

## BIBLE LESSON—Raising of Lazarus: John 2:1-44 Incl.

The Bible is the most wonderful of all books — different from any other book. It is written so that on every page there are hidden many secrets which only a few people understand. The Bible may be likened to a treasure box with many locked drawers, each one containing many precious spiritual jewels, more valuable than any others. We are able, with certain kinds of keys, to open secret places in the Bible and see what it contains. Today we use a key which will unlock some great secrets. We shall only peep now, but as we grow older, we may be able to open treasure drawers a little wider. Our secret today is about the mystery called the “Raising of Lazarus.”

A man, living in Bethany, whose name was Lazarus, was sick. His two sisters, Mary and Martha, felt sure Christ Jesus could heal him, so they came to Christ Jesus and said: “He whom you love is sick.” When Christ Jesus heard this He said: “This sickness is not unto death, but for God’s glory, and also the Son of God’s glory.”

Christ Jesus loved these three people — Mary, Martha, and their brother, Lazarus. So He said to His disciples: “Let us go to Judea again.” But the disciples were afraid, because some of the people there had tried to stone Christ Jesus. He said to them: “If a man walk in the day, he doesn’t stumble because he sees the light of the world, but when he walks at night, he stumbles, because there’s no light in him. Our friend Lazarus sleeps. I go to wake him out of sleep.” Christ Jesus started his journey to Bethany, walking all the way; when He reached Lazarus’ home, He found that Lazarus had been buried four days. Mary, Lazarus’ sister, came to Christ Jesus and fell down at His feet, saying: “Lord, if Thou had been here, my brother would not have died.” Then Christ Jesus felt sorry and said: “Where have you laid him?” Those standing nearby said: “Come and see.”

It was a cave with a stone pushed in front of the entrance. Christ Jesus asked them to take away the stone. Then He said: "Father, I thank Thee that Thou heard Me." Next He cried with a loud voice: "Lazarus, come forth", and Lazarus came out, bound hand and foot with grave clothes.

Our story of Lazarus is a great mystery. He was one of the greatest men that ever lived. What he did is known only to those passing certain grades in the School of Life. We have kindergarten, passing on through eight grades and then on to high school. Also, in Life's School there are certain grades which all must pass some time or other. The grades are called Initiations, a word you will hear used very often. This story of Lazarus is really a story about Initiation. It tells us that Lazarus had passed through nine grades, or Initiations, in Life's School and also four great Initiations, similar to four years of high school, learning all lessons life had to teach. So, the Bible tells us, he had fallen asleep — meaning that he was dead to earthly things. He was ready to come before the greatest teacher of all, Christ Jesus, and become one of the Great Ones in a wonderful college on the invisible planes called the Great White Lodge.

Some day we too shall pass through all grades in Life's School and fall asleep to things of earth as Lazarus did. Then the Great Teacher and Initiator, Christ, will come, and by the power of Christ's Love raise us to new life.

It is through the love, goodness, and generosity (warm-hearted giving) of Christ that we shall all one day be raised to a nobler and more beautiful life. Christ Jesus said: "I am the way, the truth, and the life."

THIRD SUNDAY—KEYWORD: Light.

Today we talk about the part of our body which the Star Angels from Leo helped us to build. It is one of the most wonderful parts of all. Place your hand over your

heart and listen. You feel a thump — just like an engine working. What is the heart doing when it thumps? It is pumping blood to every cell in your body, carrying nourishment or food.

The heart has four rooms — 2 upstairs and 2 downstairs. A large river of blood, all clean, pure, and full of good air from the lungs, comes pouring into the left-hand upstairs room. When that room is filled, the doors at the top shut and the doors of the lower room open—that makes one thump. As soon as blood runs into the lower room, the heart gives a squeeze, and the door into a large tunnel (artery) flies open and out goes a river of blood into the tunnel (artery) — that makes another thump.

After the blood travels a short distance, there is a division in the tunnel and a portion of the river of blood is pumped up to the head to bring air and food to the small cells there; and a portion goes to lower parts of the body. The tunnels divide again and again, getting smaller and smaller until some are so tiny we can scarcely see them.

When all good air and food are taken up by the cells, they throw off bad gases and waste into tiny streams of blood which carry bad gases and waste from tunnel to tunnel until finally they reach a large tunnel going back to the heart. There the impure blood, with all the waste in it, is poured into the upstairs room on the right side of the heart. From there it goes into the lower room, and then to the lungs, where it pours out all bad gases and waste, getting instead renewed with good, fresh air. Then it returns to the left upstairs room, starting all over again its journey through the body.

Oxygen mixes in our blood with tiny bits of iron which Mars put there, and these bits of iron make our body warm enough for us to live in it. The Light which is you shines in your blood, and makes every one of the tunnels (arteries) bright.

## BIBLE LESSON—Transfiguration: Matthew 17:1 &amp; 2.

Last Sunday we talked of Lazarus' Initiation. Today we speak of another Initiation, this time it is Christ Jesus' Transfiguration. It was one of the most wonderful happenings in the life of Christ Jesus. We will explain this now.

Our physical body has no light of its own, but we are beginning to develop, through our good deeds, a beautiful golden light that people shall some day see shining from within us. This is just what our lesson today tells us of Christ Jesus—He went up into a high mountain where He was changed so that His face and clothes glowed with light. Does anyone know where this light came from? The Golden Wedding Garment of Christ Jesus.

We hear so much about this Golden Wedding Garment which each one of us is weaving day by day, although it isn't very bright yet. Some day, when it is finished, it will become the most wonderful thing in the world, and will shine like the Sun.

Christ Jesus had finished His Golden Wedding Garment, which Peter, James, and John were able to see. Their own garments were beginning to shine also. This was why Christ Jesus took them up to the high mountain. It was there they were promoted into another grade in the School of Life and shown the power and glory of Christ Jesus, the wonderful Spirit from the Sun.

Some day, our own Golden Wedding Garments will commence shining too, and we shall see the glorious one that Christ Jesus made by His loving kindness to us.

FOURTH SUNDAY—REVIEW—KEYWORD: Nobility  
[ John 1:5-7 Incl.

SERVICE SUNDAY—BIBLE: I Corinthians 13:1-13 Incl.

We know that God wants us to love every one just as He does. That is not always easy unless we remember that we are all God's children. He looks to us to carry on His

love by being willing to share with others happy things, to be strong in doing right, which helps us to grow into the kind of boys and girls who can be God's helpers. It may not seem that we do very much when we are kind to others, but that is the way we have of showing God we want to do His will in spreading the good news of His love for every one.

Today as we look at the white rose in the Emblem, let us remember to send a little prayer for all God's children — which is what we all are, no matter how small or how tall, how young or how old.

“Today I will think good thoughts,  
I will do only good deeds,  
I will be kind to every living thing,  
My heart will then be pure  
As a white rose,  
And I shall see God in everything.”

## LESSON SUGGESTIONS FOR VIRGO

### GRADE II

FIRST SUNDAY—KEYWORD: Discrimination.

The Star Angels from Virgo teach us how to serve — to help those who are sick as well as those who are unhappy. The messenger from Virgo is Mercury and he says: “Look! God's truth is everywhere!” Mercury says this because, unless we look and think hard, we'll never find the right way to help. Let us say that Mother is very tired and wishes to lie down to rest, and you feel sorry and wish to help her. You remember she asked you to dust, but you didn't do it. So, you rush to get the dust cloth, banging the door because you're so busy wanting to help, and forgetting Mother can not rest in the midst of noise.

Pushing chairs around makes more noise. But suppose you dust very quietly, or take a book or a toy and be very quiet. Then Mother falls asleep and has a good rest. Which do you think was the best way to serve?

There are many ways of doing things, but there is always one way which is best. That is the way we want to find, because the best way is nearest to God's way. That is why Mercury keeps saying: "Look! God's truth is everywhere!"

BIBLE LESSON—Disciples Sent Forth to Serve:  
Matthew 9:35-38 Inclusive; Matthew 10:1-42 Inclusive.

Christ Jesus taught His disciples the right way to serve, and sent them out to do so. He wanted them to go into the cities and towns of Palestine because He felt sorry for the people who wandered around just like sheep without a shepherd. That is why He said: "The harvest is plenteous, but the laborers are few." He meant there are so few in the world who really can help. Christ Jesus knew that when we offer up a prayer to the Lord of the Harvest, who is God, help will come. So we should always remember that when we wish to help someone, there should be a prayer in our hearts. God will then give us the power to help and show us how to use it.

Christ Jesus told the disciples to heal the sick, raise the dead, and cleanse the lepers. All these things the true disciple can do (if God be willing), but there is always a right and wrong way of doing it. Some folks who are ill can help themselves if they will but try, but there are those who are so sick, discouraged, and helpless, they cannot help themselves. These are the ones we should first serve. Christ Jesus knew it was not easy to help. He knew there are many in the world who would laugh at those who want to help others. He knew there would be those who would try to stop us when we want to save a mother bird from having her nest robbed of eggs. That is why He told us

first to pray, and we will be guided in the best way to help others.

ASTROLOGY—We know there are 12 signs in the zodiac as we have talked about them before. Today we find these signs are divided into four groups of three signs each:

Fire: Aries — Mar. 21 - Apr. 20; Leo — July 23 - Aug. 22;  
Sagittarius — November 24 - December 21.

Air: Libra—Sept. 23 - Oct. 23; Aquarius—Jan. 20-Feb. 18;  
Gemini — May 21 - June 20.

Earth: Capricorn—Dec. 22-Jan. 19; Taurus—April 21-May 20; Virgo—August 23-September 22.

Water: Cancer—June 21-July 22; Scorp.—Oct. 24-Nov. 22;  
Pisces — February 19 - March 20.

Note: Perhaps the teacher would like to have copies of these ready for children to take home. They could find the sign in which their birthday falls, also the group. This will be something the students may like to do, while at the same time learning the names of signs.

SECOND SUNDAY—KEYWORD: Devotion.

This is the month of Service, when we think more especially about helping others. Unless we have love in our hearts while we are helping, we will not help as much as we could, and the Roses on our Cross will not bloom. For love is the only thing which makes the light shine in us, and only light can make the Roses bloom on our Cross or make the Golden Wedding Garment grow.

Let us suppose a poor, old man comes to the door on a hot day, asking for a drink of cold water, and Mother calls you to get it for him. You're having a good time playing, and don't like to stop, but you do as Mother says by getting the water, then give it to the man, all the while wishing he would drink it in a hurry so you can get back to your play. Christ is sorry for He loves the old man and wanted you to comfort him. But suppose you see the old

man standing there and you think — the poor, old man, how tired he looks. You run to get the glass of water, feeling glad to be of help. The minute you feel that way the light begins to shine in your heart and eyes. The old man feels comforted and happy because he knows someone cares. So you see what a difference love can make. It was exactly the same glass of water, but the love in your heart and eyes made all the difference — not only was the old man happy, and Christ was glad, but you felt happy as well. That is really serving and makes the Roses bloom on your Cross.

BIBLE LESSON—The Good Samaritan: Luke 10:25-37

One day a lawyer came to Christ Jesus asking: "Master, what shall I do to inherit eternal life?" Christ Jesus replied by asking: "What is written in the law?" The lawyer answered: "Thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thy heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy strength, and with all thy mind, and thy neighbor as thyself." Then Jesus said: "Thou hast answered right; this do and thou shalt live." But the lawyer wasn't satisfied, so he asked Jesus still another question: "Who is my neighbor?" Christ Jesus replied with this story:

A man was traveling from Jerusalem to Jericho, and met up with some robbers. They took his money and clothes; then beat him so badly he fell by the side of the road, and lay half dead. A priest was also traveling the same road. Up ahead of him, he saw the injured man as he lay in the sun, but the priest didn't care to be bothered with him, so he turned his face away, and went over to the other side of the road. Along came another man, a Levite; he too saw the man lying there, and came close to have a look at him. Then he also walked over to the other side of the road, continuing along his way. Next came a Samaritan who, when he saw the injured man, pitied him. He tied up the wounds, pouring oil on them. He then lifted the in-



jured man and set him upon his own mule, taking him to an inn where he spent the whole night caring for him. The next morning he spoke to the innkeeper, gave him money, saying: "Take care of him, and whatsoever thou spendest more, when I come again I will repay thee."

Then Christ Jesus asked the lawyer: "Which now of these three, thinkest thou, was neighbor unto him that fell among the robbers?" The lawyer answered: "He that showed mercy on him." Then Christ Jesus said: "Go and do thou likewise."

So we, too, must learn to be a neighbor to every one. We can serve others by acts of kindness. We can help, too, with our minds by thinking good and loving thoughts. We can help with our Spirit by sending a smile of sympathy. It does not matter about the color of a person's skin, to what church he may go, or what his religion is. All we need to learn is to be a neighbor to anyone who needs help, for in so doing we become good samaritans. The neighbor may be an old woman, or a child on the street, or a little boy who fell and got hurt. As you help the person, you can say a word of sympathy. We can do good everywhere, because our neighbors are to be found all around us, wherever we may be. However, we should always remember to say a little prayer, even just a few words like, "Please God, show me the right way to help and the right words to speak. Thank you."

THIRD SUNDAY—KEYWORD: Health.

God's messenger from Virgo says: "God's Truth is Everywhere!" You remember that each family of Star Angels helps one of the cell families in our bodies to do its work. This morning we talk about what the Virgo Star Angels do.

The cells in our stomach work very hard to break up the food we send down to them; their job is to get it ready to feed all of the little workers all over the body. After

the stomach cells have done their part, they push the food along to a little door on the right side of the stomach, calling out "All ready". The door flies open, letting in just a tiny bit of food at a time into a narrow tunnel called the small intestine. Now some intestine cells push food along through this winding tunnel, while other cells look after bits of food which the stomach cells could not break up small enough. It is a very busy time. At last, the food is ready to be turned into blood to be carried to the little workers all over the body who are waiting for it.

The large rivers and tiny streams of blood run everywhere through the body. They also run around this tunnel called the small intestine — there being only a very thin wall between them and the tunnel, so thin that when the food has become almost like water, the small intestine workers can just push it right through that wall into the blood stream. The small blood cells catch it as they hurry by, carrying it away with them to every single cell in the body.

That is what happens when everything works just right, but we aren't always good to the little workers who seek to make us strong and healthy. Sometimes we send the wrong food, or too much, which they cannot take care of. Other times the food we give them may be only half ready when we send them some more, so that things get mixed up in a sorry way. Sometimes too, we are selfish and ugly instead of loving and kind, which also makes trouble for the little cells. When we are like that, the food, instead of being all ready to be pushed through the tunnel walls into the blood, stays unprepared, getting pushed along the tunnel to a door at the other end into a larger tunnel called the large intestine. The cells in this large intestine do their best to help by saving all the food they can, sending the rest along to be thrown away.

Thus we see the little cells in the intestines are learning from the Virgo Star Angels how to serve — just as we are

— because they spend their whole time trying to help other cells in the body to keep well and strong to help them do their work as it should be done. Here is a secret: every time we try to help someone, we help the little cells in the intestine do their work better, which makes us stronger and better.

BIBLE LESSON—Christ Jesus Feeds the Multitude:  
John 6:1-14 Incl.

This is one of the greatest miracles in the Bible. (Remember, a miracle is an act or happening in the material or physical world departing from the laws of Nature, or going beyond what is known about these laws.) One day, after Christ Jesus had been speaking to a large crowd of people, He was very tired so He and the disciples went away to the desert, far from the cities of Palestine. Scarcely had they arrived when they saw a great crowd of people coming toward them. They had learned where Jesus went and followed because they wanted to learn more about His teachings. Christ Jesus forgot His tiredness and felt sorry for those people as they seemed like sheep without a shepherd. Therefore, He taught them many things all that day.

With evening coming on, His disciples said to Jesus: "Send the people away that they may go into the country and villages around to get food." But Jesus said: "They have no need to go away; give them to eat." This surprised the disciples very much, so they said: "Why, Master, we have only five loaves and two fish." Then Jesus said: "Bring them here to me." Turning to the people, He commanded them to sit on the sand. He then took the five loaves and two fish, and looking up to heaven, He blessed and broke the loaves, giving them to the disciples to pass around to the people, who ate and were filled. Afterwards Christ Jesus said to the disciples: "Gather up the broken pieces remaining, that nothing be lost."

This miracle, we know, Christ Jesus did in accordance with one of God's laws, the power for which God had given Him because of His unselfish desire to serve others.

Another time Christ Jesus was out on the desert, but He was alone and although He was hungry, He did not use the power from God to feed Himself, as it was given Him only to feed others.

When we become able to live pure, unselfish lives, we too shall be able to do what are called miracles, because God's power will then be given us. We shall then make the blind to see, the deaf to hear, the dumb to speak, the lame to walk, and even feed a crowd of people if that becomes necessary.

SERVICE SUNDAY—BIBLE: Luke 17:11-19 Incl.

Let us think of God as light which is everywhere. God's love also is everywhere. We can never get away from it, but we may try to turn away from God and His love. When we do that, we are not carrying out God's plan and the sunshine goes out of our lives. Then we start looking around for things to make us happy; we try one thing after another, only to find that God's love and His plan is what we are seeking.

When we do our best to carry out what God would have us do, we are truly happy. Then we make others happy by: Thinking good thoughts; Doing good deeds; Seeing God in everything. Let us think of the White Rose in the Emblem as a pure heart full of love for everyone.

## LESSON SUGGESTIONS FOR LIBRA

### GRADE II

FIRST SUNDAY—KEYWORD: Judgment.

Something has happened in God's world since last Sunday. You remember that Christ came back to us at

Christmastime. At the Easter season He returned to God, His Father and ours, leaving the golden Light of His Love for every life spark on this Earth to use to grow upon. Then summer came, and we saw how life sparks everywhere used that Light — trees and flowers grew and blossomed as fast as they could. Now all that beautiful golden Light has been used, and we see the trees and flowers have come to fruit and seed. We also used that golden Light to do things.

Now Christ is coming back to give more of His love so that all seeds can have life needed to grow into plants or trees. A few days ago that wonderful Light began touching our Earth once again.

Today we want to find out what we did with the love Christ left with us. He watches all the time and now wants us to think about it to see whether we've done our best to make the Roses bloom on our Cross. The Star Angels from Libra help us to do this. They help us decide right from wrong — what is good and what is bad. We must know how to do right before the Roses can bloom upon our Cross.

What is the name of the messenger from Libra? (Venus) Venus says — "Children, love one another." The more we love one another, the more we take in of Christ's golden Light. The more we have of it, the better we can tell the difference between right and wrong, and the more easily we can keep out of trouble by doing the right thing.

BIBLE LESSON—Parable of Tares of the Field:  
Matthew 13:14-43 Incl.

Today our lesson takes us to the Sea of Galilee in Palestine. Let us imagine we are there. Christ Jesus liked to visit the beach just as we do. One day, while there, great crowds of people gathered around Him. Can you imagine how that looked? These people waited to hear

Him tell them about many things as He had done so often before. This day He told them about the Kingdom of Heaven, and how we must all learn to love, to be kind, and to serve others before we can enter the Kingdom of Heaven.

This is what He told them: The Kingdom of Heaven is like a man who sowed good seed in his field, but while he slept his enemy came and sowed weeds among the good seed. When the seeds grew, so did the weeds. The man's servants came and told the man what had happened by saying: "Didn't you sow good seed in the field? How came the weeds?" The man said: "An enemy did this." The servant asked: "Shall we gather the weeds?" But the man said: "No, because you may pull up wheat too. Let both grow until the harvest, when I will tell the reapers to gather the weeds first, tie them up and burn them, and to pick wheat afterwards and put it in the barn."

After the people had gone away, the disciples asked Christ Jesus the meaning of the parable. He said: "He who sows good seed is the Son of man; the field is the world; the good seed are the sons of the kingdom; weeds are sons of the evil one. The harvest is the end of the present age; reapers are the Angels. Every day we are sowing seeds, some good and some bad. Love, kindness, and service are some of the good seeds. Hate, jealousy, and laziness are some of the bad seeds. Bad seeds don't bring good fruit, so they are burned, purified with fire, making them into earth for good seed. Sometimes the good and bad seeds grow up together, but there comes a time when they must be separated. This is the harvest or judgment time."

With us, there is a harvest time when our bad deeds are parted from the good ones. This is symbolized by the Sun entering Libra, the sign of balance, or the scales, and our good deeds are weighed in the scales. This is examination time to see what lessons we've learned in the School of Life. If we are ready, or fit to go on to greater work

than before, we're allowed to do so, otherwise we must await another harvest time.

So, every day we pray that we may learn our lessons in Life's School — that we may be ready to enter the Kingdom of Heaven when that time comes.

SECOND SUNDAY—KEYWORD: Poise.

Venus says — “Little Children, love one another!”

Did you know we have more than one body? That is true. If someone who has the Roses blooming upon his Cross should look at one of us, he would see not only the physical body we see, but also another body made of ether which is in and all around the physical body. This body of light is the one which catches the Light from Christ and helps the physical body to grow and to live. All through and around these two bodies, there is another, much larger, body—the emotional body. It reaches out about 18 inches all around us, changing all the time. Whenever we think about God, or something good and beautiful, the colors of this body are beautiful, but with ugly thoughts the colors get dark with spikes and flashes of red all through them. When this happens, the little cells in the physical body get frightened and don't know how to do their work right, and things begin to go wrong inside of us.

Besides these three bodies, we have the beginning of another one. It is like a little cloud around our heads; that is the body we think with — our mind.

The light that is YOU has to look after all these bodies and has quite a time making them behave. It is just like trying to stand in the middle of a seesaw — first one end flies up in the air, and next the other end, until we learn how to balance them just exactly right. The more love and the more beautiful Christ Light you have inside, the better the real YOU can keep these lively bodies in order so they will do what you want them to do.