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THE
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The
Home
Study
Series



FOR
THE
LITTLE
ONES

PUBLISHED UNDER AUTHORITY OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY

REV. R. DOUGLAS FRASER, M.A.

Editor and Business Manager

592 Markham Street

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The Primary Quarterly

VOL. IV.

JANUARY, FEBRUARY, MARCH, 1899

NO. I

FOR THE LITTLE ONES

I KNOW that the eyes of the little ones are quick to see and therefore I have given them a picture for each lesson, so that even those who are too "wee" to read may learn a great deal for themselves about the lesson without any other help. But they will want to know *ali* about it; and I am sure that mothers, and fathers, too, as well as big brothers and sisters, will take pains to read the Bible story all through for them, and ask them the questions, and get them to commit to memory the Golden Text and the Hymn and the Catechism and to repeat,—“What I have learned to-day.”

The teachers of the little ones can do almost nothing without the mothers, and so in every line that goes into the PRIMARY QUARTERLY the mothers will be kept in view, and how they may best help the children to prepare their lessons for the Sabbath School. There is nothing that the teachers are more anxious about than to have the sympathy and co-operation of the mothers, and mothers find that the added interest which a bright Sabbath School and a bright teacher give to the lesson makes the mother's part easier.

This explains why room is made in the PRIMARY QUARTERLY for articles on child training, such as that of Mrs. Crawford in the present number. It is needless to say that child training cannot be accomplished merely by following set rules. It is, above all, a thing of the heart. The mother instinct is the surest guide, as is mother love the strongest motive. At the same time knowledge counts, the knowledge that comes from the study of the child and of the principles of teaching, and from the experience of others.

Life has perhaps never been more difficult than to-day. Our young people need to be of very strong moral fibre to resist the shock of abounding temptation, and the still more dangerous drift away from God and holiness in the current of worldliness, which seems to be increasing in swiftness and force. It behoves all

who have to do with their training to begin very early and to be very expert. The mothers of to-day can scarcely take too much pains to know all that is to be known about these little creatures—men and women in miniature—who are to be developed into the men and women that they ought to be, so largely by the mother's hand.

Arrangements have therefore been made for articles from time to time by mothers of experience and by skilled teachers, in which the various phases of the old, but ever new, question will be discussed, and it is hoped with great profit; how the home and the Sabbath School may best work together in giving the very little ones their foundation lessons in the blessed Word of God, and in leading them, even from tender years, to be true followers of the Lord Jesus.

R. DOUGLAS FRASER.

A PRIMARY LESSON IN THE PULPIT

It was a very pleasant sight,—the ample and home-like church; a bank of palms and brilliant autumn flowers, covering the whole front of the pulpit-platform and reading-desks; the minister, whose very face betokened that it was a day of joy for him; and, in the choir-seats before the great organ, a score of sweet children. It was “Children's Day,” and, from the first word to the last, everything was for them. The older people were there, too, for it was at the hour of the regular morning service; but in this church, St. James' Square, Toronto, twice a year the children are invited to a service which is their very own.

“There's a friend for little children
Above the bright blue sky;
A Friend who never changeth,
Whose love can never die.”

So sang the children, and the whole congregation with them; and then, the pastor leading, all joined heartily in the Scripture readings of the General Assembly's Children's Day service.

A prayer followed, short and simple, in which

the youngest child might join ; and another hymn :

"God sees the little sparrow fall."

How close we all got to God as we sang :

"God made the little birds and flowers,
And all things large and small ;
He'll not forget His little ones,
I know He loves them all.

He loves me too, He loves me too,
I know He loves me too ;
Because He loves the little things,
I know He loves me too."

The subject, which was printed in beautiful red letters on the programme, was "A Trinity of Great Lights." The text was the question found in Job 11: 7, "Canst thou by searching find out God? Canst thou find out the Almighty unto perfection?"

The search for God, said the minister, is by far the most important search that can possibly be made. The first and great commandment runs "Thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thy heart," but we cannot love one whom we do not know.

No one can find out God perfectly ; but little children, as well as those who are older, can find out God in part ; and oh ! what a blessed finding out it is.

In order that we may discover Him God has given us many helps. There are many lights which reveal God. The subject, "A Trinity of Great Lights," suggests these three :

The Light of Nature,
The Light of Reason,
The Light of the World.

The Light of Nature takes us a long way toward God. For example, the sun and the moon and the stars speak of God; for without Him they could not exist. They are the lamps which God hangs high in the heavens to give light upon the earth. The study of the stars has led many a one to God, so wonderful are they in their size and movements and beauty.

But it is not the heavenly bodies alone that speak of God. The mountains are God's thoughts of strength ; the flowers are His thoughts of beauty ; the winds are God's messengers. A thousand things on every hand tell of His power and His goodness.

Here the speaker lighted one of the candles in the four-branched candlestick that rested on the pulpit before him. "That is like the light of Nature," he said. "It is not very clear and not very steady. It flickers with every passing breath." Lighting one after another of the candles, he continued : "The light of Nature comes to us from many quarters, the heavens, the mountains, the wind, the flowers. If I had one hundred candles here each would stand for some different light by which Nature seeks to show us God." The preacher then showed that, even when all the candles were lighted, they did not supply a very strong light. So Nature, although it affords a light that has led



THE REV. LOUIS H. JORDAN, B.D.,
St. James' Square Church, Toronto

multitudes in all the ages to know much of God's power and goodness, is utterly unable to reveal Him "unto perfection."

A gas-jet was now lighted from one of the candles. "That flame," said the speaker, "stands for the light of Reason, which, as you see, may very quickly be kindled from the light of Nature. And it is but a single light, whilst that from Nature (as represented by the numerous candles upon their stem) is varied and manifold ; for Reason is the same in all men, when it is right reason.

Some little bits of magnesium wire were now

dropped into the gas flame. They blazed up brightly, and were used to illustrate how Reason sometimes flashes out very brilliantly in men of genius, enabling them to understand and explain things with more than ordinary clearness.

"But in how far does the light of Reason enable a man to know God?" said the speaker. You see the windows of this church, the walls, the seats, the doors, the organ, all of them evidently designed and arranged for some purpose. Well, suppose one were to say: 'This building was never planned, not even thought of, indeed, until one morning it was found just as it stands. It came here by chance.' Would you believe it? 'Certainly not,' you say. You did not see it built, but you are sure that somebody must have planned and built it. In like manner, looking around one in the world, why is the ocean salt, and the sky blue, and the trees green, and the flowers gay? Or why is there a deep, restless longing within you for something that is above self, even for Him Who is the Almighty One? As you think it all out, you gradually become convinced that you yourself were created by a strong, wise, and merciful God, in order that you, too, might fulfil God's great eternal purposes.

"But the greatest light of 'all is yet to be named.'" Here the preacher touched the button of a powerful incandescent lamp, which stood in a central position upon the pulpit. It flashed out with startling effect, quite dimming the lesser lights on either side of it. "This lamp stands for Him Who said, 'I am the light of the world.'"

"How is it that this light leads young searchers for God so much more effectively than do the others? Because it was given us for that very purpose; it is that 'true Light which lighteth every man that cometh into the world'; because it is so much clearer than any other light; because this light is verily God Himself, 'He that hath seen Me hath seen the Father.'"

In closing, the speaker, like a skilful teacher, summed up his points. The light of Nature and the light of Reason has each its value, and should be followed so far as it leads, but neither, nor the both taken together, can reveal God completely. We can find Him out "unto perfection" only by the aid of that Light which is Christ. We are to remember, too, that we cannot see any light, however bright, unless we have open eyes. But Christ is opening people's eyes to-day when they

seek for this help, just as He opened the eyes of many blind men when He was on earth. We are gratefully to use all the light God has given us, and more will come. Following after Jesus (as He Himself said), we shall not walk in darkness, but "shall have the light of life."

Very impressive were the two or three moments of silent prayer which followed the sermon; and then came the voice of the preacher, speaking slowly and softly in the midst of the stillness:

**"Light Thou our way, our Father,
through Thy Son, until we see Thy face
in yonder light: Amen and Amen."**

THE MOTHER AND THE CHILD

By Mrs. Mattie Rose Crawford.

"A mother's love—how sweet the name!
What is a mother's love?
A noble, pure and tender flame,
Enkindled from above."

The centre of society is the home. The centre of home-life is the mother. From the home radiate the influences that make the nations of the world mean or great. The weight of a mother's influence upon the lives and characters of a nation's children can no more be estimated than can the effect of the sun in the world of nature.

Silently, steadily, radiating in every direction, piercing far below the surface, even to the very roots of life, does each work, final results, rather than present visible effects testifying to the greatness of the power at work in each case. And just as truly as the sun must shine as it does because of its very nature, so truly must the mother influence as she does because of her motherhood.

Each of these central forces stands out pre-eminently great, the one in the natural world, the other in the moral world, as touched in a special way by the Divine Hand of the Great Creator, and as specially appointed to the work to be done in their respective spheres.

But, alas! as we contemplate the results of these influences in the face of the centuries, the thoughtful must ever be struck with the fact that partial faithfulness only has marked the carrying out of the divine commission as given to the mother, the centre of the home, whilst the centre of the great solar system has been unflinching in its faithfulness.

"The unwearied sun from day to day
Does his Creator's power display."

But what is this divine commission to mothers? Womanhood has very many different commissions given to it, each, indeed, divine and great, but motherhood's supreme commission can be none other than in the words that fell so sweetly on the ears of the mother of Moses by the river's brink: "Take this child and nurse it for me." Would that every mother in every land could and would hear this command as supreme!

They hear it, it is true, but not with full understanding. They take the child. They love it. They sacrifice for it. But they forget to ask—

"How did you come to us, you dear?"

"God thought of you, and so I'm here."

They think not of the child as a gift from God. They wish to bring it up wisely and well, not for Him, but for themselves; and, indeed, it is often only when God in His Providence takes his own little one back to Himself, or when He thwarts some worldly ambition of the mother for her child, that she stops to think that it can be possible that she, with all her love and sacrifice, can have failed in her commission to her child.

To hear the divine commission with hearing ears the mother must first herself have felt the regenerating power of the Spirit of God. Then she must know His readiness to guide every day, every moment, under every circumstance. "My strength is sufficient for thee." She must also take in the significance of that word of the great Teacher, "The life is more than meat and the body than raiment." Then, with her Guide, Christ, beside her and her aim, "for Me," before her, she must, however incapable she feels herself to be through lack of education or otherwise, bravely face every difficulty to be overcome in the training of her child. She may not cast this upon any one else. The business is hers. Sabbath school teachers and day-school teachers may supplement her training, but the mother must lead; and many an illiterate mother has led in the training of a man of letters, and many a shrinking, timid mother has trained a hero.

Success in training demands keen intelligence, a clear conception of the purpose in view, a knowledge of the characteristics of the one under training, and of the best methods.

So then the mother, in trying to fulfil her com-

mission, must:

1. Seek to bring to bear upon the training of her child all her intelligence. In other words she must be wide awake and active. It will not do to hope and to fear simply; she must act. Circumstances and opportunities must be used to the best possible advantage.

2. The purpose for which her child is to be reared is "For Me"—God. The mother must herself seek to know God truly, from the Scripture and in daily experience. She must ever keep Him before her in all her plans for her child.

3. She must carefully study the disposition and capabilities of her child, and lead in the moulding process, whether the child is at home, directly under her eye, or at school, with outside influences upon him. The school-boy is in special need of the mother's leadership. No Sabbath School or day-school-teacher can be expected to do the work of the mother. The business of the mother is not only to feed and clothe the child, but it is to teach him self-knowledge, self-reverence, self-control, and the mother should know better than any teacher how each of her children can best acquire these qualities.

4. Then the mother should frequently ask "How best can I develop my child's capabilities?" What does my own experience tell me and the experience of others?

Mothers are apt to think themselves incapable of applying or taking advantage of any experience that bears "method" upon its surface. The methods of to-day shed much new light upon how to "train up the child in the way he should go," and mothers are as capable of finding out these methods and applying them intelligently as they are of clothing their children according to the fashion (and how seldom they fail in that!). How much more necessary that they should interest themselves in this higher training. In fact it is the business of the mother and should be one of her sweetest pleasures.

If any mother who can make a fashionable dress or pinatore fails to intelligently and methodically help in the intellectual and spiritual training of her child, it must surely be from want of thought or through lack of interest, for the talent successfully applied in the one case may be as successfully applied in the other.

Niagara Falls, Ont.

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A LOOK AHEAD

The lessons for the present quarter are in John's Gospel: Studies in the life of Christ. We see CHRIST in His different manifestations as THE LIGHT OF THE WORLD, GIVING LIGHT THROUGH HIS WORDS AND WORKS.

We see Him:

1. Introduced as The Light, John 1: 1-14.
2. Drawing the disciples to the light, John 1: 35-46.
3. Brightening a feast with His light, John 2: 1-11.
4. Casting light on the way of life, John 3: 1-16.
5. Satisfying with light and grace, John 4: 5-15.
6. Bringing healing and light to a home, John 4: 43-54.
7. Reflecting God's light, John 5: 17-27.
8. Bestowing light and cheer on the needy, John 6: 1-14.
9. Inviting all to come to the light, John 7: 14, 28-37.
10. Flashing light into a prison, John 8: 12, 31-36.
11. Opening blind eyes to the light, John 9: 1-11.
12. Leading His flock in His light, John 10: 1-16.
13. Review—CHRIST THE LIGHT OF THE WORLD.

PRAYER HYMN

[To be sung with hands folded and in low and reverent tones.]

Jesus, gentle Saviour,
Hear our earnest prayer,
Make us little children
All Thy constant care.

Dear and blessed Saviour,
Hold our little hands,
Lead us in Thy footsteps,
Heeding Thy commands.

CHILD CULTURE IN THE HOME, Martha H. Mosher (F. H. Revell Co., \$1). A book for mothers, in which the delicate and intricate problem of child training is discussed from evidently deep and practical study of the whole question.

CHRIST THE TRUE LIGHT

Lesson I.

John 1 : 1-14.

January 1, 1899

Golden Text—"In him was life ; and the life was the light of men."—John 1 : 4.**Catechism**—1. Who made you ? God made me. 2. Who is God ? God is my heavenly Father. 3. What kind of a Father is God ? God is a good and loving Father.

THE LESSON STORY

Once there was no place called the world, there was only God.

God's son was Jesus Christ, and He was God,



THE WORLD'S LIGHT

too. He made the world, but He did not make everything in the world at once.

The first thing God made was light, and after a while He made living things ; plants and animals first, and then people.

He could make light because He Himself is light, and He could make living creatures because He is life.

God gave everybody a soul as well as a body.

He put the sun in the sky to give light and heat to men's bodies, but He Himself was the light of men's souls.

God intended everybody's soul to be bright and good like His own, but very soon men made their hearts dark and ugly by doing what was wrong.

Jesus wanted very much to bring light into men's hearts again ; so He left His home in heaven to come down to the earth and become a man.

When He became a man He lived such a perfectly good life that those who heard Him speak and saw what He did came to know once more just what God is like.

Everybody ought to have been glad to see Jesus when He came, but some were not glad and would not believe in Him.

The people who ought to have known most about God—the Jews—did not know when they saw Jesus that He was the Son of God.

There was a good man called John the Baptist who did know that Jesus was the Son of God. He went about telling everybody that Jesus was "the light of the world." John was such a good man that some people thought he himself must be Jesus, but that was a mistake.

Jesus had something to offer to everybody who would trust Him, something that no one else can give, no matter how good he may be. Jesus says that "to as many as receive him to them he gives the right to become sons of God, even to those who believe on his name."

*The questions for the year are taken from Carson's PRIMARY CATECHISM for Religious Instruction in the Home and Sabbath School, by the courtesy of the publishers, Messrs. A. & W. MacKinlay, Halifax, Nova Scotia.

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

1. Was there ever a time when there was no world? Ans.—Yes, at the beginning.
2. Who made the world? Ans.—God's Son, Jesus Christ.
3. Who is Jesus Christ? Ans.—God's Son: and He is God Himself.
4. What was the first thing God made? Ans.—Light.
5. What did He make afterwards? Ans.—Plants and animals, and then people.
6. Why could God make light? Ans.—Because He Himself is light.
7. Why could God make living creatures? Ans.—Because He is life.
8. Who called Jesus the light of the world? Ans.—John the Baptist.
9. Why was Jesus called the Light? Ans.—Because He came to show people the way back to God.
10. How had people ever got away from God? Ans.—By doing what was wrong.
11. Did everybody believe that Jesus was the true light? Ans.—No.
12. Who did not receive Him? Ans.—The Jews.
13. Who were the Jews? Ans.—Christ's own people.
14. Who was John the Baptist? Ans.—A good man who told everybody who Jesus really was.
15. Why wasn't John the Baptist called "The Light"? Ans.—Because He was only a man.
16. What did Jesus say He would give to those who received Him? Ans.—"The right to become sons of God."
17. Why could He do this? Ans.—Because He is God.
18. What is the Golden Text? Ans.—"In him was life; and the life was the light of men."

MAKING SUNSHINE

I knew two little girls—sisters—who were ill, quite ill, with scarlet fever. An aunt who loved them dearly helped to take care of them. She would go into the room and turn to one little bed, asking, "How are you this morning, Allie?" "Better, Aunt Ruth, thank you." Then she would turn to the other with the same question. Little Susie would whine out from the pillow, "I aren't any better at all, Aunt Ruth."

One little girl was a delight to care for, the

other kept everybody worried because she was so gloomy and fretful.

Those little girls are women now; and Allie is still a ray of sunshine. All the friends love to go and see her, and have her visit them; she seems to shed sunshine all about her. People go to see Susie because she would be so hateful if they did not go, and they invite her to see them for the same reason. She never sees the bright side of people or things.

I HAVE LEARNED TO-DAY THAT **I Must Shine for Jesus**



LESSON HYMN

O JESUS, ever with us stay,
 Make all our moments calm and bright:
 Chase the dark night of sin away:
 Shed o'er the world Thy holy light. Amen.
 —Hymn 418, Book of Praise.

atkinson, Berlin

CHRIST'S FIRST DISCIPLES

Lesson II.

John 1 : 35-46.

January 8, 1899

Golden Text—"Behold the Lamb of God!"—John 1: 36.

Catechism—Ques. 4. Can you see God? No. I cannot see God, but He always sees me.

5. Why can you not see God? Because God is a Spirit, and has not a body as we have.

THE LESSON STORY

Our lesson to-day tells how the first disciples that Jesus, had become acquainted with Him.

There was a cousin of Jesus named John the Baptist, who was a prophet, and who had been sent by God to tell the people that Jesus was

Jesus too. When Jesus saw Simon He told him that by-and-bye his name would be changed to Peter, as that name would suit him better. Peter is the word for a rock, and Jesus meant that Simon would become very strong and steadfast as one of His followers.



The very next day Jesus met Philip, who lived in the same city as Andrew and Simon. He said to him, "Follow Me," which meant, be My disciple. Philip followed Jesus, and became one of His disciples.

Now, Philip knew a man called Nathanael, a very good and holy man, who was fond of reading in the Old Testament about Christ, and who had often wished that Christ would come, and that he could see Him with his own eyes. As soon as he had become acquainted with Jesus, Philip went to find Nathanael, and said to him that Jesus of Naz-

areth was the Christ, the Son of God, who was to come into the world. Nathanael would not believe him at first, but Philip said, "Come and see for yourself." When Nathanael saw Jesus and heard Him speak, he said, "Behold Thou art the Son of God, Thou art the King of Israel."

Jesus took these men, and the other disciples whom He afterwards called, along with Him wherever He went, and taught them a great many things about Himself and about His Father in heaven. John, who was one of these disciples, wrote down what Jesus said and did in the Gospel from which our Lessons for this half-year are taken, so that we also might know who He was and might be His disciples.

Andrew had a brother called Simon, and as soon as he could find him, he brought him to

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QUESTIONS

1. What does a disciple mean? Ans.—A learner and friend.
2. What did John the Baptist say to his friends about Jesus? Ans.—“Behold the Lamb of God.”
3. What did they do? Ans.—They followed Jesus.
4. What were the names of these two men? Ans.—John and Andrew.
5. What was Jesus doing? Ans.—He was walking along the road.
6. Did Jesus know that they were following Him? Ans.—Yes; He turned and spoke to them.
7. What did He say? Ans.—He said, “What seek ye?”
8. What did John and Andrew say? Ans.—“Master, where dwellest thou?”
9. Did Jesus tell them? Ans.—He said, “Come and see.”
10. Did they go? Ans.—Yes, they went with Him.
11. How long did they stay? Ans.—The rest of the day.
12. What did Jesus likely talk to them about? Ans.—About what He had come into the world to do.
13. What other person did Andrew bring to Jesus? Ans.—His brother, Simon.
14. What new name did Jesus say Simon was to have? Ans.—Peter.
15. What does Peter mean? Ans.—A rock.
16. Why was he to be called Peter? Ans.—Because he was to be a strong and steadfast Christian—like a rock.
17. Is that the right sort of Christian? Ans.—Yes; Christians should be steadfast.
18. Who was the next disciple that came to Jesus? Ans.—Philip.
19. What led him to come? Ans.—Jesus called him.
20. Whom did Philip bring? Ans.—A friend named Nathanael.
21. What sort of a man was Nathanael? Ans.—A very good and holy man.
22. What did Nathanael say to Jesus? Ans.—“Thou art the Son of God; thou art the King of Israel.”
23. Should we invite our friends to come to Jesus? Ans.—Yes; He tells us to invite all our friends, and has promised that if they come He will not turn them away.



WHAT A CHILD CAN DO

A little girl was anxious to be of service to someone. She asked her teacher what she could do. The teacher said, “You could bring your father to Sunday-school.” The father was a drunkard and very profane. He had never been to Sunday-school.

At first she did not succeed. She could not even

get him to the door of the little log house where the school was held. But she persevered quietly and kindly. At last the father joined the school.

What is the result? asked Mr. Moody, as he told the story of the incident to illustrate that the weakest might do good service.—“The father has planted 1,180 Sabbath-schools.”

I HAVE LEARNED
TO-DAY THAT

I Should Follow Jesus

LESSON HYMN

COME to the Saviour, make no delay,
Here in His Word He's shown us the way;
Here in our midst He's standing to-day,
Tenderly saying, “Come!”
—Hymn 560, Book of Praise.

CHRIST'S FIRST MIRACLE

Lesson III.

John 2: 1-11.

January 15, 1899

Golden Text—"And his disciples believed on him." John 2: 11.**Catechism**—6. Where is God? God is everywhere. 7. What does God know? God knows all things.

THE LESSON STORY

Cana was a little town in Galilee, only six miles away from Nazareth, the place where Jesus lived when He was a boy.

Mary still lived in Nazareth, though some of her friends lived in Cana.



One day Mary was invited to go to Cana, for her friends were going to have a great wedding party, and they wanted everyone they knew to be there to help them to have a good time.

Jesus was invited too; and His friends Andrew, John, Peter, Philip, Nathanael, and James were there with Him.

We are glad that John went, because he wrote down all that he saw and heard there, so that we can know just what happened.

When Jesus and His friends came they found a great many people there before them, who were all eating and drinking and enjoying themselves.

Outside the room, on the ground, there were twelve big jars standing half full of water for the people to wash their hands in as they went into the house.

There had been some wine for the people to drink who came first, but not enough for everybody.

As soon as Mary saw that there was not enough wine, she said to Jesus, "They have no wine."

The servants were listening, and soon she told them that they must do whatever Jesus wanted to have done.

Jesus saw the large jars and He said to the servants, "Fill them up with water," and they filled them up to the brim.

When they had filled them, He said, "Take and dip out a cupful and give it to the one who sits at the head of the table."

When he had tasted it he said, "What good wine is this! Why did you not let us have it before? Where did you get it?"

Then the servants said it was Jesus who had told them to fill the jars with water.

Soon everybody was talking of the wonder, Jesus had done.

None of the people had ever seen anyone before who could change water into wine, and His disciples felt quite sure now that He was really God's Son.

Jesus wanted His mother and His friends to know that He was the Son of God and that is why He did wonders, or miracles, as they are sometimes called; and besides, He wished the people at the feast to be happier because He was there. We will always have a brighter, better time if we have Jesus with us in all our pleasures.

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

1. What was the name of the place where the wedding party was? Ans.—Cana of Galilee.

2. Who were invited to the marriage? Ans.—Jesus and Mary, his mother, and some of the disciples.

3. Who was it who wrote down what happened at the marriage? Ans.—John.

4. What did Mary say when she saw Jesus come in? Ans.—“They have no wine.”

5. What did she say to the servants? Ans.—“Do whatever Jesus tells you.”

6. What did Jesus tell the servants to do? Ans.—“Fill the water-pots with water.”

7. Where were the water-pots standing? Ans. Outside the room on the ground.

8. When the servants had filled them up to the top what did Jesus say? Ans.—“Take a cupful to the man at the head of the table.”

9. What did *he* say when he had tasted it? Ans.—“What good wine this is! Where did

you get it?”

10. What did the servants tell him? Ans.—That it was Jesus who had changed the water into wine.

11. Had anyone ever seen water changed into wine before? Ans.—No, never.

12. What did the people think about it? Ans.—They were very much astonished.

13. Why did Jesus do it? Ans.—Because He wanted everyone to know that he was the Son of God.

14. What other reason had He for making water into wine? Ans.—He wished his friends to be comfortable and to enjoy themselves.

15. What do we call this wonderful work that Jesus did? Ans.—A miracle.

16. What is the Golden Text? Ans.—“And His disciples believed on Him.”

17. Why did they believe on Him? Ans.—Because of the miracle which He had done.

CHRIST AT NELLIE'S PARTY

Once Chrissy Lee had a birthday party, and when she came to invite Kitty Gray, who was two years older than Nellie, her little sister, she said: “I'm not going to invite you, Nellie; you are so much younger than we are.”

Nellie's feelings were sadly hurt. She went away and cried about it. But, when her cry was over, she wiped her eyes and began to think.

Then, she ran to mamma and asked if she might have a party when her birthday came. “And then,” she said, “I'll invite all the little bits of things, so they won't feel badly.”

The day came and all her little playmates were

invited, and a gay company it was. Nellie devoted herself to the very youngest, and mamma and Kitty played with the older ones.

When they went home, Nellie sat down in her little chair, and leaned her head on mamma's lap.

“I'm so tired, mamma, but I'm so happy. I asked Jesus to make my birthday-party a real good time; you know what I mean—without any quarrels or troubles. And, mamma, Chrissy said, ‘I wish now I had invited you to my party’; and I said, ‘Oh, never mind, Chrissy,’ and I tried to say it as pleasant as I could, so she shouldn't know I felt hurt.”

I HAVE LEARNED
TO-DAY THAT

I Should Invite Jesus Every Place

LESSON HYMN

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,
Happy I shall be,
He is gently calling
Little ones like me. Amen.*

—Hymn 553, Book of Praise.

CHRIST AND NICODEMUS

Lesson IV.

John 3 : 1-16.

January 22, 1899

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.

Catechism—8. What does God know about you? God knows everything I think, say or do.



THE LESSON STORY

Jesus had no home of His own, but He used to stay sometimes at the homes of His disciples. John had a house in Jerusalem, and once, when

His friends were called the Pharisees, and they hated Jesus because He had told them they were only pretending to be good, when really their lives were full of cruelty and meanness. They called Jesus bad names, and they would have liked to catch Him and kill Him.

Nicodemus was a good deal better than his friends, for he believed that Jesus was a good man, and that He would be able to teach him about God: that is why he came to see Him.

The first thing Jesus told him was: "You must be born again."

Nicodemus said he didn't understand how a man could become a little baby again after he was grown up. Then Jesus explained to him that He did not mean that his body must become a child again, but that his soul must be made new by God's Spirit.

Nicodemus was surprised at what

Jesus was there, a man came to see Him at night. The houses in that hot country have flat roofs, so that people can sit out upon them, where it is cool and pleasant, and talk to their friends.

Perhaps Jesus was sitting on John's roof when the man, whose name was Nicodemus, came to call.

Nicodemus was afraid to come to see Jesus in the daytime because he knew his friends would notice where he was going, and would be angry.

Jesus said, and asked: "How can these things be?"

Jesus told him that God's Spirit is like the wind, for when the wind is blowing you can see the trees and the grass moving, but nobody can see the wind itself. In the same way you can see what God's Spirit does, although nobody can see the Spirit with his eyes.

When it was time for Nicodemus to go home, Jesus gave him a verse to learn which helped him to become one of His followers. The verse was the Golden Text for to-day.



QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

1. Where was Jesus staying when a man came to see Him at night? Ans.—At John's house, in Jerusalem.
2. What was the man's name? Ans.—Nicodemus.
3. Why did he come at night? Ans.—Because he did not want his friends to see where he was going.
4. Who were his friends? Ans.—The Pharisees.
5. Why did he not want the Pharisees to know about it? Ans.—Because they hated Jesus, and would be angry with him for visiting Jesus.
6. Why did they hate Him? Ans.—He told them of their wickedness.
7. What did Jesus say to Nicodemus? Ans.—“You must be born again.”
8. Did Jesus mean that Nicodemus must become a little baby again? Ans.—No.
9. What did He mean? Ans.—That he must have a new heart, filled with God's Spirit.
10. What did Jesus say the Spirit is like? Ans.—Like the wind.
11. Why is it like the wind? Ans.—Because no one can see it with his eyes.
12. What can they see? Ans.—What the Spirit does.
13. What does God's Spirit do? Ans.—It changes people's hearts.
14. Did Jesus say anything else to Nicodemus? Ans.—Yes, He gave him a verse to learn and think about.
15. What was the verse? Ans.—To-day's Golden Text.
16. What is the Golden Text? Ans.—“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.”



CLEAR THROUGH

A little boy, only seven years old, who was trying hard to be a Christian, was watching the servant Maggie as she prepared the potatoes for dinner.

Soon she pared an extra large one, which was very white and nice on the outside, but when cut into pieces it showed itself to be hollow and black inside with dry rot. Instantly Willie exclaimed, “Why, Maggie, that potato isn't a

Christian.”

“What do you mean?” asked Maggie. “Don't you see it has a bad heart?” was Willie's reply.

It seems this little boy had learned enough of the religion of Jesus to know that, however fair the outside may be, it will never do to have the heart black. We must be sound and right, clear through.



I HAVE LEARNED
TO-DAY THAT

I Should Believe in Jesus



LESSON HYMN

O WHAT can little hearts do
To please the King of Heaven?
Our hearts, if God His spirit send,
Can love and trust their Saviour Friend,
Such grace to mine be given. Amen.

—Hymn 532, Book of Praise.

CHRIST AT JACOB'S WELL

Lesson V.

John 4: 5-15.

January 29, 1899

Golden Text—"Whosoever drinketh of the water that I shall give him shall never thirst."—
John 4: 14.

Catechism—9. **What can God do?** God can do all that he wishes to do.



THE LESSON STORY

In Palestine anyone who digs a well is remembered for a long time. It is a hot and dry country, and water is very scarce. Jacob, who lived

thought Him only some Jew she had never seen before.



Jesus said, "Give me to drink." The woman said, "It is strange for you to ask me for water, because everyone knows that Jews and Samaritans are bad friends and do not speak when they meet." Jesus said, "If you knew who I am you would ask me to give you living water."

The woman did not understand that Jesus meant eternal life. She thought He was only speaking of water from the well.

Jesus said, "Anybody who drinks the water from the well gets thirsty again, but whoever drinks living water never gets thirsty again."

She did not know yet that it was Christ who was speaking, and she said she would like very much like to have living water, so that she

need not take the trouble to come to the well every day to fill her pitcher.

Then Jesus looked into her heart, and saw the things she liked to do, and that her life had been bad. He was able to tell her everything she had ever done, because He was God.

One day Jesus had to take a long walk with His disciples. They were going through Samaria from Judea to Galilee.

As Jesus told the woman her sins, she felt sure that He was more than a man, perhaps the Son of God from heaven; so she dropped her pitcher and ran home as fast as she could to tell all her friends what a wonderful person she had seen at Jacob's well. She said to them, "Come, see a man that told me all things that ever I did. Is not this the Christ?"

About noon they came near to a town called Sychar, and presently they saw Jacob's well close by.

Jesus felt tired and thirsty, for the sun was hot and the road dusty, so the disciples said, if He would sit down by the well and rest they would go on to the town and buy food.

While He was sitting resting a Samaritan woman came along with a pitcher to draw water from the well. She did not know Jesus, but

And they, too, believed in Christ because of what the woman said.

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

1. Near what town was Jacob's well? Ans.—Near Sychar.
2. Who sat there one day to rest long after Jacob was dead? Ans.—Jesus.
3. What had Jesus been doing that day? Ans.—Taking a long walk with His disciples.
4. Where were they all going? Ans.—From Judea to Galilee.
5. Who came to the well while Jesus sat there? Ans.—A Samaritan woman with a pitcher.
6. What did Jesus say to her? Ans.—“Give me to drink.”
7. What did the woman say? Ans.—“It is strange for you who are a Jew to ask a drink from a woman of Samaria.”
8. Why did the woman think it strange? Ans.—Because Jews and Samaritans were bad friends.
9. What did Jesus reply to this? Ans.—If you would ask me I could give you living water.
10. Did the woman think she would like to have living water? Ans.—Yes.
11. Why? Ans.—So that she need not trouble coming to fill her pitcher every day.
12. Did she understand what Jesus meant? Ans.—No, not yet.
13. What did Jesus do then? Ans.—He began to tell her what kind of woman she was.
14. When Jesus told her everything she had ever done, how did she feel? Ans.—She felt sorry for her sins.
15. What did she think about Jesus? Ans.—That he was more than a man.
16. What happened then? She dropped her pitcher and ran to tell her friends about Jesus.
17. What did she tell them? Ans.—“Come, see a man that told me all things that ever I did. Is not this the Christ?”



HOW TO LOOK AT A GIFT

Patty had received a doll's trunk at Christmas; and as Prue seemed to wish for one, the grandmamma, who acted as “fairy godmother” to the children, gave her one for her birthday.

Patty's happened to be a little larger than Prue's; and she liked nothing better than to call Prue's attention to the fact.

Prue bore it very well; but finally, when Patty

said, with a pitying air, “Prue, I'm so used to my big trunk that when I look at yours it looks so small to me!” Prue turned in virtuous indignation:

“Well, I don't care, Patty, you're not a bit nice! It isn't the *smallness* you ought to look at when anybody gives you anything—it's the kindness.”



I HAVE LEARNED
TO-DAY THAT

Jesus Satisfies Us



LESSON HYMN

SAVIOUR teach me day by day,
Love's sweet lesson to obey;
Sweeter lesson cannot be—
Loving Him who first loved me. Amen.

—Hymn 575, Book of Praise.

THE NOBLEMAN'S SON HEALED

Lesson VI.

John 4: 43-54.

February 5, 1899

Golden Text—"Jesus saith unto him, Thy son liveth; and himself believed and his whole house."—John 4: 53.

Catechism—10. **Who is Jesus Christ?** Jesus Christ is the Son of God. 11. **Who is the Holy Spirit?** The Holy Spirit is the Spirit of God.



THE LESSON STORY

In Capernaum there lived a nobleman with his son. The boy's father was rich so that the little fellow had nice clothes to wear, and good things



to eat, and a fine house to live in, and servants to wait on him. But one day he took very sick, so sick that the father and mother thought they were going to lose him, and everything looked very dark and sad.

They would have given everything they had if their son could be made well again, but he only got worse and worse.

Jesus happened just then to be not far from their house, for He had come back to Cana where He had turned the water into wine at the wedding, and everybody was talking of the wonders He had just been doing at Jerusalem. So the boy's father thought, "Perhaps He could cure my boy; I'll go and ask Him."

Then he got ready as quickly as he could and went to Jesus. As soon as the nobleman saw Jesus he said, "Will you please come to my house and cure my little boy, for he's dying?"

"When Jesus saw that the man was very much in earnest, He said, "Go home, your son will live."

Very soon the father was on his way back, his heart full of light and gladness. He felt sure that Jesus' words were true and that he would find his boy better.

When he got almost home, some of the servants ran out to meet him and said, "Your son is living." "What time did he begin to get better," asked the father. They said "About one o'clock."

Then the father knew that it was the very same time that Jesus had said, "Your son liveth." So he and everyone in the house believed that Jesus was not only a man who could cure sick people, but that He was the Son of God.



QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

1. Where did the sick boy live? Ans.—In Capernaum.
2. Who was his father? Ans.—A nobleman.
3. Where was Jesus at this time? Ans.—In Cana.
4. Had He ever been there before? Ans.—Yes; when He had turned water into wine.
5. Who came to see Jesus at Cana? Ans.—The nobleman.
6. What did he want? Ans.—He wanted Jesus to cure his son.
7. Why did he think Jesus was able to do it? Ans.—Because he had heard of His curing other people.
8. Where did the father ask Jesus to go? Ans.—Back to his home.
9. Did Jesus go? Ans.—No.
10. What did He do instead? Ans.—He said, "Your son will live."
11. Was the father satisfied? Ans.—Yes; because he believed the words of Jesus.
12. Who went out to meet the father coming home? Ans.—The servants.
13. What did they say? Ans.—"Your son is living."
14. What did the father ask them? Ans.—To tell him the time of day the boy began to get better.
15. What time did they say it was? Ans.—One o'clock.
16. What words had the father heard Jesus say at one o'clock? Ans.—"Your son will live."
17. What did the man and his family and servants then think about Jesus? Ans.—They were sure that He was the Son of God.
18. What is the Golden Text? Ans.—Jesus said unto him, Thy son liveth; and himself believed and his whole house.

SEEING AND BELIEVING

One day in India a native came to a missionary and said he had been talking with some sailors, who were bad men because they told wicked lies. He said that they had told him that the water where they lived sometimes got so hard that men could stand on it! "But, of course," said the native, "you know I would not believe such a silly lie as that! I know better."

"Well," said the missionary, "that story is true. I have often stood on the water when it was so hard that men and horses, and even

elephants, would not break it. Do you believe that?"

The native's face looked puzzled, but his answer was prompt. "Yes, I believe it because you say so; but I don't see how it can be!"

How much more ready this converted heathen was to believe what the missionary said, even though he could not understand how it could be, than we are sometimes to believe the Lord Jesus Christ Himself.

I HAVE LEARNED
TO-DAY THAT

Christ Can Heal and Help

LESSON HYMN

THE Great Physician now is near,
The sympathizing Jesus;
He speaks the drooping heart to cheer;
O, hear the voice of Jesus!

Sweetest note in seraph song,
Sweetest name on mortal tongue,
Sweetest carol ever sung,

"Jesus, blessed Jesus." Amen.

—Hymn 544, Book of Praise.

CHRIST'S DIVINE AUTHORITY

Lesson VII.

John 5: 17-27.

February 12, 1899

Golden Text—"This is indeed the Christ the Saviour of the world."—John 4: 42.

Catechism—12. Are the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit different Gods? No. These three persons are one God. 13. What book tells us about God? The Bible tells us about God.



THE LESSON STORY

Jesus was always glad to talk about His Father, honored God Himself. If they did not treat Jesus as, if He were God, then they were dishonoring God.

Once, when He was preaching in Jerusalem, He told the people that His Father had made everything in the world, and that He kept everybody alive by His power.



He said, too, that His Father loved Him so much that He told Him everything He Himself did, and that whatever He saw His Father do He was able to do.

Jesus said that God wanted everybody to love and honor Him as His Son just as much as they

honored God Himself. If they did not treat Jesus as, if He were God, then they were dishonoring God.

When the Jews heard Jesus saying that God was His Father they were very angry. They were angry, too, because Jesus cured sick people on the Sabbath day. They forgot that the Sabbath was His own day, because He had made it, and that it was a good thing to do kind deeds on that day. They were so angry that they wanted to kill Him.

Then Jesus told them that He was able to raise the dead to life.

By "the dead" He meant two kinds of people. First, those whose hearts were so full of sin that they could not love God at all; and, second, those whose bodies were cold and dead, and who had been put away in their graves.

Jesus told the people, too, that His Father had made Him a judge, and that at the last day, when everyone is to stand before God's great white throne, He will be there to say who is to be punished and who is to be rewarded.

Jesus does not want anybody to be punished, and so He said: "He that heareth my word, and believeth on him that sent me, hath everlasting life."

The reason Jesus came to live in the world was to bring light into the world, and to teach people about His Father, and that because He Himself is the Son of God He is able to save the world.



QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

1. Who was Jesus' Father? Ans.—God.
2. Did everybody think that Jesus was God's Son? Ans.—No.
3. Who would not believe that Jesus was the Son of God? Ans.—The Jews.
4. How did they feel when they heard Jesus say that God was His Father? Ans.—Very angry.
5. Were they angry at anything else? Ans.—Yes. They said Jesus had broken the Sabbath day.
6. Was this true? Ans.—No.
7. What did the Jews want to do with Jesus? Ans.—They wanted to kill Him.
8. What did Jesus say about the dead? Ans.—He said He could raise the dead.
9. Did he mean only people who were lying in their graves? Ans.—No. He meant also those whose hearts were dead, because they did not love God.
10. What did Jesus say God wanted everyone to do? Ans.—To honor his Son.
11. Who is God's Son? Ans.—Jesus Christ.
12. What has God made His Son? Ans.—A judge.
13. When is Jesus going to be a judge? Ans.—At the last day.
14. Who will He then judge? Ans.—Everybody in the world.
15. Does Jesus want to punish anybody? Ans.—No. He wants everybody to believe on Him and to do what is right.
16. What has Jesus promised to give to everyone who believes on Him? Ans.—Everlasting life.
17. What is the Golden Text? Ans.—This is indeed the Christ, the Saviour of the world.

A BRAVE DOG

A fine Newfoundland dog and a mastiff had a quarrel. They were fighting on a bridge, and being blind with rage, as is often the case, over they went into the water.

The banks were so high that they were forced to swim some distance before they came to a landing place.

It was very easy for the Newfoundland dog; he was as much at home in the water as a fish. But not so with poor Bruce. He struggled and tried his best to swim, but made little headway.

Old "Bruno," the Newfoundland, had reached the bank, and turned to look at his enemy. He saw plainly that his strength was fast failing, and that he was likely to drown. So what should he do but plunge in, seize him gently by the collar, and keeping his nose above water, tow him safely into port.

It was curious to see the dogs look at each other when they had shaken their wet coats. Poor Bruce's face said as plainly as if he had been able to speak, "Bruno, you have saved my life. I shall never quarrel with you again."

I HAVE LEARNED
TO-DAY THAT **Jesus is Indeed the Christ**

LESSON HYMN

HOSANNA in the highest!
That ancient song we sing
For Christ is our Redeemer,
The Lord of Heaven our King. Amen.
—Hymn 539, Book of Praise

CHRIST FEEDING THE FIVE THOUSAND

Lesson VIII.

John 6: 1-14.

February 19, 1899

Golden Text.—"I am the bread of life."—John 6: 35.**Catechism.**—14. **What more does the Bible teach us?** The Bible teaches us how God wishes us to live. 15. **Who wrote the Bible?** Good men who were taught by the Holy Spirit

THE LESSON STORY

One day early in the morning the people who lived at Capernaum saw Jesus get into a little boat, with His disciples, and sail across the lake. They were sorry to see Him go away, because

for Jesus to heal, and He cured them all.

He preached, and taught the people, too, and they listened to Him from morning until night. When it came towards evening the disciples said to Jesus, "Send the people home."



Jesus knew that they were hungry and tired, because they had had nothing to eat all day, and He said, "Give them something to eat."

The disciples said, "No, we cannot, for even if we had money there are no shops near where we could buy bread for all these people."

Then Andrew said, "There is a little boy here with five barley loaves and two small fishes, but what are they among so many?" Jesus said, "Bring them to me, and make everybody sit down on the grass."

After all the people were seated Jesus took the food, and, after thanking God for it, He gave

it to His disciples and told them to feed the people.

While they were passing it around Jesus made it enough for everybody, so that when they had finished there were pieces of bread and fish left over lying on the ground. Jesus said: "Don't waste anything." So the disciples gathered up all the little pieces and found there were twelve baskets full. Then He sent the people home.

It had been a wonderful day for them; their hunger had been satisfied by a miracle; the sick had been healed; and they had seen Jesus, the "Light of the world," and heard His voice.

He had done so many miracles among them.

When they saw where He had gone, they ran after Him along the shore, thinking they would see Him do more of these wonderful works.

When Jesus and His disciples reached the other side they saw all these people coming to them around the end of the lake. There were about five thousand men, not counting the women and little children.

Jesus had intended to rest Himself with His disciples, but when He saw the crowds of people following Him He was sorry for them, and said they were like sheep without a shepherd.

Some of the people had brought sick friends

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

1. What time of day was it when Jesus left Capernaum? Ans.—Early in the morning.
2. Where was He going? Ans.—To the other side of the lake.
3. Who went in the boat with Him? Ans.—His disciples.
4. Who followed Him along the shore? Ans.—A great crowd of people.
5. About how many people were there? Ans.—About five thousand.
6. Why did they follow Him? Ans.—To see His wonders and to hear Him preach.
7. Who had some of the people brought with them? Ans.—Sick friends.
8. What did Jesus do for the sick ones? Ans.—He cured them all.
9. How long did the people listen to Jesus? Ans.—From morning until night?
10. When it was getting late what did the disciples say to Jesus? Ans.—“Send [the people home.
11. What did Jesus say? Ans.—“They are tired and hungry; give them something to eat.”
12. Why couldn't the disciples feed them? Ans.—They had neither bread nor money to buy bread, and there were no shops near.
13. What did Andrew say? Ans.—“There is a little boy here with five loaves and two fishes.”
14. What did Jesus say? Ans.—“Bring them to me.”
15. What did He tell the people to do then? Ans.—Sit down on the grass.
16. What then did He do? Ans.—He thanked God for the food.
17. Who passed it around? Ans.—The disciples.
18. Was there enough for everybody? Ans.—Yes.
19. How do we know there was enough? Ans.—Because there was some left.
20. How much was left? Ans.—Twelve baskets full.
21. How did Jesus make it enough? Ans.—By a miracle.
22. Why could Jesus work miracles? Ans.—Because He was the Son of God.
23. Why did He do this miracle? Ans.—Because He was sorry for the hungry people and wished to bring light and cheer into their lives.
24. What is the Golden Text? Ans.—“I am the bread of life.”



I HAVE LEARNED
TO-DAY THAT

JESUS CAN GIVE US ALL WE NEED



LESSON HYMN

LET us with a gladsome mind,
Praise the Lord for He is kind;
For his mercies aye endure,
Ever faithful, ever sure.

CHRIST AT THE FEAST

Lesson IX.

John 7 : 14, 28-37.

February 26, 1899

Golden Text—"If any man thirst, let him come unto me, and drink."—John 7 : 37.

Catechism—16. What besides the Bible teaches us about God? All God's works teach us about Him. 17. What are God's works? The world and everything in it, the sun, the moon, and all the stars.



THE LESSON STORY

The name of the largest building in Jerusalem was the Temple. It was God's house and Jesus often used to preach there.



One day He was preaching and teaching in the Temple and a great many people were listening

to Him. The reason the Temple was so crowded that day was because everybody in the country had come to Jerusalem to the harvest thanksgiving which was called "the Feast."

Many of the people were glad to find that Jesus had come too, because they had heard a great deal about Him, and some of them had seen the miracles that He had done in other places.

They all knew that God had promised some day to send a Saviour who would be the Light of the world, and many of the people believed that Jesus was the Christ who had been promised. The Pharisees would not believe that Jesus was Christ, and they hated Him because He had told them of their own wickedness.

On the last day of the feast they were watching for Him, for they wanted to catch Him and to kill Him. But when they saw so many people listening gladly to His words they were afraid to touch Him, so they waited for another chance.

Jesus knew that some day cruel men would put Him to death, but He was not afraid of them, for He knew that they could not do it until God said it was time.

He knew, too, that there were many people in the crowd who were thirsty for the love and forgiveness of God; so He cried with a loud voice that everybody in the Temple could hear: "If any man thirst let him come unto me and drink."



QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

1. What was the name of the largest building in Jerusalem? Ans.—The Temple.
2. Whose house was it? Ans.—God's House.
3. Who often used to preach there? Ans.—Jesus.
4. When was the Temple most crowded? Ans.—At the time of the Feast.
5. Did Jesus go to the Feast? Ans.—Yes.
6. What did He do in the Temple? Ans.—He taught the people.
7. Did everyone believe what He said? Ans. No.
8. Who did not believe Him? Ans.—The Pharisees.
9. What did they try to do? Ans.—They tried to catch Him to put Him to death.
10. Why did they not then take Him? Ans.—They were afraid to touch Him.
11. Why were they afraid? Ans.—Because so many people believed on Him and were ready to stand up for Him.
12. Did Jesus know that they wanted to kill Him? Ans.—Yes, but He was not afraid.
13. Why was He not afraid? Ans.—Because He knew they couldn't touch Him until God allowed it.
14. What is the Golden Text? Ans.—“If any man thirst let him come unto me and drink.”
15. When did Jesus say these words? Ans.—In the Temple on the last day of the Feast.

WAS IT OUR JESUS?

A little three-year-old girl stood at the window one Sunday “watching for papa,” who was at church. Soon she spied him coming; and as he entered she said, “papa, what did Mr. Ross preach about this morning?”

Her father replied, “He preached about Jesus.”

“Papa, was it *our Jesus*?” she asked.

“Yes,” said her father, “it was *our Jesus*.”

The eyes brightened at the thought that the minister knew her Jesus and spoke about Him in his congregation.

Do you, dear little one, claim this Jesus a yours? I hope so, for it is a most blessed thought that all the little girls and boys may have Him for their own Saviour. No matter how much He loves other children, there is room in His heart for you and as many others as will ask Him to care for them.

When He was upon earth one of His disciples tells how when “they brought young children to Him, and He took them up in His arms, and blessed them,” and rejoiced to do it.



I HAVE LEARNED TO-DAY THAT I Should Come to Jesus for Light



LESSON HYMN

ALL hail the power of Jesus' name!
 Let angels prostrate fall;
 Bring forth the royal diadem,
 To crown Him Lord of all. Amen.
 —Hymn 90, Book of Praise.

CHRIST FREEING FROM SIN

Lesson X.

John 8: 12, 31-36

March 5, 1899

Golden Text—"If the Son therefore shall make you free, ye shall be free indeed."—John 8: 36.

Catechism—18. What do these wonderful works tell us about God? They tell us of His wisdom, His power and His love.



THE LESSON STORY

Before the people who had come to the feast in Jerusalem went back to their homes, they had another chance of hearing Jesus preach in the Temple.

The proud Jews who were listening thought they were free already, because they were related to Abraham, and they did not quite understand what Jesus meant by being free.



Then Jesus explained to them that if a man had Satan for his master then he was Satan's slave or servant, and would have to do just what Satan made him do.

He told them, too, that He Himself had come into the world on purpose to help people to break free from sin and Satan, and to help them to do right—and that He wanted to teach everybody to serve God.

Some of the people's hearts were still so dark that they could not see what Jesus meant,—so He said, "I am the light of the world, He that followeth me shall not walk in darkness but shall have the light of life."

This time Jesus spoke to the people who had believed that He was the Son of God.

He knew that they would not likely hear His voice again, so He explained to them that when they could not see Him with their eyes they could still be His real disciples, if they would remember all that He had taught them.

Jesus said, too, that if they kept on doing what was right and trusting in God, they should be made free

Those proud, wicked Jews were really in prison, though they did not know it, and Satan was their gaoler. Satan's prison is a terribly dark and dreadful place, but when people have never seen anything brighter they do not know how dreadful it is. Jesus came to flash light into the prison-house so that the prisoners might see what a bad place it is. Then they will want to get out, and Jesus, who is the Light, will lead them out.



QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

1. Where was Jesus in to-day's lesson? Ans.—In the Temple.
2. Had He ever been there before? Ans.—Yes, often.
3. What was He doing? Ans.—Teaching the people.
4. To whom was He speaking specially? Ans.—To those who had believed on Him.
5. What did He tell them? Ans.—That they must remember all that He had taught them.
6. What did He tell them He was able to do for them? Ans.—That He was able to make them free.
7. Did the Jews think they needed to be made free? Ans.—No.
8. What did Jesus say He was able to free them from? Ans.—From sin.
9. Why did Jesus come into the world? Ans.—To make people free from sin.
10. What did He promise to give to those that followed Him? Ans.—The Light of Life.
11. What is the Golden Text? Ans.—“If the Son therefore shall make you free, ye shall be free indeed.”



SIN BLOTTED OUT

“I cannot think what becomes of all the sins God forgives, mother,” said a little fellow one day as he took his favorite seat on his mamma’s knee.

“Why, Charlie, can you tell me where are all the figures you wrote on your slate yesterday?”

“I washed them all out, mother.”

“And where are they then?”

“Why, they are nowhere; they are gone,” said Charlie.

“Just so it is with our sins; if we believe in the Lord Jesus Christ, they are gone—blotted out—to be remembered no more.

“As far as the east is from the west, so far hath He removed our transgressions from us.”



I HAVE LEARNED
TO-DAY THAT

Christ Frees From Sin



LESSON HYMN

ONE is kind above all others—
O how He loves!
His is love beyond a brother’s—
O how He loves!
Earthly friends may fail and leave us,
One day soothe, the next day grieve us:
But this friend will ne’er deceive us—
O how He loves! Amen.

—Hymn 542, Book of Praise.

CHRIST HEALING THE BLIND MAN

Lesson XI.

John 9: 1-11.

March 12, 1899

Golden Text—"One thing I know, whereas I was blind, now I see."—John 9: 25.

Catechism—19. **What does God do for everything He has made?** God watches over all His works, and provides for the wants of every living thing.



THE LESSON STORY

Once there was a little boy born who could not open his eyes. He lived with his father and mother near Jerusalem, and although he grew

allowed him to be blind in order that Jesus might open his eyes and so people might be led to believe on Jesus.



Then Jesus got close beside the blind man and spat on the dusty ground, and took a little of the mud which He had made and put it on his eyes. "Now go away to Siloam and wash your eyes," He said. Siloam was a pool of water near by, so that it did not take him long to do what Jesus told him to do.

When he had washed his eyes he found he could open them and could see.

When he saw the sun in the sky, and people walking about the streets, he looked so happy that his friends hardly knew him. "How did you get your eyes opened?" everybody cried. He answered, "A man named Jesus opened my eyes."

larger every day he could not go to school like other boys because he was blind. He could not learn any trade either, and when he was a man, because he could not work for his living, he used to sit down on the ground beside the gate of the city and beg.

Every day a great many people passed near where he sat, and sometimes kind persons would give him a little money.

Some said the reason the man was blind was because he was a bad man, or he had a bad father and mother.

One Sabbath day Jesus and His friends saw the blind man begging, and the disciples asked Jesus who was to blame for the man's blindness? Jesus said it was nobody's fault, but that God had

When the Pharisees heard that it was Jesus who had cured him they were angry and said that Jesus was working on the Sabbath. They were angry at the man, too, and put him out of their church.

When Jesus heard this He found the man and said, "Do you believe on the Son of God?"

"Who is He?" said the man.

"You see Him now, and are talking to Him," said Jesus.

When the man heard that Jesus was God's son he believed on Him and worshipped Him.

After that, when anybody asked him how he knew that Jesus was the Son of God he said, "One thing I know, that whereas I was blind, now I see."

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

1. What was the matter with the man in to-day's lesson? Ans.—He was blind.
2. How long had he been blind? Ans.—Ever since he was born.
3. How did he get his living? Ans.—He was a beggar.
4. Where did he beg? Ans.—Near the gate of Jerusalem.
5. Who saw him there? Ans.—Jesus and His disciples.
6. What day was it? Ans.—The Sabbath day.
7. What question did the disciples ask Jesus? Ans.—“Whose fault is it that the man is blind?”
8. Whose fault did Jesus say it was? Ans.—Nobody's fault.
9. Why, then, was he blind? Ans.—Because God had allowed him to be blind, so that when Jesus opened his eyes the people might know who Jesus was.
10. What did Jesus do? Ans.—He spat on the ground and put the mud which He made on the eyes of the blind man.
11. Where did He send him to wash his eyes? Ans.—To the Pool of Siloam.
12. What happened when he washed in the Pool of Siloam? Ans.—His blind eyes were opened.
13. How did he look when his eyes were opened? Ans.—So happy that people didn't know him.
14. What did his friends say to him? Ans.—“How did you get your eyes opened?”
15. Who did the man say had cured him? Ans.—Jesus.
16. Who were angry? Ans.—The Pharisees.
17. Why were they angry? Ans.—Because Jesus was working on the Sabbath, and they said it was wrong to do any work on the Sabbath day, even to make sick people well.
18. What did they do to the man? Ans.—They put him out of their church.
19. Who went to look for him? Ans.—Jesus.
20. What did Jesus ask him? Ans.—“Do you believe on the Son of God?”
21. Did the man know that Jesus was the Son of God? Ans.—No.
22. How did he find out? Ans.—Jesus told him who He was.
23. What did the man do then? Ans.—He said, “Lord, I believe,” and worshipped Him.
24. What did the man tell his friends? Ans.—(Golden Text) “One thing I know, that, whereas I was blind, now I see.”

THE BLIND BOY'S PATIENCE

I went to see a blind boy. Scarlet fever had settled in his eyes. He used to be a sprightly little fellow—upon the run everywhere. “Well, my dear boy,” I said, “this is hard for you, is it not?”

He did not answer for a moment; then he said: “I don't know that I ought to say hard; God knows best”; but his lip quivered and a tear stole down his cheek.

“Yes, my child, you have a kind heavenly Father, who loves you even more than your mother does.”

“I wish Jesus were here to cure Frank,” said

his little sister.

“Well,” said I, “He will open Frank's eyes to see what a good Saviour He is. He will show him that a blind heart is worse than blind eyes; and he will make him see beautiful heavenly things, so that he can be a thousand times happier than many children who are running all about.”

“I don't feel cross now,” said the little blind boy, brightly, “God is in the room with me; it feels light, and I forget I'm blind.”

A sweet light stole over his pale features—it was heavenly light I was sure.



I HAVE LEARNED TO-DAY THAT I Should Look to Jesus for Light

CHRIST THE GOOD SHEPHERD

Lesson XII.

John 10: 1-16.

March 19, 1899

Golden Text—"I am the good shepherd: the good shepherd giveth his life for the sheep."
—John 10: 11.

Catechism—20. What does God do for you? God takes care of me, and gives me all the good things of life.



THE LESSON STORY

Jesus used to like to be out of doors with His disciples, and He often talked to them about what they saw around them.

One day they were talking about sheep and sheepfolds. A sheepfold is the place where sheep



stay at night. It is something like a small field with a high fence round it, and it has only one door. A man called the porter stays beside the door all night to see that nothing gets in which would hurt the sheep. If the porter saw any one trying to climb up over the wall he would know that he was a thief or a robber, who only wanted to kill and destroy the flock.

In the morning the shepherd comes to the fold and the porter opens the door at once. The sheep are glad to see him, and they know his voice. They know their own names, too, and they follow the kind shepherd, who shows them where to find the best pasture.

Sheep are shy, and do not like strangers, and if they hear some one calling them whose voice they do not know they will run away.

A good shepherd is very fond of his own sheep, and will even risk his life to save them from danger.

Sometimes men are hired to take care of sheep, but they do not love them and watch over them as the shepherd does. If they saw a bear or a wolf coming they would run away and leave the sheep to take care of themselves.

Jesus said, "I am the good Shepherd and know my sheep and they know me."

He meant that He is able to take care of His people, just as a shepherd cares for his sheep, and that, if they listen to His voice, He will tell them where they must go and what they ought to do.

He said, too, that He loved His sheep so much that He would give up His life to save them.

Jesus called Himself the "door of the sheep," because He is the only way by which people can get into His Father's heavenly fold.

Jesus says that that sheepfold is so large that there is room enough in it for everybody in the world who wants to be in His flock, and who is willing to follow the Good Shepherd.

If we follow the Good Shepherd He will always lead us in the light.

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

1. What is a shepherd? Ans.—A man who takes care of sheep.
2. What does he do for them? Ans.—He shows them where to find food.
3. Does he do anything else? Ans.—Yes, he sees that they do not get into dangerous places.
4. When a shepherd takes out his flock where does he walk? Ans.—He walks before them.
5. Why do the sheep follow? Ans.—Because they know his voice.
6. What else do they know? Ans.—Their own names.
7. Will they follow a stranger? Ans.—No, they will run away from a stranger.
8. Who else sometimes takes care of sheep? Ans.—A man who is paid to do it.
9. Why does he not take such good care of them as the shepherd? Ans.—Because he does it only for the money he gets.
10. Who called himself "the Good Shepherd?" Ans.—Jesus Christ.
11. What did He say He was willing to do for His sheep? Ans.—To give up His life to save them.
12. What else did He say He was? Ans.—"The door of the sheep."
13. Why did He call Himself the door? Ans.—Because He is the only way into the heavenly fold.
14. Who are His sheep? Ans.—People who are willing to follow Him and do what He tells them.
15. Does Jesus want to have many sheep? Ans.—Yes, He says His fold is for everybody.
16. Where does Jesus lead His sheep? Ans.—Always in the places that are best for them.
17. What is the Golden Text? Ans.—I am the good shepherd: the good shepherd giveth his life for the sheep.

SHEEP AND SHEPHERDS

In the East flocks of sheep are often seen following their shepherd when he wishes to take them home or lead them to some other spot. The shepherd has only to call, and the sheep quickly gather around him.

A traveller once told a Syrian shepherd that he was sure the sheep knew the dress of their master, and not his voice.

To settle the point the shepherd and the traveller exchanged their dresses and went

amongst the sheep. The traveller in the shepherd's dress called to the sheep; but not knowing his voice they did not move.

When the shepherd called them, although he was in the traveller's clothes, they at once ran to him, thus proving that it was his voice which led them.

Jesus said, "My sheep follow Me, for they know My voice."

I HAVE LEARNED TO-DAY THAT I Should Follow Jesus in the Light

LESSON HYMN

GRACIOUS Saviour, gentle Shepherd,
 All Thy lambs are dear to Thee;
 Gathered in thine arms and carried
 In thy bosom may we be
 Sweetly, fondly, safely tended,
 From all want and danger free. Amen.

Amen.

—Hymn 586, Book of Praise.

Lesson XIII.

REVIEW

March 26, 1899

Golden Text.—"My sheep hear my voice, and I know them, and they follow me."—
John 10 : 27.

Catechism.—Questions 1-20.

LESSON HYMN

I HEARD the voice of Jesus say,
 "I am this dark world's light ;
 Look unto Me, thy morn shall rise,
 And all thy day be bright !"
 I looked to Jesus, and I found
 In Him my star, my sun ;
 And in that light of life I'll walk
 Till travelling days are done. Amen.
 —Hymn 138, Book of Praise.

LESSON TITLE

GOLDEN TEXT

- | | |
|--|---|
| LESSON I. Christ the True Light. | "In Him was life ; and the life was the light of men.
—John 1 : 4. |
| LESSON II. Christ's First Disciples. | "Behold the Lamb of God !" —John 1 : 36. |
| LESSON III. Christ's First Miracle. | "And His disciples believed on Him." —John 2 : 11. |
| LESSON IV. Christ 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 V. Christ at Jacob's Well. | "Whosoever drinketh of the water that I shall give him shall never thirst." —John 4 : 14. |
| LESSON VI. The Nobleman's Son Healed. | "Jesus saith unto him, thy son liveth ; and himself believed and his whole house." —John 4 : 53. |
| LESSON VII. Christ's Divine Authority. | "This is indeed the Christ the Saviour of the world."
—John 4 : 42. |
| LESSON VIII. Christ Feeding the Five Thousand. | "I am the bread of life." —John 6 : 35. |
| LESSON IX. Christ at the Feast. | "If any man thirst, let him come unto Me and drink."
—John 7 : 37. |
| LESSON X. Christ Freeing from Sin. | "If the Son therefore make you free, ye shall be free indeed." —John 8 : 36. |
| LESSON XI. Christ Healing the Blind Man. | "One thing I know, that, whereas I was blind, now I see." —John 9 : 25. |
| LESSON XII. Christ the Good Shepherd. | "I am the good Shepherd : the good Shepherd giveth his life for the sheep." —John 10 : 11. |

FOR WRITTEN ANSWERS

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

LESSON I. Christ the true Light.	LESSON VII. Christ's divine authority.
LESSON II. Christ's first disciples.	LESSON VIII. Christ feeding the five thousand.
LESSON III. Christ's first miracle.	LESSON IX. Christ at the feast.
LESSON IV. Christ and Nicodemus.	LESSON X. Christ freeing from sin.
LESSON V. Christ at Jacob's well.	LESSON XI. Christ healing the blind man.
LESSON VI. The Nobleman's son healed.	LESSON XII. Christ the Good Shepherd.

AN ORDER OF SERVICE

For Primary Classes, First Quarter, 1899

I. AT SIGNAL, RISE, AND REPEAT SOFTLY—

Saviour, at Thy throne we bow,
Do thou come and meet us now ;
Let Thy blessing, Lord, we pray,
Rest upon our class to-day.

II. OPENING HYMN.

III. RESPONSIVE EXERCISE—

TEACHER—Remember now thy Creator in the days of thy youth.

CLASS—O God, Thou art my God ; early will I seek Thee.

TEACHER—This is the day that the Lord hath made.

CLASS—We will rejoice and be glad in it.

TEACHER—The Lord is in His holy temple.

CLASS—Let all the earth keep silence before Him. (Hands folded and eyes closed.)

PRAYER, closing with the Lord's prayer in concert.

IV. COLLECTION.

V. BIRTHDAY OFFERING AND PRAYER.

VI. SUPPLEMENTAL LESSON—Recite Golden Texts for the Quarter, as far as learned; also on alternate Sabbaths John 1 : 1-5 and Psalm 23.

VII. GESTURE HYMN; followed by PRAYER HYMN.

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

IX. SING Lesson Hymn for Quarter, 138, Book of Praise—

I heard the voice of Jesus say,
'I am this dark world's Light,
Look unto Me, thy morn shall rise,
And all thy days be bright.'

I looked to Jesus and I found
In Him my star, my sun;
And in that Light of Life I'll walk
Till travelling days are done.

X. SILENT PRAYER, closing with a few sentences repeated in concert after teacher.

XI. DISMISSAL HYMN.

XII. MIZPAH BENECTION (in concert), "The Lord watch between me and thee when we are absent one from another."

Let papers be distributed as the children pass out.

[No provision is made for Roll Call. The assistant should mark the book as the children enter. Order of Service may be simplified by omitting Nos. V., VI., and VII.]

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Summer Fragrance,
An Early Breakfast,
Awakening of Spring,
A Study in Pink,
Brilliant Beauties,
Roses and Clematis,
In Full Bloom,

The National Favorite,
At the Spring,
Cupid's Playtime,
Tender Memories,
Kings of the Deep,
Aristocrats of the Table,
Fall Beauties,
Summer Visitors,
In Disgrace,
Penitence,
Alone,
Making it Grow,
Five O'Clock Tea,
A Disgrace to the Family,
The Investigating Committee.

In Great Distress,
The Plot,
Silent Persuasion,
Doggie's Toilet,
In Sunny Italy,
My Easter Hat,
Two Little Girls in Blue,
Luscious Luxury,
Iris Lily,
First Love,
'Twixt Love and Duty,
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Presbyterian Church in Canada



THE
PRIMARY QUARTERLY

The
Home
Study
Series



FOR
THE
LITTLE
ONES

PUBLISHED UNDER AUTHORITY OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY

REV. R. DOUGLAS FRASER, M.A.

Editor and Business Manager

592 Markham Street

TORONTO



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The Primary Quarterly

VOL. IV.

JANUARY, FEBRUARY, MARCH, 1899

NO. I

FOR THE LITTLE ONES

I KNOW that the eyes of the little ones are quick to see and therefore I have given them a picture for each lesson, so that even those who are too "wee" to read may learn a great deal for themselves about the lesson without any other help. But they will want to know *ali* about it; and I am sure that mothers, and fathers, too, as well as big brothers and sisters, will take pains to read the Bible story all through for them, and ask them the questions, and get them to commit to memory the Golden Text and the Hymn and the Catechism and to repeat,—“What I have learned to-day.”

The teachers of the little ones can do almost nothing without the mothers, and so in every line that goes into the PRIMARY QUARTERLY the mothers will be kept in view, and how they may best help the children to prepare their lessons for the Sabbath School. There is nothing that the teachers are more anxious about than to have the sympathy and co-operation of the mothers, and mothers find that the added interest which a bright Sabbath School and a bright teacher give to the lesson makes the mother's part easier.

This explains why room is made in the PRIMARY QUARTERLY for articles on child training, such as that of Mrs. Crawford in the present number. It is needless to say that child training cannot be accomplished merely by following set rules. It is, above all, a thing of the heart. The mother instinct is the surest guide, as is mother love the strongest motive. At the same time knowledge counts, the knowledge that comes from the study of the child and of the principles of teaching, and from the experience of others.

Life has perhaps never been more difficult than to-day. Our young people need to be of very strong moral fibre to resist the shock of abounding temptation, and the still more dangerous drift away from God and holiness in the current of worldliness, which seems to be increasing in swiftness and force. It behoves all

who have to do with their training to begin very early and to be very expert. The mothers of to-day can scarcely take too much pains to know all that is to be known about these little creatures—men and women in miniature—who are to be developed into the men and women that they ought to be, so largely by the mother's hand.

Arrangements have therefore been made for articles from time to time by mothers of experience and by skilled teachers, in which the various phases of the old, but ever new, question will be discussed, and it is hoped with great profit; how the home and the Sabbath School may best work together in giving the very little ones their foundation lessons in the blessed Word of God, and in leading them, even from tender years, to be true followers of the Lord Jesus.

R. DOUGLAS FRASER.

A PRIMARY LESSON IN THE PULPIT

It was a very pleasant sight,—the ample and home-like church; a bank of palms and brilliant autumn flowers, covering the whole front of the pulpit-platform and reading-desks; the minister, whose very face betokened that it was a day of joy for him; and, in the choir-seats before the great organ, a score of sweet children. It was “Children's Day,” and, from the first word to the last, everything was for them. The older people were there, too, for it was at the hour of the regular morning service; but in this church, St. James' Square, Toronto, twice a year the children are invited to a service which is their very own.

“There's a friend for little children
Above the bright blue sky;
A Friend who never changeth,
Whose love can never die.”

So sang the children, and the whole congregation with them; and then, the pastor leading, all joined heartily in the Scripture readings of the General Assembly's Children's Day service.

A prayer followed, short and simple, in which

the youngest child might join ; and another hymn :

"God sees the little sparrow fall."

How close we all got to God as we sang :

"God made the little birds and flowers,
And all things large and small ;
He'll not forget His little ones,
I know He loves them all.

He loves me too, He loves me too,
I know He loves me too ;
Because He loves the little things,
I know He loves me too."

The subject, which was printed in beautiful red letters on the programme, was "A Trinity of Great Lights." The text was the question found in Job 11: 7, "Canst thou by searching find out God? Canst thou find out the Almighty unto perfection?"

The search for God, said the minister, is by far the most important search that can possibly be made. The first and great commandment runs "Thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thy heart," but we cannot love one whom we do not know.

No one can find out God perfectly ; but little children, as well as those who are older, can find out God in part ; and oh ! what a blessed finding out it is.

In order that we may discover Him God has given us many helps. There are many lights which reveal God. The subject, "A Trinity of Great Lights," suggests these three :

The Light of Nature,
The Light of Reason,
The Light of the World.

The Light of Nature takes us a long way toward God. For example, the sun and the moon and the stars speak of God; for without Him they could not exist. They are the lamps which God hangs high in the heavens to give light upon the earth. The study of the stars has led many a one to God, so wonderful are they in their size and movements and beauty.

But it is not the heavenly bodies alone that speak of God. The mountains are God's thoughts of strength ; the flowers are His thoughts of beauty ; the winds are God's messengers. A thousand things on every hand tell of His power and His goodness.

Here the speaker lighted one of the candles in the four-branched candlestick that rested on the pulpit before him. "That is like the light of Nature," he said. "It is not very clear and not very steady. It flickers with every passing breath." Lighting one after another of the candles, he continued : "The light of Nature comes to us from many quarters, the heavens, the mountains, the wind, the flowers. If I had one hundred candles here each would stand for some different light by which Nature seeks to show us God." The preacher then showed that, even when all the candles were lighted, they did not supply a very strong light. So Nature, although it affords a light that has led



THE REV. LOUIS H. JORDAN, B.D.,
St. James' Square Church, Toronto

multitudes in all the ages to know much of God's power and goodness, is utterly unable to reveal Him "unto perfection."

A gas-jet was now lighted from one of the candles. "That flame," said the speaker, "stands for the light of Reason, which, as you see, may very quickly be kindled from the light of Nature. And it is but a single light, whilst that from Nature (as represented by the numerous candles upon their stem) is varied and manifold ; for Reason is the same in all men, when it is right reason.

Some little bits of magnesium wire were now

dropped into the gas flame. They blazed up brightly, and were used to illustrate how Reason sometimes flashes out very brilliantly in men of genius, enabling them to understand and explain things with more than ordinary clearness.

"But in how far does the light of Reason enable a man to know God?" said the speaker. You see the windows of this church, the walls, the seats, the doors, the organ, all of them evidently designed and arranged for some purpose. Well, suppose one were to say: 'This building was never planned, not even thought of, indeed, until one morning it was found just as it stands. It came here by chance.' Would you believe it? 'Certainly not,' you say. You did not see it built, but you are sure that somebody must have planned and built it. In like manner, looking around one in the world, why is the ocean salt, and the sky blue, and the trees green, and the flowers gay? Or why is there a deep, restless longing within you for something that is above self, even for Him Who is the Almighty One? As you think it all out, you gradually become convinced that you yourself were created by a strong, wise, and merciful God, in order that you, too, might fulfil God's great eternal purposes.

"But the greatest light of 'all is yet to be named.'" Here the preacher touched the button of a powerful incandescent lamp, which stood in a central position upon the pulpit. It flashed out with startling effect, quite dimming the lesser lights on either side of it. "This lamp stands for Him Who said, 'I am the light of the world.'"

"How is it that this light leads young searchers for God so much more effectively than do the others? Because it was given us for that very purpose; it is that 'true Light which lighteth every man that cometh into the world'; because it is so much clearer than any other light; because this light is verily God Himself, 'He that hath seen Me hath seen the Father.'"

In closing, the speaker, like a skilful teacher, summed up his points. The light of Nature and the light of Reason has each its value, and should be followed so far as it leads, but neither, nor the both taken together, can reveal God completely. We can find Him out "unto perfection" only by the aid of that Light which is Christ. We are to remember, too, that we cannot see any light, however bright, unless we have open eyes. But Christ is opening people's eyes to-day when they

seek for this help, just as He opened the eyes of many blind men when He was on earth. We are gratefully to use all the light God has given us, and more will come. Following after Jesus (as He Himself said), we shall not walk in darkness, but "shall have the light of life."

Very impressive were the two or three moments of silent prayer which followed the sermon; and then came the voice of the preacher, speaking slowly and softly in the midst of the stillness:

**"Light Thou our way, our Father,
through Thy Son, until we see Thy face
in yonder light: Amen and Amen."**

THE MOTHER AND THE CHILD

By Mrs. Mattie Rose Crawford.

"A mother's love—how sweet the name!
What is a mother's love?
A noble, pure and tender flame,
Enkindled from above."

The centre of society is the home. The centre of home-life is the mother. From the home radiate the influences that make the nations of the world mean or great. The weight of a mother's influence upon the lives and characters of a nation's children can no more be estimated than can the effect of the sun in the world of nature.

Silently, steadily, radiating in every direction, piercing far below the surface, even to the very roots of life, does each work, final results, rather than present visible effects testifying to the greatness of the power at work in each case. And just as truly as the sun must shine as it does because of its very nature, so truly must the mother influence as she does because of her motherhood.

Each of these central forces stands out pre-eminently great, the one in the natural world, the other in the moral world, as touched in a special way by the Divine Hand of the Great Creator, and as specially appointed to the work to be done in their respective spheres.

But, alas! as we contemplate the results of these influences in the face of the centuries, the thoughtful must ever be struck with the fact that partial faithfulness only has marked the carrying out of the divine commission as given to the mother, the centre of the home, whilst the centre of the great solar system has been unflinching in its faithfulness.

"The unwearied sun from day to day
Does his Creator's power display."

But what is this divine commission to mothers? Womanhood has very many different commissions given to it, each, indeed, divine and great, but motherhood's supreme commission can be none other than in the words that fell so sweetly on the ears of the mother of Moses by the river's brink: "Take this child and nurse it for me." Would that every mother in every land could and would hear this command as supreme!

They hear it, it is true, but not with full understanding. They take the child. They love it. They sacrifice for it. But they forget to ask—

"How did you come to us, you dear?"

"God thought of you, and so I'm here."

They think not of the child as a gift from God. They wish to bring it up wisely and well, not for Him, but for themselves; and, indeed, it is often only when God in His Providence takes his own little one back to Himself, or when He thwarts some worldly ambition of the mother for her child, that she stops to think that it can be possible that she, with all her love and sacrifice, can have failed in her commission to her child.

To hear the divine commission with hearing ears the mother must first herself have felt the regenerating power of the Spirit of God. Then she must know His readiness to guide every day, every moment, under every circumstance. "My strength is sufficient for thee." She must also take in the significance of that word of the great Teacher, "The life is more than meat and the body than raiment." Then, with her Guide, Christ, beside her and her aim, "for Me," before her, she must, however incapable she feels herself to be through lack of education or otherwise, bravely face every difficulty to be overcome in the training of her child. She may not cast this upon any one else. The business is hers. Sabbath school teachers and day-school teachers may supplement her training, but the mother must lead; and many an illiterate mother has led in the training of a man of letters, and many a shrinking, timid mother has trained a hero.

Success in training demands keen intelligence, a clear conception of the purpose in view, a knowledge of the characteristics of the one under training, and of the best methods.

So then the mother, in trying to fulfil her com-

mission, must:

1. Seek to bring to bear upon the training of her child all her intelligence. In other words she must be wide awake and active. It will not do to hope and to fear simply; she must act. Circumstances and opportunities must be used to the best possible advantage.

2. The purpose for which her child is to be reared is "For Me"—God. The mother must herself seek to know God truly, from the Scripture and in daily experience. She must ever keep Him before her in all her plans for her child.

3. She must carefully study the disposition and capabilities of her child, and lead in the moulding process, whether the child is at home, directly under her eye, or at school, with outside influences upon him. The school-boy is in special need of the mother's leadership. No Sabbath School or day-school-teacher can be expected to do the work of the mother. The business of the mother is not only to feed and clothe the child, but it is to teach him self-knowledge, self-reverence, self-control, and the mother should know better than any teacher how each of her children can best acquire these qualities.

4. Then the mother should frequently ask "How best can I develop my child's capabilities?" What does my own experience tell me and the experience of others?

Mothers are apt to think themselves incapable of applying or taking advantage of any experience that bears "method" upon its surface. The methods of to-day shed much new light upon how to "train up the child in the way he should go," and mothers are as capable of finding out these methods and applying them intelligently as they are of clothing their children according to the fashion (and how seldom they fail in that!). How much more necessary that they should interest themselves in this higher training. In fact it is the business of the mother and should be one of her sweetest pleasures.

If any mother who can make a fashionable dress or pinatore fails to intelligently and methodically help in the intellectual and spiritual training of her child, it must surely be from want of thought or through lack of interest, for the talent successfully applied in the one case may be as successfully applied in the other.

Niagara Falls, Ont.

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A LOOK AHEAD

The lessons for the present quarter are in John's Gospel: Studies in the life of Christ. We see CHRIST in His different manifestations as THE LIGHT OF THE WORLD, GIVING LIGHT THROUGH HIS WORDS AND WORKS.

We see Him:

1. Introduced as The Light, John 1: 1-14.
2. Drawing the disciples to the light, John 1: 35-46.
3. Brightening a feast with His light, John 2: 1-11.
4. Casting light on the way of life, John 3: 1-16.
5. Satisfying with light and grace, John 4: 5-15.
6. Bringing healing and light to a home, John 4: 43-54.
7. Reflecting God's light, John 5: 17-27.
8. Bestowing light and cheer on the needy, John 6: 1-14.
9. Inviting all to come to the light, John 7: 14, 28-37.
10. Flashing light into a prison, John 8: 12, 31-36.
11. Opening blind eyes to the light, John 9: 1-11.
12. Leading His flock in His light, John 10: 1-16.
13. Review—CHRIST THE LIGHT OF THE WORLD.

PRAYER HYMN

[To be sung with hands folded and in low and reverent tones.]

Jesus, gentle Saviour,
Hear our earnest prayer,
Make us little children
All Thy constant care.

Dear and blessed Saviour,
Hold our little hands,
Lead us in Thy footsteps,
Heeding Thy commands.

CHILD CULTURE IN THE HOME, Martha H. Mosher (F. H. Revell Co., \$1). A book for mothers, in which the delicate and intricate problem of child training is discussed from evidently deep and practical study of the whole question.

CHRIST THE TRUE LIGHT

Lesson I.

John 1 : 1-14.

January 1, 1899

Golden Text—"In him was life ; and the life was the light of men."—John 1 : 4.**Catechism**—1. Who made you ? God made me. 2. Who is God ? God is my heavenly Father. 3. What kind of a Father is God ? God is a good and loving Father.

THE LESSON STORY

Once there was no place called the world, there was only God.

God's son was Jesus Christ, and He was God,



THE WORLD'S LIGHT

too. He made the world, but He did not make everything in the world at once.

The first thing God made was light, and after a while He made living things ; plants and animals first, and then people.

He could make light because He Himself is light, and He could make living creatures because He is life.

God gave everybody a soul as well as a body.

He put the sun in the sky to give light and heat to men's bodies, but He Himself was the light of men's souls.

God intended everybody's soul to be bright and good like His own, but very soon men made their hearts dark and ugly by doing what was wrong.

Jesus wanted very much to bring light into men's hearts again ; so He left His home in heaven to come down to the earth and become a man.

When He became a man He lived such a perfectly good life that those who heard Him speak and saw what He did came to know once more just what God is like.

Everybody ought to have been glad to see Jesus when He came, but some were not glad and would not believe in Him.

The people who ought to have known most about God—the Jews—did not know when they saw Jesus that He was the Son of God.

There was a good man called John the Baptist who did know that Jesus was the Son of God. He went about telling everybody that Jesus was "the light of the world." John was such a good man that some people thought he himself must be Jesus, but that was a mistake.

Jesus had something to offer to everybody who would trust Him, something that no one else can give, no matter how good he may be. Jesus says that "to as many as receive him to them he gives the right to become sons of God, even to those who believe on his name."

*The questions for the year are taken from Carson's PRIMARY CATECHISM for Religious Instruction in the Home and Sabbath School, by the courtesy of the publishers, Messrs. A. & W. MacKinlay, Halifax, Nova Scotia.

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

1. Was there ever a time when there was no world? Ans.—Yes, at the beginning.
2. Who made the world? Ans.—God's Son, Jesus Christ.
3. Who is Jesus Christ? Ans.—God's Son: and He is God Himself.
4. What was the first thing God made? Ans.—Light.
5. What did He make afterwards? Ans.—Plants and animals, and then people.
6. Why could God make light? Ans.—Because He Himself is light.
7. Why could God make living creatures? Ans.—Because He is life.
8. Who called Jesus the light of the world? Ans.—John the Baptist.
9. Why was Jesus called the Light? Ans.—Because He came to show people the way back to God.
10. How had people ever got away from God? Ans.—By doing what was wrong.
11. Did everybody believe that Jesus was the true light? Ans.—No.
12. Who did not receive Him? Ans.—The Jews.
13. Who were the Jews? Ans.—Christ's own people.
14. Who was John the Baptist? Ans.—A good man who told everybody who Jesus really was.
15. Why wasn't John the Baptist called "The Light"? Ans.—Because He was only a man.
16. What did Jesus say He would give to those who received Him? Ans.—"The right to become sons of God."
17. Why could He do this? Ans.—Because He is God.
18. What is the Golden Text? Ans.—"In him was life; and the life was the light of men."

MAKING SUNSHINE

I knew two little girls—sisters—who were ill, quite ill, with scarlet fever. An aunt who loved them dearly helped to take care of them. She would go into the room and turn to one little bed, asking, "How are you this morning, Allie?" "Better, Aunt Ruth, thank you." Then she would turn to the other with the same question. Little Susie would whine out from the pillow, "I aren't any better at all, Aunt Ruth."

One little girl was a delight to care for, the

other kept everybody worried because she was so gloomy and fretful.

Those little girls are women now; and Allie is still a ray of sunshine. All the friends love to go and see her, and have her visit them; she seems to shed sunshine all about her. People go to see Susie because she would be so hateful if they did not go, and they invite her to see them for the same reason. She never sees the bright side of people or things.

I HAVE LEARNED
TO-DAY THAT

I Must Shine for Jesus



LESSON HYMN

O JESUS, ever with us stay,
Make all our moments calm and bright:
Chase the dark night of sin away:
Shed o'er the world Thy holy light. Amen.

—Hymn 418, Book of Praise.

atkinson, Berlin

CHRIST'S FIRST DISCIPLES

Lesson II.

John 1 : 35-46.

January 8, 1899

Golden Text—"Behold the Lamb of God!"—John 1: 36.

Catechism—Ques. 4. Can you see God? No. I cannot see God, but He always sees me.

5. Why can you not see God? Because God is a Spirit, and has not a body as we have.

THE LESSON STORY

Our lesson to-day tells how the first disciples that Jesus, had become acquainted with Him.

There was a cousin of Jesus named John the Baptist, who was a prophet, and who had been sent by God to tell the people that Jesus was

Jesus too. When Jesus saw Simon He told him that by-and-bye his name would be changed to Peter, as that name would suit him better. Peter is the word for a rock, and Jesus meant that Simon would become very strong and steadfast as one of His followers.



The very next day Jesus met Philip, who lived in the same city as Andrew and Simon. He said to him, "Follow Me," which meant, be My disciple. Philip followed Jesus, and became one of His disciples.

Now, Philip knew a man called Nathanael, a very good and holy man, who was fond of reading in the Old Testament about Christ, and who had often wished that Christ would come, and that he could see Him with his own eyes. As soon as he had become acquainted with Jesus, Philip went to find Nathanael, and said to him that Jesus of Naz-

areth was the Christ, the Son of God, who was to come into the world. Nathanael would not believe him at first, but Philip said, "Come and see for yourself." When Nathanael saw Jesus and heard Him speak, he said, "Behold Thou art the Son of God, Thou art the King of Israel."

Jesus took these men, and the other disciples whom He afterwards called, along with Him wherever He went, and taught them a great many things about Himself and about His Father in heaven. John, who was one of these disciples, wrote down what Jesus said and did in the Gospel from which our Lessons for this half-year are taken, so that we also might know who He was and might be His disciples.

Andrew had a brother called Simon, and as soon as he could find him, he brought him to

areth was the Christ, the Son of God, who was to come into the world. Nathanael would not believe him at first, but Philip said, "Come and see for yourself." When Nathanael saw Jesus and heard Him speak, he said, "Behold Thou art the Son of God, Thou art the King of Israel."

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QUESTIONS

1. What does a disciple mean? Ans.—A learner and friend.
2. What did John the Baptist say to his friends about Jesus? Ans.—“Behold the Lamb of God.”
3. What did they do? Ans.—They followed Jesus.
4. What were the names of these two men? Ans.—John and Andrew.
5. What was Jesus doing? Ans.—He was walking along the road.
6. Did Jesus know that they were following Him? Ans.—Yes; He turned and spoke to them.
7. What did He say? Ans.—He said, “What seek ye?”
8. What did John and Andrew say? Ans.—“Master, where dwellest thou?”
9. Did Jesus tell them? Ans.—He said, “Come and see.”
10. Did they go? Ans.—Yes, they went with Him.
11. How long did they stay? Ans.—The rest of the day.
12. What did Jesus likely talk to them about? Ans.—About what He had come into the world to do.
13. What other person did Andrew bring to Jesus? Ans.—His brother, Simon.
14. What new name did Jesus say Simon was to have? Ans.—Peter.
15. What does Peter mean? Ans.—A rock.
16. Why was he to be called Peter? Ans.—Because he was to be a strong and steadfast Christian—like a rock.
17. Is that the right sort of Christian? Ans.—Yes; Christians should be steadfast.
18. Who was the next disciple that came to Jesus? Ans.—Philip.
19. What led him to come? Ans.—Jesus called him.
20. Whom did Philip bring? Ans.—A friend named Nathanael.
21. What sort of a man was Nathanael? Ans.—A very good and holy man.
22. What did Nathanael say to Jesus? Ans.—“Thou art the Son of God; thou art the King of Israel.”
23. Should we invite our friends to come to Jesus? Ans.—Yes; He tells us to invite all our friends, and has promised that if they come He will not turn them away.



WHAT A CHILD CAN DO

A little girl was anxious to be of service to someone. She asked her teacher what she could do. The teacher said, “You could bring your father to Sunday-school.” The father was a drunkard and very profane. He had never been to Sunday-school.

At first she did not succeed. She could not even

get him to the door of the little log house where the school was held. But she persevered quietly and kindly. At last the father joined the school.

What is the result? asked Mr. Moody, as he told the story of the incident to illustrate that the weakest might do good service.—“The father has planted 1,180 Sabbath-schools.”

I HAVE LEARNED
TO-DAY THAT

I Should Follow Jesus

LESSON HYMN

COME to the Saviour, make no delay,
Here in His Word He's shown us the way;
Here in our midst He's standing to-day,
Tenderly saying, “Come!”
—Hymn 560, Book of Praise.

CHRIST'S FIRST MIRACLE

Lesson III.

John 2: 1-11.

January 15, 1899

Golden Text—"And his disciples believed on him." John 2: 11.**Catechism**—6. Where is God? God is everywhere. 7. What does God know? God knows all things.

THE LESSON STORY

Cana was a little town in Galilee, only six miles away from Nazareth, the place where Jesus lived when He was a boy.

Mary still lived in Nazareth, though some of her friends lived in Cana.



One day Mary was invited to go to Cana, for her friends were going to have a great wedding party, and they wanted everyone they knew to be there to help them to have a good time.

Jesus was invited too; and His friends Andrew, John, Peter, Philip, Nathanael, and James were there with Him.

We are glad that John went, because he wrote down all that he saw and heard there, so that we can know just what happened.

When Jesus and His friends came they found a great many people there before them, who were all eating and drinking and enjoying themselves.

Outside the room, on the ground, there were twelve big jars standing half full of water for the people to wash their hands in as they went into the house.

There had been some wine for the people to drink who came first, but not enough for everybody.

As soon as Mary saw that there was not enough wine, she said to Jesus, "They have no wine."

The servants were listening, and soon she told them that they must do whatever Jesus wanted to have done.

Jesus saw the large jars and He said to the servants, "Fill them up with water," and they filled them up to the brim.

When they had filled them, He said, "Take and dip out a cupful and give it to the one who sits at the head of the table."

When he had tasted it he said, "What good wine is this! Why did you not let us have it before? Where did you get it?"

Then the servants said it was Jesus who had told them to fill the jars with water.

Soon everybody was talking of the wonder, Jesus had done.

None of the people had ever seen anyone before who could change water into wine, and His disciples felt quite sure now that He was really God's Son.

Jesus wanted His mother and His friends to know that He was the Son of God and that is why He did wonders, or miracles, as they are sometimes called; and besides, He wished the people at the feast to be happier because He was there. We will always have a brighter, better time if we have Jesus with us in all our pleasures.

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

1. What was the name of the place where the wedding party was? Ans.—Cana of Galilee.

2. Who were invited to the marriage? Ans.—Jesus and Mary, his mother, and some of the disciples.

3. Who was it who wrote down what happened at the marriage? Ans.—John.

4. What did Mary say when she saw Jesus come in? Ans.—“They have no wine.”

5. What did she say to the servants? Ans.—“Do whatever Jesus tells you.”

6. What did Jesus tell the servants to do? Ans.—“Fill the water-pots with water.”

7. Where were the water-pots standing? Ans. Outside the room on the ground.

8. When the servants had filled them up to the top what did Jesus say? Ans.—“Take a cupful to the man at the head of the table.”

9. What did *he* say when he had tasted it? Ans.—“What good wine this is! Where did

you get it?”

10. What did the servants tell him? Ans.—That it was Jesus who had changed the water into wine.

11. Had anyone ever seen water changed into wine before? Ans.—No, never.

12. What did the people think about it? Ans.—They were very much astonished.

13. Why did Jesus do it? Ans.—Because He wanted everyone to know that he was the Son of God.

14. What other reason had He for making water into wine? Ans.—He wished his friends to be comfortable and to enjoy themselves.

15. What do we call this wonderful work that Jesus did? Ans.—A miracle.

16. What is the Golden Text? Ans.—“And His disciples believed on Him.”

17. Why did they believe on Him? Ans.—Because of the miracle which He had done.

CHRIST AT NELLIE'S PARTY

Once Chrissy Lee had a birthday party, and when she came to invite Kitty Gray, who was two years older than Nellie, her little sister, she said: “I'm not going to invite you, Nellie; you are so much younger than we are.”

Nellie's feelings were sadly hurt. She went away and cried about it. But, when her cry was over, she wiped her eyes and began to think.

Then, she ran to mamma and asked if she might have a party when her birthday came. “And then,” she said, “I'll invite all the little bits of things, so they won't feel badly.”

The day came and all her little playmates were

invited, and a gay company it was. Nellie devoted herself to the very youngest, and mamma and Kitty played with the older ones.

When they went home, Nellie sat down in her little chair, and leaned her head on mamma's lap.

“I'm so tired, mamma, but I'm so happy. I asked Jesus to make my birthday-party a real good time; you know what I mean—without any quarrels or troubles. And, mamma, Chrissy said, ‘I wish now I had invited you to my party’; and I said, ‘Oh, never mind, Chrissy,’ and I tried to say it as pleasant as I could, so she shouldn't know I felt hurt.”

I HAVE LEARNED
TO-DAY THAT

I Should Invite Jesus Every Place

LESSON HYMN

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,
Happy I shall be,
He is gently calling
Little ones like me. Amen.*

—Hymn 553, Book of Praise.

CHRIST AND NICODEMUS

Lesson IV.

John 3 : 1-16.

January 22, 1899

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.

Catechism—8. What does God know about you? God knows everything I think, say or do.



THE LESSON STORY

Jesus had no home of His own, but He used to stay sometimes at the homes of His disciples. John had a house in Jerusalem, and once, when

His friends were called the Pharisees, and they hated Jesus because He had told them they were only pretending to be good, when really their lives were full of cruelty and meanness. They called Jesus bad names, and they would have liked to catch Him and kill Him.

Nicodemus was a good deal better than his friends, for he believed that Jesus was a good man, and that He would be able to teach him about God: that is why he came to see Him.

The first thing Jesus told him was: "You must be born again."

Nicodemus said he didn't understand how a man could become a little baby again after he was grown up. Then Jesus explained to him that He did not mean that his body must become a child again, but that his soul must be made new by God's Spirit.

Nicodemus was surprised at what

Jesus was there, a man came to see Him at night. The houses in that hot country have flat roofs, so that people can sit out upon them, where it is cool and pleasant, and talk to their friends.

Perhaps Jesus was sitting on John's roof when the man, whose name was Nicodemus, came to call.

Nicodemus was afraid to come to see Jesus in the daytime because he knew his friends would notice where he was going, and would be angry.

Jesus said, and asked: "How can these things be?"

Jesus told him that God's Spirit is like the wind, for when the wind is blowing you can see the trees and the grass moving, but nobody can see the wind itself. In the same way you can see what God's Spirit does, although nobody can see the Spirit with his eyes.

When it was time for Nicodemus to go home, Jesus gave him a verse to learn which helped him to become one of His followers. The verse was the Golden Text for to-day.



QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

1. Where was Jesus staying when a man came to see Him at night? Ans.—At John's house, in Jerusalem.
2. What was the man's name? Ans.—Nicodemus.
3. Why did he come at night? Ans.—Because he did not want his friends to see where he was going.
4. Who were his friends? Ans.—The Pharisees.
5. Why did he not want the Pharisees to know about it? Ans.—Because they hated Jesus, and would be angry with him for visiting Jesus.
6. Why did they hate Him? Ans.—He told them of their wickedness.
7. What did Jesus say to Nicodemus? Ans.—“You must be born again.”
8. Did Jesus mean that Nicodemus must become a little baby again? Ans.—No.
9. What did He mean? Ans.—That he must have a new heart, filled with God's Spirit.
10. What did Jesus say the Spirit is like? Ans.—Like the wind.
11. Why is it like the wind? Ans.—Because no one can see it with his eyes.
12. What can they see? Ans.—What the Spirit does.
13. What does God's Spirit do? Ans.—It changes people's hearts.
14. Did Jesus say anything else to Nicodemus? Ans.—Yes, He gave him a verse to learn and think about.
15. What was the verse? Ans.—To-day's Golden Text.
16. What is the Golden Text? Ans.—“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.”



CLEAR THROUGH

A little boy, only seven years old, who was trying hard to be a Christian, was watching the servant Maggie as she prepared the potatoes for dinner.

Soon she pared an extra large one, which was very white and nice on the outside, but when cut into pieces it showed itself to be hollow and black inside with dry rot. Instantly Willie exclaimed, “Why, Maggie, that potato isn't a

Christian.”

“What do you mean?” asked Maggie. “Don't you see it has a bad heart?” was Willie's reply.

It seems this little boy had learned enough of the religion of Jesus to know that, however fair the outside may be, it will never do to have the heart black. We must be sound and right, clear through.



I HAVE LEARNED
TO-DAY THAT

I Should Believe in Jesus



LESSON HYMN

O WHAT can little hearts do
To please the King of Heaven?
Our hearts, if God His spirit send,
Can love and trust their Saviour Friend,
Such grace to mine be given. Amen.

—Hymn 532, Book of Praise.

CHRIST AT JACOB'S WELL

Lesson V.

John 4: 5-15.

January 29, 1899

Golden Text—"Whosoever drinketh of the water that I shall give him shall never thirst."—
John 4: 14.

Catechism—9. What can God do? God can do all that he wishes to do.



THE LESSON STORY

In Palestine anyone who digs a well is remembered for a long time. It is a hot and dry country, and water is very scarce. Jacob, who lived

thought Him only some Jew she had never seen before.



Jesus said, "Give me to drink." The woman said, "It is strange for you to ask me for water, because everyone knows that Jews and Samaritans are bad friends and do not speak when they meet." Jesus said, "If you knew who I am you would ask me to give you living water."

The woman did not understand that Jesus meant eternal life. She thought He was only speaking of water from the well.

Jesus said, "Anybody who drinks the water from the well gets thirsty again, but whoever drinks living water never gets thirsty again."

She did not know yet that it was Christ who was speaking, and she said she would like very much like to have living water, so that she

need not take the trouble to come to the well every day to fill her pitcher.

Then Jesus looked into her heart, and saw the things she liked to do, and that her life had been bad. He was able to tell her everything she had ever done, because He was God.

One day Jesus had to take a long walk with His disciples. They were going through Samaria from Judea to Galilee.

As Jesus told the woman her sins, she felt sure that He was more than a man, perhaps the Son of God from heaven; so she dropped her pitcher and ran home as fast as she could to tell all her friends what a wonderful person she had seen at Jacob's well. She said to them, "Come, see a man that told me all things that ever I did. Is not this the Christ?"

About noon they came near to a town called Sychar, and presently they saw Jacob's well close by.

Jesus felt tired and thirsty, for the sun was hot and the road dusty, so the disciples said, if He would sit down by the well and rest they would go on to the town and buy food.

While He was sitting resting a Samaritan woman came along with a pitcher to draw water from the well. She did not know Jesus, but

And they, too, believed in Christ because of what the woman said.

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

1. Near what town was Jacob's well? Ans.—Near Sychar.
2. Who sat there one day to rest long after Jacob was dead? Ans.—Jesus.
3. What had Jesus been doing that day? Ans.—Taking a long walk with His disciples.
4. Where were they all going? Ans.—From Judea to Galilee.
5. Who came to the well while Jesus sat there? Ans.—A Samaritan woman with a pitcher.
6. What did Jesus say to her? Ans.—“Give me to drink.”
7. What did the woman say? Ans.—“It is strange for you who are a Jew to ask a drink from a woman of Samaria.”
8. Why did the woman think it strange? Ans.—Because Jews and Samaritans were bad friends.
9. What did Jesus reply to this? Ans.—If you would ask me I could give you living water.
10. Did the woman think she would like to have living water? Ans.—Yes.
11. Why? Ans.—So that she need not trouble coming to fill her pitcher every day.
12. Did she understand what Jesus meant? Ans.—No, not yet.
13. What did Jesus do then? Ans.—He began to tell her what kind of woman she was.
14. When Jesus told her everything she had ever done, how did she feel? Ans.—She felt sorry for her sins.
15. What did she think about Jesus? Ans.—That he was more than a man.
16. What happened then? She dropped her pitcher and ran to tell her friends about Jesus.
17. What did she tell them? Ans.—“Come, see a man that told me all things that ever I did. Is not this the Christ?”



HOW TO LOOK AT A GIFT

Patty had received a doll's trunk at Christmas; and as Prue seemed to wish for one, the grandmamma, who acted as “fairy godmother” to the children, gave her one for her birthday.

Patty's happened to be a little larger than Prue's; and she liked nothing better than to call Prue's attention to the fact.

Prue bore it very well; but finally, when Patty

said, with a pitying air, “Prue, I'm so used to my big trunk that when I look at yours it looks so small to me!” Prue turned in virtuous indignation:

“Well, I don't care, Patty, you're not a bit nice! It isn't the *smallness* you ought to look at when anybody gives you anything—it's the kindness.”



I HAVE LEARNED
TO-DAY THAT

Jesus Satisfies Us



LESSON HYMN

SAVIOUR teach me day by day,
Love's sweet lesson to obey;
Sweeter lesson cannot be—
Loving Him who first loved me. Amen.

—Hymn 575, Book of Praise.

THE NOBLEMAN'S SON HEALED

Lesson VI.

John 4: 43-54.

February 5, 1899

Golden Text—"Jesus saith unto him, Thy son liveth; and himself believed and his whole house."—John 4: 53.

Catechism—10. **Who is Jesus Christ?** Jesus Christ is the Son of God. 11. **Who is the Holy Spirit?** The Holy Spirit is the Spirit of God.



THE LESSON STORY

In Capernaum there lived a nobleman with his son. The boy's father was rich so that the little fellow had nice clothes to wear, and good things



to eat, and a fine house to live in, and servants to wait on him. But one day he took very sick, so sick that the father and mother thought they were going to lose him, and everything looked very dark and sad.

They would have given everything they had if their son could be made well again, but he only got worse and worse.

Jesus happened just then to be not far from their house, for He had come back to Cana where He had turned the water into wine at the wedding, and everybody was talking of the wonders He had just been doing at Jerusalem. So the boy's father thought, "Perhaps He could cure my boy; I'll go and ask Him."

Then he got ready as quickly as he could and went to Jesus. As soon as the nobleman saw Jesus he said, "Will you please come to my house and cure my little boy, for he's dying?"

"When Jesus saw that the man was very much in earnest, He said, "Go home, your son will live."

Very soon the father was on his way back, his heart full of light and gladness. He felt sure that Jesus' words were true and that he would find his boy better.

When he got almost home, some of the servants ran out to meet him and said, "Your son is living." "What time did he begin to get better," asked the father. They said "About one o'clock."

Then the father knew that it was the very same time that Jesus had said, "Your son liveth." So he and everyone in the house believed that Jesus was not only a man who could cure sick people, but that He was the Son of God.



QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

1. Where did the sick boy live? Ans.—In Capernaum.
2. Who was his father? Ans.—A nobleman.
3. Where was Jesus at this time? Ans.—In Cana.
4. Had He ever been there before? Ans.—Yes; when He had turned water into wine.
5. Who came to see Jesus at Cana? Ans.—The nobleman.
6. What did he want? Ans.—He wanted Jesus to cure his son.
7. Why did he think Jesus was able to do it? Ans.—Because he had heard of His curing other people.
8. Where did the father ask Jesus to go? Ans.—Back to his home.
9. Did Jesus go? Ans.—No.
10. What did He do instead? Ans.—He said, "Your son will live."
11. Was the father satisfied? Ans.—Yes; because he believed the words of Jesus.
12. Who went out to meet the father coming home? Ans.—The servants.
13. What did they say? Ans.—"Your son is living."
14. What did the father ask them? Ans.—To tell him the time of day the boy began to get better.
15. What time did they say it was? Ans.—One o'clock.
16. What words had the father heard Jesus say at one o'clock? Ans.—"Your son will live."
17. What did the man and his family and servants then think about Jesus? Ans.—They were sure that He was the Son of God.
18. What is the Golden Text? Ans.—Jesus said unto him, Thy son liveth; and himself believed and his whole house.

SEEING AND BELIEVING

One day in India a native came to a missionary and said he had been talking with some sailors, who were bad men because they told wicked lies. He said that they had told him that the water where they lived sometimes got so hard that men could stand on it! "But, of course," said the native, "you know I would not believe such a silly lie as that! I know better."

"Well," said the missionary, "that story is true. I have often stood on the water when it was so hard that men and horses, and even

elephants, would not break it. "Do you believe that?"

The native's face looked puzzled, but his answer was prompt. "Yes, I believe it because you say so; but I don't see how it can be!"

How much more ready this converted heathen was to believe what the missionary said, even though he could not understand how it could be, than we are sometimes to believe the Lord Jesus Christ Himself.

I HAVE LEARNED
TO-DAY THAT

Christ Can Heal and Help

LESSON HYMN

THE Great Physician now is near,
The sympathizing Jesus;
He speaks the drooping heart to cheer;
O, hear the voice of Jesus!

Sweetest note in seraph song,
Sweetest name on mortal tongue,
Sweetest carol ever sung,

"Jesus, blessed Jesus." Amen.

—Hymn 544, Book of Praise.

CHRIST'S DIVINE AUTHORITY

Lesson VII.

John 5: 17-27.

February 12, 1899

Golden Text—"This is indeed the Christ the Saviour of the world."—John 4: 42.

Catechism—12. Are the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit different Gods? No. These three persons are one God. 13. What book tells us about God? The Bible tells us about God.



THE LESSON STORY

Jesus was always glad to talk about His Father, honored God Himself. If they did not treat Jesus as, if He were God, then they were dishonoring God.

Once, when He was preaching in Jerusalem, He told the people that His Father had made everything in the world, and that He kept everybody alive by His power.



He said, too, that His Father loved Him so much that He told Him everything He Himself did, and that whatever He saw His Father do He was able to do.

Jesus said that God wanted everybody to love and honor Him as His Son just as much as they

honored God Himself. If they did not treat Jesus as, if He were God, then they were dishonoring God.

When the Jews heard Jesus saying that God was His Father they were very angry. They were angry, too, because Jesus cured sick people on the Sabbath day. They forgot that the Sabbath was His own day, because He had made it, and that it was a good thing to do kind deeds on that day. They were so angry that they wanted to kill Him.

Then Jesus told them that He was able to raise the dead to life.

By "the dead" He meant two kinds of people. First, those whose hearts were so full of sin that they could not love God at all; and, second, those whose bodies were cold and dead, and who had been put away in their graves.

Jesus told the people, too, that His Father had made Him a judge, and that at the last day, when everyone is to stand before God's great white throne, He will be there to say who is to be punished and who is to be rewarded.

Jesus does not want anybody to be punished, and so He said: "He that heareth my word, and believeth on him that sent me, hath everlasting life."

The reason Jesus came to live in the world was to bring light into the world, and to teach people about His Father, and that because He Himself is the Son of God He is able to save the world.



QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

1. Who was Jesus' Father? Ans.—God.
2. Did everybody think that Jesus was God's Son? Ans.—No.
3. Who would not believe that Jesus was the Son of God? Ans.—The Jews.
4. How did they feel when they heard Jesus say that God was His Father? Ans.—Very angry.
5. Were they angry at anything else? Ans.—Yes. They said Jesus had broken the Sabbath day.
6. Was this true? Ans.—No.
7. What did the Jews want to do with Jesus? Ans.—They wanted to kill Him.
8. What did Jesus say about the dead? Ans.—He said He could raise the dead.
9. Did he mean only people who were lying in their graves? Ans.—No. He meant also those whose hearts were dead, because they did not love God.
10. What did Jesus say God wanted everyone to do? Ans.—To honor his Son.
11. Who is God's Son? Ans.—Jesus Christ.
12. What has God made His Son? Ans.—A judge.
13. When is Jesus going to be a judge? Ans.—At the last day.
14. Who will He then judge? Ans.—Everybody in the world.
15. Does Jesus want to punish anybody? Ans.—No. He wants everybody to believe on Him and to do what is right.
16. What has Jesus promised to give to everyone who believes on Him? Ans.—Everlasting life.
17. What is the Golden Text? Ans.—This is indeed the Christ, the Saviour of the world.

A BRAVE DOG

A fine Newfoundland dog and a mastiff had a quarrel. They were fighting on a bridge, and being blind with rage, as is often the case, over they went into the water.

The banks were so high that they were forced to swim some distance before they came to a landing place.

It was very easy for the Newfoundland dog; he was as much at home in the water as a fish. But not so with poor Bruce. He struggled and tried his best to swim, but made little headway.

Old "Bruno," the Newfoundland, had reached the bank, and turned to look at his enemy. He saw plainly that his strength was fast failing, and that he was likely to drown. So what should he do but plunge in, seize him gently by the collar, and keeping his nose above water, tow him safely into port.

It was curious to see the dogs look at each other when they had shaken their wet coats. Poor Bruce's face said as plainly as if he had been able to speak, "Bruno, you have saved my life. I shall never quarrel with you again."

I HAVE LEARNED
TO-DAY THAT **Jesus is Indeed the Christ**

LESSON HYMN

HOSANNA in the highest!
That ancient song we sing
For Christ is our Redeemer,
The Lord of Heaven our King. Amen.
—Hymn 539, Book of Praise

CHRIST FEEDING THE FIVE THOUSAND

Lesson VIII.

John 6: 1-14.

February 19, 1899

Golden Text.—"I am the bread of life."—John 6: 35.**Catechism.**—14. **What more does the Bible teach us?** The Bible teaches us how God wishes us to live. 15. **Who wrote the Bible?** Good men who were taught by the Holy Spirit

THE LESSON STORY

One day early in the morning the people who lived at Capernaum saw Jesus get into a little boat, with His disciples, and sail across the lake. They were sorry to see Him go away, because

for Jesus to heal, and He cured them all.

He preached, and taught the people, too, and they listened to Him from morning until night. When it came towards evening the disciples said to Jesus, "Send the people home."



Jesus knew that they were hungry and tired, because they had had nothing to eat all day, and He said, "Give them something to eat."

The disciples said, "No, we cannot, for even if we had money there are no shops near where we could buy bread for all these people."

Then Andrew said, "There is a little boy here with five barley loaves and two small fishes, but what are they among so many?" Jesus said, "Bring them to me, and make everybody sit down on the grass."

After all the people were seated Jesus took the food, and, after thanking God for it, He gave

it to His disciples and told them to feed the people.

While they were passing it around Jesus made it enough for everybody, so that when they had finished there were pieces of bread and fish left over lying on the ground. Jesus said: "Don't waste anything." So the disciples gathered up all the little pieces and found there were twelve baskets full. Then He sent the people home.

It had been a wonderful day for them; their hunger had been satisfied by a miracle; the sick had been healed; and they had seen Jesus, the "Light of the world," and heard His voice.

He had done so many miracles among them.

When they saw where He had gone, they ran after Him along the shore, thinking they would see Him do more of these wonderful works.

When Jesus and His disciples reached the other side they saw all these people coming to them around the end of the lake. There were about five thousand men, not counting the women and little children.

Jesus had intended to rest Himself with His disciples, but when He saw the crowds of people following Him He was sorry for them, and said they were like sheep without a shepherd.

Some of the people had brought sick friends

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

1. What time of day was it when Jesus left Capernaum? Ans.—Early in the morning.
2. Where was He going? Ans.—To the other side of the lake.
3. Who went in the boat with Him? Ans.—His disciples.
4. Who followed Him along the shore? Ans.—A great crowd of people.
5. About how many people were there? Ans.—About five thousand.
6. Why did they follow Him? Ans.—To see His wonders and to hear Him preach.
7. Who had some of the people brought with them? Ans.—Sick friends.
8. What did Jesus do for the sick ones? Ans.—He cured them all.
9. How long did the people listen to Jesus? Ans.—From morning until night?
10. When it was getting late what did the disciples say to Jesus? Ans.—“Send [the people home.
11. What did Jesus say? Ans.—“They are tired and hungry; give them something to eat.”
12. Why couldn't the disciples feed them? Ans.—They had neither bread nor money to buy bread, and there were no shops near.
13. What did Andrew say? Ans.—“There is a little boy here with five loaves and two fishes.”
14. What did Jesus say? Ans.—“Bring them to me.”
15. What did He tell the people to do then? Ans.—Sit down on the grass.
16. What then did He do? Ans.—He thanked God for the food.
17. Who passed it around? Ans.—The disciples.
18. Was there enough for everybody? Ans.—Yes.
19. How do we know there was enough? Ans.—Because there was some left.
20. How much was left? Ans.—Twelve baskets full.
21. How did Jesus make it enough? Ans.—By a miracle.
22. Why could Jesus work miracles? Ans.—Because He was the Son of God.
23. Why did He do this miracle? Ans.—Because He was sorry for the hungry people and wished to bring light and cheer into their lives.
24. What is the Golden Text? Ans.—“I am the bread of life.”



I HAVE LEARNED
TO-DAY THAT

JESUS CAN GIVE US ALL WE NEED



LESSON HYMN

LET us with a gladsome mind,
Praise the Lord for He is kind;
For his mercies aye endure,
Ever faithful, ever sure.

CHRIST AT THE FEAST

Lesson IX.

John 7 : 14, 28-37.

February 26, 1899

Golden Text—"If any man thirst, let him come unto me, and drink."—John 7 : 37.

Catechism—16. What besides the Bible teaches us about God? All God's works teach us about Him. 17. What are God's works? The world and everything in it, the sun, the moon, and all the stars.



THE LESSON STORY

The name of the largest building in Jerusalem was the Temple. It was God's house and Jesus often used to preach there.



One day He was preaching and teaching in the Temple and a great many people were listening

to Him. The reason the Temple was so crowded that day was because everybody in the country had come to Jerusalem to the harvest thanksgiving which was called "the Feast."

Many of the people were glad to find that Jesus had come too, because they had heard a great deal about Him, and some of them had seen the miracles that He had done in other places.

They all knew that God had promised some day to send a Saviour who would be the Light of the world, and many of the people believed that Jesus was the Christ who had been promised. The Pharisees would not believe that Jesus was Christ, and they hated Him because He had told them of their own wickedness.

On the last day of the feast they were watching for Him, for they wanted to catch Him and to kill Him. But when they saw so many people listening gladly to His words they were afraid to touch Him, so they waited for another chance.

Jesus knew that some day cruel men would put Him to death, but He was not afraid of them, for He knew that they could not do it until God said it was time.

He knew, too, that there were many people in the crowd who were thirsty for the love and forgiveness of God; so He cried with a loud voice that everybody in the Temple could hear: "If any man thirst let him come unto me and drink."



QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

1. What was the name of the largest building in Jerusalem? Ans.—The Temple.
2. Whose house was it? Ans.—God's House.
3. Who often used to preach there? Ans.—Jesus.
4. When was the Temple most crowded? Ans.—At the time of the Feast.
5. Did Jesus go to the Feast? Ans.—Yes.
6. What did He do in the Temple? Ans.—He taught the people.
7. Did everyone believe what He said? Ans. No.
8. Who did not believe Him? Ans.—The Pharisees.
9. What did they try to do? Ans.—They tried to catch Him to put Him to death.
10. Why did they not then take Him? Ans.—They were afraid to touch Him.
11. Why were they afraid? Ans.—Because so many people believed on Him and were ready to stand up for Him.
12. Did Jesus know that they wanted to kill Him? Ans.—Yes, but He was not afraid.
13. Why was He not afraid? Ans.—Because He knew they couldn't touch Him until God allowed it.
14. What is the Golden Text? Ans.—“If any man thirst let him come unto me and drink.”
15. When did Jesus say these words? Ans.—In the Temple on the last day of the Feast.

WAS IT OUR JESUS?

A little three-year-old girl stood at the window one Sunday “watching for papa,” who was at church. Soon she spied him coming; and as he entered she said, “papa, what did Mr. Ross preach about this morning?”

Her father replied, “He preached about Jesus.”

“Papa, was it *our Jesus*?” she asked.

“Yes,” said her father, “it was *our Jesus*.”

The eyes brightened at the thought that the minister knew her Jesus and spoke about Him in his congregation.

Do you, dear little one, claim this Jesus a yours? I hope so, for it is a most blessed thought that all the little girls and boys may have Him for their own Saviour. No matter how much He loves other children, there is room in His heart for you and as many others as will ask Him to care for them.

When He was upon earth one of His disciples tells how when “they brought young children to Him, and He took them up in His arms, and blessed them,” and rejoiced to do it.



I HAVE LEARNED TO-DAY THAT I Should Come to Jesus for Light



LESSON HYMN

ALL hail the power of Jesus' name!
 Let angels prostrate fall;
 Bring forth the royal diadem,
 To crown Him Lord of all. Amen.
 —Hymn 90, Book of Praise.

CHRIST FREEING FROM SIN

Lesson X.

John 8: 12, 31-36

March 5, 1899

Golden Text—"If the Son therefore shall make you free, ye shall be free indeed."—John 8: 36.

Catechism—18. What do these wonderful works tell us about God? They tell us of His wisdom, His power and His love.



THE LESSON STORY

Before the people who had come to the feast in Jerusalem went back to their homes, they had another chance of hearing Jesus preach in the Temple.

The proud Jews who were listening thought they were free already, because they were related to Abraham, and they did not quite understand what Jesus meant by being free.



Then Jesus explained to them that if a man had Satan for his master then he was Satan's slave or servant, and would have to do just what Satan made him do.

He told them, too, that He Himself had come into the world on purpose to help people to break free from sin and Satan, and to help them to do right—and that He wanted to teach everybody to serve God.

Some of the people's hearts were still so dark that they could not see what Jesus meant,—so He said, "I am the light of the world, He that followeth me shall not walk in darkness but shall have the light of life."

This time Jesus spoke to the people who had believed that He was the Son of God.

He knew that they would not likely hear His voice again, so He explained to them that when they could not see Him with their eyes they could still be His real disciples, if they would remember all that He had taught them.

Jesus said, too, that if they kept on doing what was right and trusting in God, they should be made free

Those proud, wicked Jews were really in prison, though they did not know it, and Satan was their gaoler. Satan's prison is a terribly dark and dreadful place, but when people have never seen anything brighter they do not know how dreadful it is. Jesus came to flash light into the prison-house so that the prisoners might see what a bad place it is. Then they will want to get out, and Jesus, who is the Light, will lead them out.



QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

1. Where was Jesus in to-day's lesson? Ans.—In the Temple.
2. Had He ever been there before? Ans.—Yes, often.
3. What was He doing? Ans.—Teaching the people.
4. To whom was He speaking specially? Ans.—To those who had believed on Him.
5. What did He tell them? Ans.—That they must remember all that He had taught them.
6. What did He tell them He was able to do for them? Ans.—That He was able to make them free.
7. Did the Jews think they needed to be made free? Ans.—No.
8. What did Jesus say He was able to free them from? Ans.—From sin.
9. Why did Jesus come into the world? Ans.—To make people free from sin.
10. What did He promise to give to those that followed Him? Ans.—The Light of Life.
11. What is the Golden Text? Ans.—“If the Son therefore shall make you free, ye shall be free indeed.”



SIN BLOTTED OUT

“I cannot think what becomes of all the sins God forgives, mother,” said a little fellow one day as he took his favorite seat on his mamma’s knee.

“Why, Charlie, can you tell me where are all the figures you wrote on your slate yesterday?”

“I washed them all out, mother.”

“And where are they then?”

“Why, they are nowhere; they are gone,” said Charlie.

“Just so it is with our sins; if we believe in the Lord Jesus Christ, they are gone—blotted out—to be remembered no more.

“As far as the east is from the west, so far hath He removed our transgressions from us.”



I HAVE LEARNED
TO-DAY THAT

Christ Frees From Sin



LESSON HYMN

ONE is kind above all others—
O how He loves!
His is love beyond a brother’s—
O how He loves!
Earthly friends may fail and leave us,
One day soothe, the next day grieve us:
But this friend will ne’er deceive us—
O how He loves! Amen.

—Hymn 542, Book of Praise.

CHRIST HEALING THE BLIND MAN

Lesson XI.

John 9: 1-11.

March 12, 1899

Golden Text—"One thing I know, whereas I was blind, now I see."—John 9: 25.

Catechism—19. **What does God do for everything He has made?** God watches over all His works, and provides for the wants of every living thing.



THE LESSON STORY

Once there was a little boy born who could not open his eyes. He lived with his father and mother near Jerusalem, and although he grew

allowed him to be blind in order that Jesus might open his eyes and so people might be led to believe on Jesus.



Then Jesus got close beside the blind man and spat on the dusty ground, and took a little of the mud which He had made and put it on his eyes. "Now go away to Siloam and wash your eyes," He said. Siloam was a pool of water near by, so that it did not take him long to do what Jesus told him to do.

When he had washed his eyes he found he could open them and could see.

When he saw the sun in the sky, and people walking about the streets, he looked so happy that his friends hardly knew him. "How did you get your eyes opened?" everybody cried. He answered, "A man named Jesus opened my eyes."

larger every day he could not go to school like other boys because he was blind. He could not learn any trade either, and when he was a man, because he could not work for his living, he used to sit down on the ground beside the gate of the city and beg.

Every day a great many people passed near where he sat, and sometimes kind persons would give him a little money.

Some said the reason the man was blind was because he was a bad man, or he had a bad father and mother.

One Sabbath day Jesus and His friends saw the blind man begging, and the disciples asked Jesus who was to blame for the man's blindness? Jesus said it was nobody's fault, but that God had

When the Pharisees heard that it was Jesus who had cured him they were angry and said that Jesus was working on the Sabbath. They were angry at the man, too, and put him out of their church.

When Jesus heard this He found the man and said, "Do you believe on the Son of God?"

"Who is He?" said the man.

"You see Him now, and are talking to Him," said Jesus.

When the man heard that Jesus was God's son he believed on Him and worshipped Him.

After that, when anybody asked him how he knew that Jesus was the Son of God he said, "One thing I know, that whereas I was blind, now I see."

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

1. What was the matter with the man in to-day's lesson? Ans.—He was blind.
2. How long had he been blind? Ans.—Ever since he was born.
3. How did he get his living? Ans.—He was a beggar.
4. Where did he beg? Ans.—Near the gate of Jerusalem.
5. Who saw him there? Ans.—Jesus and His disciples.
6. What day was it? Ans.—The Sabbath day.
7. What question did the disciples ask Jesus? Ans.—“Whose fault is it that the man is blind?”
8. Whose fault did Jesus say it was? Ans.—Nobody's fault.
9. Why, then, was he blind? Ans.—Because God had allowed him to be blind, so that when Jesus opened his eyes the people might know who Jesus was.
10. What did Jesus do? Ans.—He spat on the ground and put the mud which He made on the eyes of the blind man.
11. Where did He send him to wash his eyes? Ans.—To the Pool of Siloam.
12. What happened when he washed in the Pool of Siloam? Ans.—His blind eyes were opened.
13. How did he look when his eyes were opened? Ans.—So happy that people didn't know him.
14. What did his friends say to him? Ans.—“How did you get your eyes opened?”
15. Who did the man say had cured him? Ans.—Jesus.
16. Who were angry? Ans.—The Pharisees.
17. Why were they angry? Ans.—Because Jesus was working on the Sabbath, and they said it was wrong to do any work on the Sabbath day, even to make sick people well.
18. What did they do to the man? Ans.—They put him out of their church.
19. Who went to look for him? Ans.—Jesus.
20. What did Jesus ask him? Ans.—“Do you believe on the Son of God?”
21. Did the man know that Jesus was the Son of God? Ans.—No.
22. How did he find out? Ans.—Jesus told him who He was.
23. What did the man do then? Ans.—He said, “Lord, I believe,” and worshipped Him.
24. What did the man tell his friends? Ans.—(Golden Text) “One thing I know, that, whereas I was blind, now I see.”

THE BLIND BOY'S PATIENCE

I went to see a blind boy. Scarlet fever had settled in his eyes. He used to be a sprightly little fellow—upon the run everywhere. “Well, my dear boy,” I said, “this is hard for you, is it not?”

He did not answer for a moment; then he said: “I don't know that I ought to say hard; God knows best”; but his lip quivered and a tear stole down his cheek.

“Yes, my child, you have a kind heavenly Father, who loves you even more than your mother does.”

“I wish Jesus were here to cure Frank,” said

his little sister.

“Well,” said I, “He will open Frank's eyes to see what a good Saviour He is. He will show him that a blind heart is worse than blind eyes; and he will make him see beautiful heavenly things, so that he can be a thousand times happier than many children who are running all about.”

“I don't feel cross now,” said the little blind boy, brightly, “God is in the room with me; it feels light, and I forget I'm blind.”

A sweet light stole over his pale features—it was heavenly light I was sure.



I HAVE LEARNED TO-DAY THAT I Should Look to Jesus for Light

CHRIST THE GOOD SHEPHERD

Lesson XII.

John 10: 1-16.

March 19, 1899

Golden Text—"I am the good shepherd: the good shepherd giveth his life for the sheep."
—John 10: 11.

Catechism—20. **What does God do for you?** God takes care of me, and gives me all the good things of life.



THE LESSON STORY

Jesus used to like to be out of doors with His disciples, and He often talked to them about what they saw around them.

One day they were talking about sheep and sheepfolds. A sheepfold is the place where sheep



stay at night. It is something like a small field with a high fence round it, and it has only one door. A man called the porter stays beside the door all night to see that nothing gets in which would hurt the sheep. If the porter saw any one trying to climb up over the wall he would know that he was a thief or a robber, who only wanted to kill and destroy the flock.

In the morning the shepherd comes to the fold and the porter opens the door at once. The sheep are glad to see him, and they know his voice. They know their own names, too, and they follow the kind shepherd, who shows them where to find the best pasture.

Sheep are shy, and do not like strangers, and if they hear some one calling them whose voice they do not know they will run away.

A good shepherd is very fond of his own sheep, and will even risk his life to save them from danger.

Sometimes men are hired to take care of sheep, but they do not love them and watch over them as the shepherd does. If they saw a bear or a wolf coming they would run away and leave the sheep to take care of themselves.

Jesus said, "I am the good Shepherd and know my sheep and they know me."

He meant that He is able to take care of His people, just as a shepherd cares for his sheep, and that, if they listen to His voice, He will tell them where they must go and what they ought to do.

He said, too, that He loved His sheep so much that He would give up His life to save them.

Jesus called Himself the "door of the sheep," because He is the only way by which people can get into His Father's heavenly fold.

Jesus says that that sheepfold is so large that there is room enough in it for everybody in the world who wants to be in His flock, and who is willing to follow the Good Shepherd.

If we follow the Good Shepherd He will always lead us in the light.

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

1. What is a shepherd? Ans.—A man who takes care of sheep.
2. What does he do for them? Ans.—He shows them where to find food.
3. Does he do anything else? Ans.—Yes, he sees that they do not get into dangerous places.
4. When a shepherd takes out his flock where does he walk? Ans.—He walks before them.
5. Why do the sheep follow? Ans.—Because they know his voice.
6. What else do they know? Ans.—Their own names.
7. Will they follow a stranger? Ans.—No, they will run away from a stranger.
8. Who else sometimes takes care of sheep? Ans.—A man who is paid to do it.
9. Why does he not take such good care of them as the shepherd? Ans.—Because he does it only for the money he gets.
10. Who called himself "the Good Shepherd?" Ans.—Jesus Christ.
11. What did He say He was willing to do for His sheep? Ans.—To give up His life to save them.
12. What else did He say He was? Ans.—"The door of the sheep."
13. Why did He call Himself the door? Ans.—Because He is the only way into the heavenly fold.
14. Who are His sheep? Ans.—People who are willing to follow Him and do what He tells them.
15. Does Jesus want to have many sheep? Ans.—Yes, He says His fold is for everybody.
16. Where does Jesus lead His sheep? Ans.—Always in the places that are best for them.
17. What is the Golden Text? Ans.—I am the good shepherd: the good shepherd giveth his life for the sheep.

SHEEP AND SHEPHERDS

In the East flocks of sheep are often seen following their shepherd when he wishes to take them home or lead them to some other spot. The shepherd has only to call, and the sheep quickly gather around him.

A traveller once told a Syrian shepherd that he was sure the sheep knew the dress of their master, and not his voice.

To settle the point the shepherd and the traveller exchanged their dresses and went

amongst the sheep. The traveller in the shepherd's dress called to the sheep; but not knowing his voice they did not move.

When the shepherd called them, although he was in the traveller's clothes, they at once ran to him, thus proving that it was his voice which led them.

Jesus said, "My sheep follow Me, for they know My voice."

I HAVE LEARNED
TO-DAY THAT I Should Follow Jesus in the Light

LESSON HYMN

GRACIOUS Saviour, gentle Shepherd,
All Thy lambs are dear to Thee;
Gathered in thine arms and carried
In thy bosom may we be
Sweetly, fondly, safely tended,
From all want and danger free. Amen.

Amen.

—Hymn 586, Book of Praise.

Lesson XIII.

REVIEW

March 26, 1899

Golden Text.—"My sheep hear my voice, and I know them, and they follow me."—
John 10 : 27.

Catechism.—Questions 1-20.

LESSON HYMN

I HEARD the voice of Jesus say,
 "I am this dark world's light ;
 Look unto Me, thy morn shall rise,
 And all thy day be bright !"
 I looked to Jesus, and I found
 In Him my star, my sun ;
 And in that light of life I'll walk
 Till travelling days are done. Amen.
 —Hymn 138, Book of Praise.

LESSON TITLE

GOLDEN TEXT

- LESSON I. Christ the True Light. "In Him was life ; and the life was the light of men.
—John 1 : 4.
- LESSON II. Christ's First Disciples. "Behold the Lamb of God !" —John 1 : 36.
- LESSON III. Christ's First Miracle. "And His disciples believed on Him." —John 2 : 11.
- LESSON IV. Christ 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 V. Christ at Jacob's Well. "Whosoever drinketh of the water that I shall give him shall never thirst." —John 4 : 14.
- LESSON VI. The Nobleman's Son Healed. "Jesus saith unto him, thy son liveth ; and himself believed and his whole house." —John 4 : 53.
- LESSON VII. Christ's Divine Authority. "This is indeed the Christ the Saviour of the world."
—John 4 : 42.
- LESSON VIII. Christ Feeding the Five Thousand. "I am the bread of life." —John 6 : 35.
- LESSON IX. Christ at the Feast. "If any man thirst, let him come unto Me and drink."
—John 7 : 37.
- LESSON X. Christ Freeing from Sin. "If the Son therefore make you free, ye shall be free indeed." —John 8 : 36.
- LESSON XI. Christ Healing the Blind Man. "One thing I know, that, whereas I was blind, now I see." —John 9 : 25.
- LESSON XII. Christ the Good Shepherd. "I am the good Shepherd : the good Shepherd giveth his life for the sheep." —John 10 : 11.

FOR WRITTEN ANSWERS

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

LESSON I. Christ the true Light.	LESSON VII. Christ's divine authority.
LESSON II. Christ's first disciples.	LESSON VIII. Christ feeding the five thousand.
LESSON III. Christ's first miracle.	LESSON IX. Christ at the feast.
LESSON IV. Christ and Nicodemus.	LESSON X. Christ freeing from sin.
LESSON V. Christ at Jacob's well.	LESSON XI. Christ healing the blind man.
LESSON VI. The Nobleman's son healed.	LESSON XII. Christ the Good Shepherd.

AN ORDER OF SERVICE

For Primary Classes, First Quarter, 1899

I. AT SIGNAL, RISE, AND REPEAT SOFTLY—

Saviour, at Thy throne we bow,
Do thou come and meet us now ;
Let Thy blessing, Lord, we pray,
Rest upon our class to-day.

II. OPENING HYMN.**III. RESPONSIVE EXERCISE—**

TEACHER—Remember now thy Creator in the days of thy youth.

CLASS—O God, Thou art my God ; early will I seek Thee.

TEACHER—This is the day that the Lord hath made.

CLASS—We will rejoice and be glad in it.

TEACHER—The Lord is in His holy temple.

CLASS—Let all the earth keep silence before Him. (Hands folded and eyes closed.)

PRAYER, closing with the Lord's prayer in concert.

IV. COLLECTION.**V. BIRTHDAY OFFERING AND PRAYER.**

VI. SUPPLEMENTAL LESSON—Recite Golden Texts for the Quarter, as far as learned; also on alternate Sabbaths John 1 : 1-5 and Psalm 23.

VII. GESTURE HYMN; followed by PRAYER HYMN.**VIII. THE LESSON for the Day, with Golden Text, Lesson Hymn and Catechism.****IX. SING Lesson Hymn for Quarter, 138, Book of Praise—**

I heard the voice of Jesus say,
'I am this dark world's Light,
Look unto Me, thy morn shall rise,
And all thy days be bright.'

I looked to Jesus and I found
In Him my star, my sun;
And in that Light of Life I'll walk
Till travelling days are done.

X. SILENT PRAYER, closing with a few sentences repeated in concert after teacher.**XI. DISMISSAL HYMN.**

XII. MIZPAH BENEDICTION (in concert), "The Lord watch between me and thee when we are absent one from another."

Let papers be distributed as the children pass out.

[No provision is made for Roll Call. The assistant should mark the book as the children enter. Order of Service may be simplified by omitting Nos. V., VI., and VII.]

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Awakening of Spring,
A Study in Pink,
Brilliant Beauties,
Roses and Clematis,
In Full Bloom,

The National Favorite,
At the Spring,
Cupid's Playtime,
Tender Memories,
Kings of the Deep,
Aristocrats of the Table,
Fall Beauties,
Summer Visitors,
In Disgrace,
Penitence,
Alone,
Making it Grow,
Five O'Clock Tea,
A Disgrace to the Family,
The Investigating Committee.

In Great Distress,
The Plot,
Silent Persuasion,
Doggie's Toilet,
In Sunny Italy,
My Easter Hat,
Two Little Girls in Blue,
Luscious Luxury,
Iris Lily,
First Love,
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