

The Sunday-School.

FIRST QUARTER,
LESSON V.—Jan. 31.

JESUS CALLS FOUR DISCIPLES.

LUKE 5: 1-11.

The lesson includes the lesson and its parallels, Matt. 4: 18-22; Mark 1: 16-20.

GOLDEN TEXT.—*If ye continue in my words, then are ye my disciples indeed.*—John 8: 31.

HISTORICAL SETTING.—*Time.*—April or May, A. D. 28, soon after his rejection at Nazareth.

Place.—By the Sea of Galilee, near Capernaum.

Place in the Life of Jesus.—Early in the great Galilean ministry, in the second year of Jesus' public ministry.

It was a distinct step in the progress of his work when he began to have disciples constantly with him for teaching and training.

John the Baptist had just been imprisoned in Castle Macherus, beyond Jordan, after preaching about a year and nine months. Age about thirty-two.

Rulers.—Tiberius Caesar, emperor of Rome (15th year). Pontius Pilate, governor of Judea (3rd year). Herod Antipas, ruler of Galilee (32nd year).

Jesus had now fully entered upon his ministry. Crowds were beginning to gather wherever he went, to hear his teachings and see his miracles. Before that summer's work should be done, he would have used one half of the time he was to spend on earth. It was time, therefore, that he should begin to train disciples for the work they must soon do. Hence the new step recorded in this lesson, in making some of those who had followed him at times his permanent disciples.

HOW JESUS WON SOULS FOR THE KINGDOM OF HEAVEN.

BY PREACHING THE GOSPEL TO THE MULTITUDES BY THE SEASIDE.—Vs. 1-3. *And it came to pass, soon after coming to Capernaum. As the people (the multitude) pressed upon him to hear the word of God. Jesus had been here before. They knew that he taught the good news. He stood by the lake of Gennesaret, one of the names of the Sea of Galilee. The shores of this beautiful lake were a popular summer resort. And saw two ships, fishing boats, belonging to some of his disciples, standing by the lake, moored to the shore. But the fishermen were gone out of them. Probably not far off, for Jesus speaks to Peter. And were washing their nets. This was required, by the previous night's fishing, referred to in V. 5. And he entered into one of the ships (boats) which was Simon's. Simon Peter. The boat belonged to him and to his brother Andrew. And prayed (asked) him that he would thrust out a little from the land. So that, keeping the crowds at a little distance, he could better address them. And he sat down. The usual posture in teaching. And taught the people out of the ship. Jesus makes a pulpit of the boat.*

PREACHING THE GOSPEL. Jesus preached repentance and the good news of forgiveness of sin, the way of life and righteousness, and all the blessings of salvation.

Crowds will come where there is something to come for that they need. There is no use in ringing the dinner-bell to call men to empty tables. It is

the gospel old and undefiled that alone can stand the wear and tear of time.

Divine Uses for Ordinary Things.—A common fishing boat was made an instrument for proclaiming the everlasting gospel. Such use can be made of our homes, our business, our social opportunities. This transfigures our daily life.

BY AN OBJECT LESSON. THE GREAT DRAUGHT OF FISHES.—Vs. 4-7. *Said unto Simon, the chief owner, of the boat. Launch out into the deep water offshore where fishing was carried on. Let down your nets, drag nets, seines.*

Master, a title of respect. We have toiled all the night and have taken nothing. The night was the best time for fishing. That they had failed to catch anything in the best time for fishing was a reason for not expecting any special results in the daytime. Nevertheless at thy word I will let down the net. This was an act of faith. Peter would trust in the wisdom and knowledge of Jesus.

They inclosed a great multitude of fishes. That a miracle is intended is unquestionable. And their net brake, was on the point of breaking, but did not actually break. And they beckoned unto their partners, James and John. Filled both the ships, so that they began to sink.

BY MAKING HIS DISCIPLES FISHERS OF MEN.—Vs. 8-10. *When Simon Peter saw it. This is the turning-point in his life. Depart from me; for I am a sinful man, O Lord. A strong expression of his unworthiness. Fear not. For your consciousness of sin and the increase of your faith will prepare you for the work I have for you to do. Henceforth thou shalt catch (be catching) men.*

BY CHOOSING AND TRAINING OTHERS TO WORK.—V. 11. *And when they had brought their ships to land, Jesus had remained in Peter's boat during this fishing expedition. They forsook all. There was no indecision. They left their nets and boats, their means of living, and followed him, to be taught and trained for their future work.*

THE HEART OF THE LESSON.

There are two methods of fishing—one by the net, catching fish in large masses; the other by the line, catching them one by one. Jesus used both methods. He preached to large crowds at times, and much of his best teaching was to one scholar or to a few.

The object is to bring men to the shore of eternal life.

There is a lesson of hope from the previous failure of the apostles. For the fisher of men often toils and waits a long time without visible success. But there comes a time when success is abundant.

KNOWING THE BIBLE BY HEART.

Julius Tostee passed away at the Protestant Hospital of La Rochelle at the age of seventy-six, in February last. He was what the country folk called a "simple," but he was endowed with a most marvellous memory, and the attention of learned men and of theologians had often been directed towards him.

Tostee could do all sorts of calculations in his head, always arriving at correct solutions. He knew the whole table of logarithms by heart and was never at fault!

He knew the whole Bible, Old and

New Testaments, by heart, and could recite any verse, if the reference was given, from any book, as well from the chapters of genealogies as from the gospels. He could tell you every text from which a pastor had preached, with the date of the sermon. He knew the names of all the pastors in France since the Reformation, with the dates of their ministry. He knew by heart all the references in the Reference Bible, and could bring together passages on any subject desired. He knew by heart all the psalms and hymns of all the various editions of the hymn-books published in France, and knew the number of each hymn in each collection. He had also an exact knowledge of all the tracts published by the French Religious Tract Society since the beginning.

Tostee loved to repeat the words of the Scriptures and the hymns so well known, and in the hospital the sick loved to listen to him as he poured out a continual stream of the treasures he had stored up. He was always happy and contented, praising God for all his goodness. Though "a simple," his name was in the Book of Life, and he loved the Author of the Book he knew so well, knowing it "by heart" as well as by memory, and his name will not soon be forgotten at La Rochelle.—*Mc-All Mission Quarterly.*

BRING THE CHILDREN TO CHRIST.

The most favorable season for conversion is in early life; the earlier the better. The child has less to unlearn than the man. Doubt has not yet found a lodgment in his mind. Infidelity is the sin of age, not of youth. A child accepts with simple confidence the Word of God. His hearing is more acute; so that young Samuel hears the voice of his Master, while aged Eli hears nothing. A child's heart is more impressible, because he has not for long years been making it as adamant, and consequently is more ready to confess Christ before the world. For these reasons, and many others that space will not permit us to enumerate, children should be brought to Christ. This is the one great object we—parents, pastors, teachers—should seek, and everything should be subservient to it. Sing, pray, preach, teach, and do it all with the view of bringing them now to Christ. Let this be done, and let domestic example be what it should be, and then our dearest hopes will not fail to be realized. Then the words of the prophet will be fulfilled: "All thy children shall be taught of God, and great shall be the peace of thy children."—*Rev. Edgar M. Levy.*

You May Have Kidney Trouble.

If your back aches and you suffer from dragging pains it is an evidence of diseased kidneys. Get Ferrozone at once and take it regularly. Ferrozone makes kidney sufferers feel better at once. "I was bothered a great deal with my kidneys last year," writes S. G. Denton of Everett, but got quick relief from Ferrozone. My trouble manifested itself by pain in the back, dull heavy feeling and constant headache. I quite recovered after using a few boxes of Ferrozone which has given me more strength and better health than I ever had before. I can recommend Ferrozone as a positive cure." Price 50c. at all druggists.

Little men may be strangers to remorse, but big ones never are.—*Cumberland Presbyterian.*

Suffered Intense Pain.—Mrs. Chas. Miller, Bowling Green, Ont., says: "I have suffered greatly from Inflammatory Rheumatism for two years. My joints would swell and the pain was most severe. Could not get out of bed. Milburn's Rheumatic Pills have cured me."

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grow, completely cures dandruff. And it always restores color to gray hair, all the rich, dark color of early life.

"My hair was falling out badly and I was afraid I would lose it all. Then I tried Ayer's Hair Vigor. It quickly stopped the falling and made my hair all I could wish it to be."

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A Recognized Regulator.—To bring the digestive organs into symmetrical working is the aim of physicians when they find a patient suffering from stomach irregularities, and for this purpose they can prescribe nothing better than Parneelee's Vegetable Pills, which will be found a pleasant medicine of surprising virtue in bringing the refractory organs into subjection and restoring them to normal action, in which condition only can they perform their duties properly.

Two-thirds of the world lie in mission lands; and the church that deals wholly with the other third has missed the Lord's commission and the end of its existence.

CRAMPS AND COLIC.—Nothing gives such quick and effectual relief from these distressing complaints as Dr. Fowler's Extract of Wild Strawberry.

Put a young man on the right track, and you have done more and better for him than if you had left him a fortune.

It Reaches the Spot.—There are few remedies before the public today as efficacious in removing pain and in allaying and preventing pulmonary disorders as Dr. Thomas' Electric Oil. It has demonstrated its powers in thousands of instances and a large number of testimonials as to its great value as a medicine could be got were there occasion for it. It is for sale everywhere.

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Avoid dangerous, irritating Witch Hazel preparations represented to be "the same as" Pond's Extract, which easily sour and generally contain "wood alcohol," a deadly poison.

