

**HOW THE LITTLE KITE LEARNED TO FLY.**

"I never can do it," the little kite said, As he looked at the others high over his head;  
 "I know I should fall if I tried to fly." "Try," said the big kite: "only try! Or I fear you never will learn at all." But the little kite said, "I'm afraid I'll fall."  
 The big kite nodded: "Ah, well, good-bye: I'm off," and he rose toward the tranquil sky.  
 Then the little kite's paper stirred at the sight, And trembling he shook himself free for flight,  
 First whirling and frightened, then braver grown,  
 Up, up he rose through the air alone, Till the big kite, looking down, could see The little one rising steadily.  
 Then how the little kite thrilled with pride, As he sailed with the big kite, side by side!  
 While far below he could see the ground, And the boys, like small spots, moving round.  
 They rest high in the quiet air, And only the birds and clouds were there. "Oh, how happy I am!" the little kite cried;  
 "And all because I was brave, and tried."

**LESSON NOTES.**

**SECOND QUARTER.**

STUDIES IN THE BOOK OF ACTS.

**LESSON V. [May 3.]**

**PAUL ARRESTED.**

Acts 21. 30-39. Memorize verses 30-32.

**GOLDEN TEXT.**

If any man suffer as a Christian, let him not be ashamed.—1 Peter 4. 16.

**THE LESSON STORY.**

Paul and his friends came to Jerusalem and were received gladly by the brethren, who had some talk with him about keeping the Jewish laws, and then he went into the temple with others who wished to make an offering. There the Jews laid hands on him and stirred up a strong feeling against him in the temple, so that the people ran together, and all the city was moved. They dragged him out of the temple and came very near killing him, but the chief captain, with his band, took him away from the people and bound him with two chains, just as Agabus the prophet had said, and commanded that he be taken to the Tower of Antonia, which was on the north-western corner of the temple area, and connected with it by staircases.

Up these stairs the soldiers carried Paul to keep him from the violence of the people, but Paul was brave and would speak. The captain thought he was an Egyptian who had been at the head of four thousand brigands in the desert; but Paul showed him that he could speak either Greek or Hebrew, and asked to speak to the people. He gave him permission. So there on the stairs he stood waving his hand until the people listened, and he spoke to them.

**QUESTIONS FOR THE YOUNGEST.**

What came to Paul at Jerusalem? He was arrested.  
 Where? In the temple.  
 By whom? By the Jews.  
 What was stirred up? A great tumult.  
 What did the Jews try to do? To kill him.  
 Who took him away from them? The captain of the band.  
 Where did they take him? To the Tower of Antonia.  
 Where was it? Near the temple.  
 What did Paul want to do? To speak.  
 Why? That he might speak for his Master.  
 Did the captain allow it? Yes.  
 Where did he stand? On the staircase.

**LESSON VI. [May 10.]**

**THE PLOT AGAINST PAUL.**

Acts 23. 12-22. Memorize verses 20-22.

**GOLDEN TEXT.**

The Lord stood by him, and said, Be of good cheer.—Acts 23. 11.

**THE LESSON STORY.**

Paul made a brave speech as he stood high on the stairs that led from the temple area to the tower, an angry mob below him. They listened because they wanted to know what he had to say, but soon cried out upon him when he spoke of going to the Gentiles. There was much trouble until the captain knew that he was a Roman, and then they brought him before the council, where the captain was obliged to save him once more from his enemies. But the Lord stood by him that night and said, "Be of good cheer. Paul; for as thou hast testified of me in Jerusalem, so must thou bear witness also at Rome." About forty Jews bound themselves by an oath, saying they would not eat or drink until they had killed Paul, and they tried to get Paul called before the council again that they might lie in wait for him and kill him; but Paul's nephew heard of the plot and told Paul, and Paul sent him to tell the captain. Then the captain made ready a company of about five hundred soldiers to take Paul away to Caesarea, by night, to Felix, the governor, with a letter explaining why he was sent. Paul was called a prisoner, but he was God's freeman.

**QUESTIONS FOR THE YOUNGEST.**

Where did Paul make a speech? On the prison stairs.  
 Who heard it? A crowd of angry people.  
 Who saved Paul from them? The chief captain.  
 Who stood by him that night? The Lord.  
 What did he say to Paul? "Be of good cheer."  
 What did some bad men do? Promise to kill Paul.  
 Who heard about it? Paul's nephew.  
 What did the captain do? Sent Paul away by night.  
 How many soldiers went with him? Nearly five hundred.  
 Who did they take him to? To Felix, the governor.  
 Where did he live? At Caesarea.  
 Who also went with Paul? His Lord and Master.

**ONE LITTLE WORD.**

The little word "again" has apparently nothing humorous about it, but it once threw an assembly into fits of laughter.

It was at a public meeting in New York. One of the speakers, Mr. R., had the misfortune, when he tried to take a seat, to miss his chair and come down at full length on the platform. The accident occasioned a little subdued mirth, especially as the unfortunate divine was very tall, and seemed to cover the whole platform in his frantic efforts to rise.

When at last it came his turn to speak, the presiding officer introduced him in these words: "Mr. R. will again take the floor."

Clapping, stamping, and laughter reigned for several minutes. The reverend gentleman had never before met with so enthusiastic a reception.

**HELPING THE MINISTER.**

"One thing helped me very much while I was preaching to-day," said a clergyman.

"What was that?" inquired a friend.

"It was the attention of a little girl, who kept her eyes fixed on me, and seemed to hear and understand every word I said. She was a great help to me."

Think of that, little ones, and, when you go to church, fix your eyes on the minister, and try to understand what he says; for he is speaking to you as well as to grown-up people. He is telling about the Lord Jesus, who loves the little ones.

A little boy once walked thirty-two miles to get a Bible; he wanted one he could call his own. Would you take as much trouble as that?