

THE LAME MAN HEALED.**24th January.**

Les. Acts. 3 : 1-16. Gol. Text, Acts 3 : 16.
 Mem. vs. 13-16. Catechism, Q. 85.

The Miracle of Healing. vs. 1-8.
 The Wonder of the People. vs. 9-11.
 The Power of Jesus' Name. vs. 12-16.

Time.—Probably A.D. 31-33.

Place.—Jerusalem.

Our lesson tells of the first recorded miracle of healing wrought by the disciples after the giving of the Holy Spirit. It occurred in the outer court of the temple, just before the time of evening prayer. There were generally a great many blind, lame, and other beggars about the temple gates. The one in our lesson was a cripple, helpless from his birth. Peter doubtless saw that he had faith to be healed, as Paul saw in the case of the man at Lystra. Acts 14 : 9. The man's joy at being healed was shown by his leaping ; and his devout gratitude, by his going into the temple and praising God.

LESSONS.

1. We can bring our suffering friends to the gate of prayer.
2. We can help by prayer and love without money.
3. We should give a helping hand to those we pray for.
4. Only in Christ's name can we really bless others.
5. Our greatest need is not money, but Christ.

THE BOLDNESS OF PETER AND JOHN.**31st January.**

Les., Acts 4 : 1-14. Gol. Text, Acts 4 : 12.
 Mem. vs. 10-12. Catechism, Q. 86.

Arrested and imprisoned. vs. 1-4.
 Standing before the Council. vs. 5-10.
 Witnessing with Power. vs. 11-14.

Time.—Of vs. 1-4, same as last lesson ; of vs. 5-14, the following day.

Places.—Solomon's porch ; the judgment hall.

After explaining how the lame man had been healed, Peter told the Jews that though, in their ignorance of Jesus' Messiahship, they had crucified him, all his sufferings had been foretold by the prophets. He then exhorted them to repent, and further explained the Scriptures. The priests, and the rulers of the temple, with the Sadducees, arrested the apostles. It was toward evening, and Peter and John were detained in prison until the next day. They were then brought before the Sanhe-

drin, the highest Jewish court, and questioned as to the power by which they had cured the lame man. Peter, filled with the Holy Ghost, boldly and plainly stated the facts, and proclaimed the gospel of salvation in Jesus' name alone. The bold and ready speech of the unlearned apostles astonished the rulers, nor could they deny the miracle. After a secret conference they dismissed Peter and John unpunished, commanding them to teach no more in Jesus' name.

LESSONS.

1. Sometimes we must suffer for Christ's sake.
2. Persecution does not stop the work of the Spirit.
3. We should give Christ the honor of all his own work.
4. There is only one name by which to be saved.
5. People should know when we have been with Jesus.

TRUE AND FALSE GIVING.**7th February.**

Les., Acts 4 : 32-5 : 11. Gol. Text, 1 Sam. 16 : 7.
 Mem. vs. 32, 33. Catechism, Q. 87.

Examples of Generous Giving. vs. 32-37.
 Examples of Dishonest Profession. vs. 1-4.
 Swift Divine Punishment. vs. 5-11.

Time.—Soon after last lesson.

Place.—Jerusalem.

Peter and John refused to obey the Sanhedrin's command to preach no more in Jesus' name. They returned to the company of the disciples, who, after hearing what the Sanhedrin had done, prayed earnestly for boldness to preach, and for miraculous power. In answer to this prayer the place was shaken, and they were all filled with the Holy Ghost.

All the Christians were now associated in one self-sacrificing and loving community. Those who had property placed it at the disposal of the apostles for the benefit of those who had none. Among those who made this sacrifice was Barnabas. Ananias and Sapphira falsely professed to surrender all the proceeds of property they had sold, and were suddenly smitten with death.

LESSONS.

1. True Christian consecration holds all things for God.
2. The strong should help the weak, the rich aid the poor.
3. We should keep back nothing when we become Christ's.
4. We lie to God when our professions are not real.
5. We should fear to sin, for curse always follows.

—Westminster Ques. Book.