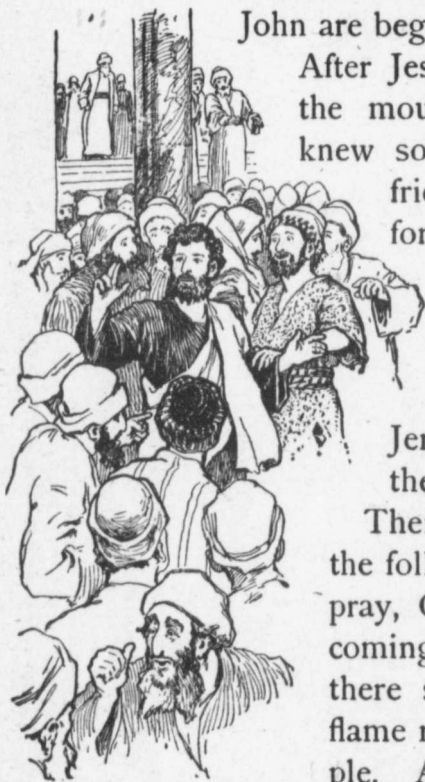


PETER PREACHES AT PENTECOST

Acts, chapter 2

On this first Sunday of the new year, we meet in the same room as we met last year, with the same teachers and classmates; but we have new lessons to study, and new days in which to live them. In this lesson Peter and John are beginning a new part of their lives.



After Jesus' ascension they came down the mountain into the city that they knew so well, to meet with the same friends; but there was a new work for them. Jesus had promised his followers that his Spirit should come to help them and teach them, so the disciples and other faithful followers waited in Jerusalem, praying and making themselves ready.

Then on the Day of Pentecost, as the followers of Jesus were meeting to pray, God's Holy Spirit came. This coming sounded like a great wind, and there seemed to be tiny tongues of flame resting on the heads of the people. At once they could speak in languages that they had not known before. So when people came running to see what had happened—people from many different countries who had not been able to understand the disciples' preaching—they were astonished to find some one preaching in their own language. Some of them were puz-