

# INTERNATIONAL SUNDAY SCHOOL LESSON

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(Managing Editor "The King's Business," Secretary Correspondence Courses of the Bible Institute of Los Angeles)

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Review: Life and Letters of Peter.

The teacher should be able to work out an interesting character study by assigning to different members of a class one of the lessons on Peter, and requiring the student to bring out good or weak points of character discovered in the study. Portions of Scripture, not covered by the International Lessons, may be assigned.

To assist in the preparation of such a lesson, we submit some outstanding points

In every way Peter seems to be the most prominent of our Lord's disciples. Even the beloved John makes a vague impression upon us in comparison with Peter. He seems to be about the only man we know until Paul appears on the scene. Behind that peculiar make-up of Peter, our Lord must have seen the great possibilities of a noble life and service.

Dr. Tuck says: "To one who is skillful in reading human character, Peter's weaknesses are the suggestion of his strength. A man must have something in him to be impulsive; there are energy and enterprise in the man who speaks at once, and he may learn, by and by, wisdom and self restraint."

From the first introduction to Jesus, he became passionately attached to Him, wholly devoted, almost jealous, unable to bear anything that seemed a slight to Him or even to hear Him speak of Himself and His mission in a way that suggested defeat.

Being a natural leader, Peter seemed to be always expecting Jesus to say and do what he would do. This enthusiastic admiration explains many of Peter's impulsive acts and statements. He little knew the weakness of his own nature and the pressure that would be brought to bear.

The glorious thing about him is that he recovered himself after he had reached the depths, showing that he was indeed the "rock-man" our Lord had seen in him. Restored by his divine Lord, he started on a new career, and though his faults more than once cropped out, he took the leadership of the apostolic company and carried the Gospel banner on to a glorious victory.

Dr. Plumtree says: "Through all the scenes of his life we see the natural character of the man breaking out ever and anon, showing its weakness and its good. He is foremost in his confession, and the first to retract; he alone throws himself into the waves to join his Lord, and then, his faith failing, he begins to sink; prominent in all questionings and murmurings, impetuous, zealous, but also wavering and inconstant; in years a man, but in character a wayward boy, needing the education of the Divine Guide."

Impulsiveness is his outstanding characteristic that may signify either a weak and restless nature or a strong and enterprising one. Peter seems impulsively strong, in danger of becoming merely stubborn. Jesus saw in Him a nature worth disciplining, and so stood ready to overrule all the bad mistakes Peter made.

Do you feel you can do nothing for the Lord? The selection of Peter has its lessons. The Master has insight of our characters and possibilities. We have wondered how some men ever get into positions of high trust. The master discerned something that we did not. To Christ, men are what they may become. He sees the end from the beginning. If we are ready, as was Peter, to follow Him, we may cause our light to rise in obscurity (Isa. 58:10, 11).

Many things led up to a time of sifting for Peter. Reading between the lines, we see a tendency to want to make Jesus go Peter's way. To a man of his disposition, it was no easy thing to play second fiddle. He would make up his mind what Jesus ought to do, and would be greatly disappointed, and perhaps peevish, if Jesus did not go that way.

When he saw Jesus taking a course that to him spelled failure, he no doubt had a struggle to keep faith in Christ. The last strain came when he was annoyed, disappointed, angry

with himself and all the others. Nothing was going as he thought it might go, should his advice be followed.

The Master reproved him in the Upper Room; he hated himself for falling asleep in Gethsemane after all his boasted devotion; the Lord had replaced the ear he had slashed off with his sword. He was in a bad mood. Instead of going off to sulk, he followed the arresting party, got into the high priest's palace, and then, caught unawares, he denied with oaths.

He struck bottom, but he did not stay there. Only a strong man could fall so terribly as he did, and only a sincere man could have recovered himself so quickly. "Blessed is the man who can use his stumbling stones as paving stones in the way of success."

Peter, study man that he was, was not above shedding tears. He acknowledged the utter failure of his own ways, and threw himself upon the mercy of Christ. "More disastrous than any drouth in the physical world," some one has said, "is that in the religious world caused by a dearth of penitential tears."

Peter stepped at once into the foremost place of service. No one ever thought of disputing his right to it, in spite of his disgrace. Neither John nor Paul ever presumed to take first place. Peter was the man eminently fitted for it. He preached the Pentecostal sermon and opened the door of the Gospel to Gentile believers.

Let us not forget that this was the Peter who had been run through the mill of humiliating and disciplinary experiences. It was a man taught in the school of Christ, a school where one learns the worthlessness of human nature. It was a man filled with the Holy Ghost, a man to whom Christ was now ALL.

These are the secrets of power for God. May it not be necessary for us to have such a self-revealing fall as Peter had before we may learn to surrender all to Christ! May we truly say at once: "Lord, Thou knowest that I love Thee." It was this that made Peter what he afterward became. As Chrysostom says: "If John is the disciple Jesus loved, Peter is the disciple who loved Jesus."

## CAMERON

This week will about close the dewberry season

If the newspapers do not want to give Lindberg a rest they might have some pity on others.

Rev. Mr. Little filled his appointment at the Presbyterian Church Sunday night and preached from the subject, "Love to Christ."

Rev. O. A. Keller who was conducting a meeting last week at East Sanford Baptist Church, invited the pastor, Rev. Mr. Morris, of that church, to fill the pulpit Sunday at Cameron Baptist Church, which he did, and preached an excellent sermon

Rev. and Mrs. M. D. McNeill spent a few days of last week in Tarboro, the guests of Mr. and Mrs. Gabe Holmes.

Mr. and Mrs. J. S. Cole on Lee-line, returned last week from a visit to their children in Raleigh and Wake Forest.

Mrs. Mary Agnes Hobbs and daughter, Miss Margaret Hobbs, of Fayetteville, spent the week end with Misses Mamie and Kate Arnold.

Mr. and Mrs. W. E. York and children, Mrs. W. P. Joyner and son, of Fayetteville, came over for Sunday with Mr. and Mrs. W. M. Wooten. Mrs. Joyner and son, Paul Wooten, remained for a week's visit.

Rev. J. W. Hartsell, who recently sent in a paid-up and renewal to The Pilot, has had his porch remodeled with brick pillars, his house recovered and repainted, which adds much to the appearance. The work was done by his two grandsons, Roy and Hartsell Hendricks.

Miss Ruth Wooten renews her subscription to The Pilot this week, given as a present on "Father's Day" to her father, W. M. Wooten.

Mr. and Mrs. D. W. McNeill spent

a day of last week in Greensboro.

Mr. and Mrs. Roy Blue Smith and children, of New Bern, Mrs. R. A. Smith, of Niagara called an afternoon of last week on the Correspondent.

Mr. and Mrs. J. S. Cole, Miss Mary McNeill, of Lee-line, spent the afternoon of Sunday with Henry and Horace Morrison and their sister, Miss Lizzie, on Lee county border.

Mrs. J. W. Thornton and children, of Dunn, were recent visitors of Prof. and Mrs. J. Clyde Kelly. Returning home Mrs Thornton was accompanied by Mr. and Mrs. Kelly and children, and enjoyed a delightful visit. Mrs. Kelly and Mrs. Thornton are sisters.

Mr. and Mrs. John Reed, of Greenville, S. C., are guests of Mr. and Mrs. J. E. Collins on Breezy Summit.

Miss Pauline Snipes, who is in training at the Wesley Long Hospital in Greensboro, spent Sunday at home.

The handsome new brick veneer bungalow of G. S. Cole, on Breezy Summit, is nearing completion, and is equipped with all modern conveniences.

Carlisle Gibson, of Hamlet, was a Sunday evening guest of Miss Bonnie Muse.

Pleased to report Mrs. Lula Muse on the road to recovery.

Mr. and Mrs. Robert Stuart, of Aberdeen, spent Sunday afternoon with Rev. and Mrs. M. D. McNeill. Misses Thurla Cole and Kate Harrington spent Monday afternoon in Sanford.

Hugh Allen, of Portsmouth, Va., is on a visit to his home folks on Rt. 2.

The B. Y. P. U. of Cameron Baptist Church gave a play at Jonesboro Sunday night, the title being "Farmer Brown's conversion to the doctrine of stewardship."

Mesdames Rufus Swett and Fred Swett, of Hamlet, spent Friday with Mr. and Mrs. T. G. Swett, of Cameron vicinity.

Mrs. Lee G. McIver, of Sanford, spent a night of last week with her mother, Mrs. Laura Rogers.

Mr. and Mrs. D. W. McNeill and Miss Ada McNeill spent Sunday with relatives in Laurinburg and Laurel Hill.

E. L. Ray, of Asheboro, is in the McKeithen Drug Store this week, filling the vacancy made by his sister, Miss Elizabeth Ray, who is away on a vacation.

Miss Sallie Beatrice Coore, on Rt. 1, spent the week end with her sister, Mrs. J. W. Cameron.

Misses Thurla Cole, Jacksie Muse and W. A. Muse attended the sacred concert at the Presbyterian Church at Carthage Sunday night

Now that the dewberry season is over the Cameron reporter will have a chance again at the Woman's Club, John Charles McNeill Society, Merry Makers, etc.

Miss Pauline Thompson, of Vass, is a guest this week of Miss Lula Gaddy.

The finest spring turnips and beets I have sampled this season were grown by J. A. Phillips.

Mrs. H. C. Hudson and children, Mrs. Henry Hunter, of Turkey, were visitors last week at the home of Mrs. Hudson's parents, Mr. and Mrs. J. W. Hunter.

Prof. Clyde Kelly and Rev. Mr. Little attended the call meeting of Presbytery at Fayetteville last week.

D. A. Cole and nephew, Herbert, on Big Springs Route, were dinner guests Sunday of Mr. and Mrs. J. S. Cole on Lee-line.

The Correspondent is grateful to Mrs. W. C. Spivey for some very fine harvest apples. I enjoyed a Sunday dinner of delicious apple dumplings like mother used to make.

Miss Ada McNeill has received recently a letter from a near relative,

Miss Anna Buchanan, of Brandon, Miss., who was teaching at Leland, which was one of the places hit hardest by the flood. Miss Buchanan writes a very interesting letter and gives a graphic description of the flood which must have been exceedingly terrible. The last train came into Leland on the morning of the 21st and by evening there was 10 feet of water in the town. She says she thought of Lot and his family when they were fleeing from the dreadful danger. All she could take along, or had time to gather, was her hand bag. She says "you can double and re-double anything and every thing you read in the papers and you can not imagine it is as bad as the reality."

Lindberg sails high, Coolidge keeps cool, and the flood victims suffer.



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