 2 : 13-22—Memory Verses, 15-17

Golden Text—He said unto him, Follow me.—Luke 5 : 27

13 And he went forth again by the sea side ; and all the multitude resorted unto him, and he taught them.

14 And as he passed by, he saw Le'vi the son of Alpha'e'us sitting at the receipt of custom, and said unto him, Follow me. And he arose and followed him.

15 And it came to pass, that, as Je'sus sat at meat in his house, many publicans and sinners sat also together with Je'sus and his disciples : for there were many, and they followed him.

16 And when the scribes and Phar'isees saw him eat with publicans and sinners, they said unto his disciples, How is it that he eateth and drinketh with publicans and sinners ?

17 When Je'sus heard it, he saith unto them, They that are whole have no need of the physician, but they that are sick : I came not to call the righteous, but sinners to repentance.

18 And the disciples of John and of the Pharisees used to fast : and they come and say unto him, Why do the disciples of John and of the Phar'isees fast, but thy disciples fast not ?

19 And Je'sus said unto them, Can the children of the bridechamber fast, while the bridegroom is with them ? as long as they have the bridegroom with them, they cannot fast.

20 But the days will come, when the bridegroom shall be taken away from them, and then shall they fast in those days.

21 No man also seweth a piece of new cloth on an old garment : else the new piece that filled it up taketh away from the old, and the rent is made worse.

22 And no man putteth new wine into old bottles : else the new wine doth burst the bottles, and the wine is spilled, and the bottles will be marred : but new wine must be put into new bottles.

THE LESSON RETOLD

Simon's house was quite too small to hold all the people who wanted to see and hear Jesus. So He went and taught by the sea-side, where there was plenty of room.

On His way back to the city He saw the

streets crowded with people, for Capernaum was a great place for shipping and all kinds of buying and selling.

At one street corner Jesus saw a man sitting in a little office with great piles of money before him. His name was Levi or Matthew. Every person who passed through the office was paying taxes.

Now the Jews hated the tax collectors, or publicans, as they were called, for they were often greedy and cruel.

Jesus spoke to the man at the desk, whose name was Matthew, and said, "follow Me."

Then Matthew left his work at once and walked away with Jesus and became one of His disciples.

Matthew had a great many friends in Capernaum who were in the same business as himself and he invited them all to a great farewell dinner at his house to meet his new Master.

But the proud scribes and Pharisees were very much shocked that Jesus would be seen eating with publicans and sinners.



Then Jesus said, "It is those who are sick that need a doctor. It is the sinners I came to save, not those who think they are good."

There were some, too, who thought it was not quite right to eat and drink and to enjoy oneself. They said to Jesus, "Why don't your disciples fast?"

Jesus said, "They cannot fast while the bridegroom is with them." He meant that where He was everyone had a right to be happy and glad.

Though so many were finding fault with Him, Jesus showed them kindly and gently

that His teaching was altogether different from that of the scribes and Pharisees. These people pretended to serve God; but instead of showing their love by being kind and helpful, they made hard rules for others to keep which they broke themselves.

Jesus said, that to expect to please God in this way was just as foolish as to patch an old worn-out coat with strong new cloth—the hole only gets larger. It is like putting fresh wine into dried-up wine-skins—they will burst some day and the wine will be lost. One must serve God with a new heart.

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

1. Why did Jesus preach by the wayside? Ans.—Because there was room there for the crowds to hear Him.
2. What kind of a place was Capernaum? Ans.—A busy city.
3. What was Matthew doing when Jesus called him. Ans.—Gathering taxmoney.
4. What did Jesus say? Ans.—Follow me.
5. Did Matthew obey? Ans.—Yes, at once.
6. What did he do before leaving his old friends? Ans.—He invited them to meet Jesus at dinner.
7. Who were angry at Jesus for going? Ans.—The scribes and Pharisees.
8. What did Jesus say? Ans.—That He came to save sinners.
9. Did the

- Pharisees think they themselves were sinners? Ans.—No.
10. Why? Ans.—Because they kept certain rules.
11. What was one of these rules? Ans.—That they should fast very often.
12. Did the disciples of Jesus fast? Ans.—No.
13. Why? Ans.—Because when Jesus was with them they were so happy.
14. What did Jesus say about the rules of the Pharisees? Ans.—That they were like an old, worn-out coat, or an old wine-skin. They were no use and wouldn't do for His disciples.
15. What is the Golden Text? Ans.—"He said unto him, Follow Me."

"Follow Me"

If I come to Jesus,
He will make me glad;
He will give me pleasure,
When my heart is sad.

If I come to Jesus,
He will take my hand,
He will kindly lead me
To a better land.

I HAVE LEARNED TO-DAY THAT I Should Come when Jesus Calls

Primary Catechism—78. How should we spend the Lord's Day?

We should spend the Lord's Day in rest, in worship, and in doing good.

Shorter Catechism—13. Did our first parents continue in the estate wherein they were created?

A. Our first parents, being left to the freedom of their own will, fell from the estate wherein they were created, by sinning against God.

Lesson Hymn

"Follow me," the Master said:

We will follow Jesus;

By His word and Spirit led,

We will follow Jesus;

Still for us He lives to plead,

At the throne doth intercede,

Offers help in time of need;

We will follow Jesus.

Amen.

—Hymn 534, Book of Praise.

Lesson XII.

REVIEW—First Quarter

March 25, 1900

Golden Text—The Son of man came not to be ministered unto, but to minister.—Mark 10 : 45.



Primary Catechism—Review questions 65-78.

Shorter Catechism—14. *What is sin?*
A. Sin is any want of conformity unto, or transgression of, the law of God.

Lesson Hymn

Rest of the weary,
Joy of the sad,
Hope of the dreary,
Light of the glad,
Home of the stranger,
Strength to the end,
Refuge from danger,
Savior and Friend.

Ever confessing,
Thee, I will raise
Unto Thee blessing,
Glory and praise ;
All my endeavor,
World without end,
Thine to be ever,
Savior and Friend.

Amen.

—Hymn 95, Book of Praise.

Lesson Title**Golden Text**

LESSON I.	The Birth of Jesus.	Thou shalt call his name Jesus : for he shall save his people from their sins.—Matt. 1 : 21.
LESSON II.	The Child Jesus visits Jerusalem.	And Jesus increased in wisdom and stature, and in favor with God and man.—Luke 2 : 52.
LESSON III.	The Preaching of John the Baptist.	Prepare ye the way of the Lord.—Luke 3 : 4.
LESSON IV.	The Baptism and Temptation of Jesus.	This is my beloved Son, in whom I am well pleased.—Matt. 3 : 17.
LESSON V.	The first Disciples of Jesus.	They followed Jesus.—John 1 : 37.
LESSON VI.	Jesus and Nicodemus.	For 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 3 : 16.
LESSON VII.	Jesus at Jacob's well.	God is a Spirit ; and they that worship him must worship him in spirit and in truth.—John 4 : 24.
LESSON VIII.	Jesus rejected at Nazareth.	He came unto his own, and his own received him not.—John 1 : 11.
LESSON IX.	Jesus healing in Capernaum.	And he healed many that were sick.—Mark 1 : 34.
LESSON X.	The Paralytic healed.	The Son of Man hath power on earth to forgive sins.—Mark 2 : 10.
LESSON XI.	Jesus at Matthew's house.	He said unto him, Follow me.—Luke 5 : 27.
LESSON XII.	Review.	The Son of man came not to be ministered unto, but to minister.—Mark 10 : 45.

FOR WRITTEN ANSWERS

Write in the spaces below (or get some one to do so for you) some one thing that you have learned from each lesson.

LESSON I. The Birth of Jesus.

LESSON VI. Jesus and Nicodemus.

LESSON II. The Child Jesus Visits Jerusalem.

LESSON VII. Jesus at Jacob's Well.

LESSON III. The Preaching of John the Baptist.

LESSON VIII. Jesus Rejected at Nazareth.

LESSON IV. The Baptism and Temptation of Jesus.

LESSON IX. Jesus Healing in Capernaum.

LESSON V. The First Disciples of Jesus.

LESSON X. The Paralytic Healed.

LESSON XI. Jesus at Matthew's House.

Mrs. Redman

AN ORDER OF SERVICE, PRIMARY CLASSES

First Quarter, 1900

I. TEACHER—The Lord is in His holy temple.

CLASS—Let all the earth keep silence before Him.

II. SILENT PRAYER, followed by The Lord's Prayer.

III. OPENING HYMN.

IV. COLLECTION.

V. BIRTHDAY OFFERING AND PRAYER. This prayer should be more especially for missions. If no offering is presented, still have the prayer.

VI. GESTURE HYMN.

VII. SUPPLEMENTAL LESSON. Recite Golden Texts for the Quarter, as far as learned.

TEACHER—What did Jesus say about little children?

CLASS—Suffer the little children to come unto me, and forbid them not; for of such is the kingdom of heaven.

TEACHER—Let us hear what message Jesus has for us to-day.

VIII. THE LESSON for the day, with Golden Text, Lesson Hymn and Catechism.

IX. PRAYER. In simple words and short clauses by the teacher, the children repeating.

X. SING LESSON HYMN for the Quarter, 525, Book of Praise—

I want to be like Jesus,
Engaged in doing good,
So that of me it may be said:
"She hath done what she could."

XI. IN CONCERT. The Lord shall preserve thy going out and coming in from this time forth, and even for evermore.

XII. DISMISSAL.

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