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ORANGEVILLE

INTERNATIONAL UNIFORM Sunday School LESSON

CHRIST SHOWS HIMSELF ALIVE

SUNDAY, APRIL 13th 1941

GOLDEN TEXT: "I... was dead; and, behold, I am alive for evermore." Revelation 1:18.

LESSON PASSAGE: Luke 24: 13-17, 26-30.

Then into his hand went mine,
And into my heart came he;
And I walked into a light divine
The path I had feared to see.
—George MacDonald.

Lost Radiance, 13-18.

Two of Christ's followers had held high hopes that as Messiah he would deliver their nation from the Roman yoke. Instead, Christ had been crucified and they thought that the cross meant failure rather than success. As they were walking the eight miles from Jerusalem to Emmaus, they spoke of their disillusionment. The sun had gone out of their sky. They had no hope for their race. When Jesus drew near and walked beside them they did not recognize him. They were discouraged and dispirited and each contributed to the other's gloom. To

live in a Christian world would be to lose much of the best from life. Had the cross spoiled defeat there would be no Christian church, no Christian literature, no Christian music, poetry, art or architecture, no Bible Society or Red Cross. But actually the Cross meant final victory and in these dark days of war Christians are strong in faith that the cruelty of dictators is but vindicating the necessity of Christ's way of love.

The Conversational Christ, 17, 25-27. Christ made no attempt to be an orator but he was a great conversationalist. He talked freely and naturally with his disciples, with Nicodemus by night, with the women at the well-side, with Simon and Zacchaeus at their dinner tables. How deftly he eased into the conversation of the two men on the Emmaus road! It was as if he had been one of their number all the way. There are many mature Christians who find conversation with Christ one of the surest ways of realizing his presence. One old saint made a practice of placing an empty chair opposite him and talking to Christ as though he were sitting there. A virtuous young man says that when he talks to Christ, "last thing at night, invariably Christ talks to him first thing in the morning." When Christ was with his disciples in Galilee and Judaea he was continually clarifying truths for them and he does the same for us. How differently the two followers would talk to each other on the way back to Jerusalem! Christ's brief conversation had changed their total outlook on life.

Breaking Bread, 28-31

There are four ways in which we

Air Commodore Harold Edwards
Air Member for Personnel on Canada's Air Council.
—Photo by Karsh, Ottawa.

LOVE'S LABOUR

Jerry: "Yes, I thought all the world of her."
Molly: "Then why did you give her up?"
Jerry: "I could not support the whole world."



Anna Neagle, charming British actress of stage and screen, will come to Canada on Sunday, April 13, to play the lead in a radio drama of the "Theatre of Freedom" series. She will be heard by listeners of the CBC National Network in the title role of "Victoria the Great."

may enter into a deeper understanding of the Lord's Supper. First of all, we may read and meditate upon the story of the institution of the Sacrament in the Upper Room. What did it mean to the disciples at the time and later? Again we may find deep meanings in their memorial by being present in imagination with Cleopas and his companion at Emmaus when they recognized Christ in his breaking of bread. In our own local congregations, also, as we commemorate Christ's death with our neighbours and members of our families, we may progressively realize his presence. There are those, indeed, who dare to make every meal a sacramental meal, not only by returning thanks, but by thinking of Christ as present and partaking of their food in remembrance of him. If in addition to the New Testament passages concerning the Lord's Supper, we read over and over again and memorize the sacramental hymns, we will find the sacred memorial filled with meaning and influence.

Burning Hearts, 32

How dull scripture can be if we read it listlessly or without imagination! Those who complain that the bible puts them to sleep have never read it as with Christ. That would stab their spirits wide awake. The Old Testament becomes a living literature when we read it seeing Christ pre-figured there. The fifty-third chapter of Isaiah is great literature in itself, still greater if it pictures Jeremiah or the Suffering Servant Israel, but it makes our hearts burn within us when we recall Christ's sufferings. The four gospels glow when we read them hearing the voice of Christ speak as though he were saying them for the first time. What a moving drama is the story of the crucifixion if we read it as partakers of our Lord's suffering! Admittedly the scriptures make one reader dull and set the soul of another on fire. The difference is not in the Bible but in the readers. One level-headed business man says that he never opens his bible but Christ speaks to him. Are we of the company of Bible readers with the burning hearts?

Something To Tell, 33-35

On the way to Emmaus the two travellers walked and were sad. On their return trip to Jerusalem, in spite of the double distance, they walked and were glad. They had news to tell. They did not delay but went to the eleven and heard the declaration that Christ was risen and had appeared to Simon. They in turn told what things had happened on their memorial walk and how Christ had made himself known to them in the breaking of bread. They could not refrain from talking because they had something to tell. "We cannot but speak" is the normal attitude of those who have had recent experience of Christ's transforming power. What news have we to tell? Do we only recount the story of the life and death of a Galilean Carpenter, or have we found in Christ a spokesman for humanity, a messenger from God, a victor over sin and death through whom we too are being made victorious? Reticence in religion may be respected with certain temperaments but as a rule those who say nothing have nothing to say.

Questions For Discussion

1. Are my moods changeable? If so, why?
 2. If my last week's conversations were broadcast over the radio from recordings, would I want the world to listen?
 3. What place has the Sacrament in my spiritual experience?
 4. "The Bible is a love letter." To whom?
 5. What is your most vital religious belief?
- (Lesson Outlines copyrighted by the International Council of Religious Education. Used by permission.)

SONNY'S DREAM

One fine day me and stull went to hunt a cannibal.
It wasn't long before I know he was hunting for us too.
When I felt this fellow's dart, I felt I was cut in two.
When he caught me from the storm, I knew I'd soon be in the stew.

Chorus:
They tarred me all over
And put me on to boil.
And while I was boiling
I was singing all the while.
It got so hot in the pot that a pain got in my head.
Then I thought I heard me say: "time you was up out of bed."
My dream burnt like a boiler; now this promise I must keep
Me and to keep out of trouble,
Don't hunt cannibals in my sleep.
James Williams, Georgetown.



Ontario's Students Offer to Help Relieve Emergency Need for Farm Help!

Already more than 6,000 of Ontario's sturdy High School students have volunteered their services to the Farm Service Force of Ontario! They are devoting their summer months to help farmers meet the greatest production demands in their experience. Students will be relieved of school responsibilities as farmers require them. Especially prepared courses of study have been offered to fit these willing young people for the summer's work on the farm.

Britain is depending upon Ontario's farmers to supply a great proportion of their needs for cheese, bacon, concentrated milk, and other farm products.

Farmers who have not registered their requirements for student assistance are urged strongly to do so without delay. Simply notify your Agricultural Representative or local High School Principal, or write: Farm Service Force, Department of Labour, Parliament Bldg., Toronto.



After one week on the farm, these sturdy, young volunteers receive this distinctive crest upon application to the Farm Service Force, Department of Labour, Toronto.