

Who dost thy sevenfold gifts impart;  
Thy blessed unction from above  
Is comfort, life, and fire of love.

Enable with perpetual light  
The dullness of our blinded sight;  
Anoint and cheer our soiled face  
With the abundance of thy grace;  
Keep far our foes, give peace at home;  
Where thou art guide no ill can come.

#### QUESTIONS FOR HOME STUDY.

1. **The Spirit Received**, v. 14-17. In what place was the Spirit received? Were these people Jews? Who were they? What had been said of Samaria in Acts 1. 8? Who first preached the Gospel to these people? v. 5. What was the effect of Philip's preaching? v. 12. Through whom did the Spirit come upon these people? What two things were done by the apostles to give the Spirit? What was the effect of receiving the Spirit? Acts 2. 4. What will the Spirit give to us? John 16. 13.

2. **The Sorcerer Rebuked**, v. 18-25. What is a sorcerer? [See Explanations.] What had this sorcerer done? v. 13. Had he been truly converted? v. 21. What did he propose to the apostles? What did he want, and for what purpose? How did Peter answer him? In what condition did Peter say Simon was? What did he urge him to do? What did he say that God might perhaps do for him? What did Simon say in return? What did the apostles do after this?

#### TEACHINGS OF THE LESSON.

Where does this lesson teach—

1. That one may be baptized without being converted!
2. That God only can forgive sin!
3. That forgiveness can be obtained only by repentance and prayer!

**The Lesson Catechism.**—(For the entire school.) 1. Where was the Gospel planted by Philip? In Samaria. 2. What followed the laying of the apostles' hands on those who had been converted? The gift of the Holy Ghost. 3. How did Simon the sorcerer seek to obtain this power? By buying it. 4. What did Peter say to him? "Thy money perish with thee." 5. What did Peter urge him to do? To repent and seek forgiveness.

**DOCTRINAL SUGGESTION.**—The evil heart.

#### QUESTIONS FOR SENIOR STUDENTS.

1. **The Spirit Received**, v. 14-17. How had the Samaritans heard of the Gospel? What help did the Church at Jerusalem send them? What was the purpose of this visit? What was the purport of their prayer? What requirements of the apostles had these believers fulfilled? Acts 2. 38. By what means was the Holy Ghost imparted? Of what was this a sign?

2. **The Sorcerer rebuked**, v. 18-25. Why did Simon covet the power of the apostles? What offer did he make to Peter? What was Peter's rebuke? In what did Simon's offence consist? What state of heart did his offence

show? What remedy did Peter propose? Why was this remedy needed? How did Simon receive the rebuke?

#### PRACTICAL TEACHINGS.

What is the difference between a false and a true faith?

How only can spiritual power be attained? Why should we be careful about the motives of our actions?

What is the only deliverance from the bonds of iniquity?

#### QUESTIONS FOR YOUNGER SCHOLARS.

In what city did Philip preach the Gospel? In Samaria? What was the result of his preaching? Many believed in Jesus. Who was among the believers? Simon the sorcerer. What is a sorcerer? One who claims to have power over spirits. At what did Simon wonder? At the miracles which he saw. What apostles were sent to Samaria? Peter and John? What did they ask for the believers? The gift of the Holy Spirit. How did God answer them? By sending down the Holy Spirit. What did Simon covet? Such power as the apostles had. Why did he want this power? That he might make himself rich and great. What did he bring to the apostles? Money to buy the gift of the Spirit. How did Peter rebuke him? "Thy money perish with thee." What truth did Peter tell him? [Repeat GOLDEN TEXT]. In what did Simon's sin lie? In seeking his own glory. What did Simon ask Peter to do? To pray God not to punish him. What should he have asked instead? That God would forgive his sin.

#### WORDS WITH LITTLE PEOPLE.

When are you like Simon? When you pretend to be a friend of Christ to gain something. When you talk about loving God, and do nothing for Him. When you are good only on the outside. When you love self more than Jesus.

#### ANALYTICAL AND BIBLICAL OUTLINE.

##### The Traits of True Apostles.

#### I. THEIR AUTHORITY.

When the apostles . . . heard . . . they sent.

v. 14.

"God hath set . . . in the Church, first apostles." 1 Cor. 12. 28.

#### II. THEIR UNITY IN SPIRIT.

Peter and John. v. 14.

"How pleasant . . . to dwell . . . in unity." Psal. 133. 1.

#### III. THEIR BREADTH OF VIEW.

When they were come . . . prayed for them. v. 15.

"Into one body . . . Jews or Gentiles." 1 Cor. 12. 13.

#### IV. THEIR DIVINE ENDOWMENT.

Their hands . . . they received the Holy Ghost. v. 17.

"Power . . . the Holy Ghost . . . come upon you." Acts 1. 8.