

shown by the very structure of the gospel and the Book of Acts; he was a careful, methodical, painstaking man. But for these homely and priceless qualities we should be without the most comprehensive of the original lives of Christ, and without the history of the early Church. (4) Paul, whose example covers almost every phase of practical Christianity, and here shows the virtue of conciliation, activity for Christ, and obedience to the Spirit of God. Notice also his earnestness, his power over men, his communion with God, his promptitude, etc. (5) Lydia, the first Christian in Europe. It was a man who first sought the Gospel for Europe, it was a woman who first received it. Both are characteristic facts. She was a working woman, a worshipping woman, a believing woman, a self-sacrificing woman.... This is an equally good lesson to treat in a series of pictures. Draw the map of Asia Minor and show its provinces, especially those named in this lesson. Leave room for the coast of Europe and the province of Macedonia. Trace Paul's route from Antioch in Syria to Troas and to Philippi. Hang the story on the localities. Or picture (1) Paul standing on the ruins of old Troy, forbidden to preach in Asia, eager and restless to spread the Gospel. (2) Picture Paul still suffering from the severe illness, meeting with Luke, the physician, so brotherly and skillful. (3) Picture Paul's visions of the man of Macedonia, possibly Luke himself. Note its significance in the missionary movement. Let us shut our own eyes and, calling up a vision of heathen lands and forlorn neighborhoods in our own land, listen to the appeal that comes from them. (4) Picture the meeting by the riverside of Philippi—the place, the worshippers, the four strangers, the message. (5) Picture the first Christian of Europe, the first church in Europe.... This is a good lesson also to present in the line of God's providence and spiritual leadership. (1) The divine impulse to preach. (2) The prohibition to preach in Asia. (3) The vision of invitation. (4) The divine unrest of Lydia, which had already led her to renounce her idols and sit as an inquiring worshiper among the Hebrews. (5) The "opening of the heart" by the Lord.

Before the Class.

BY MARY BINGHAM MYERS.

Four advanced scholars have a Map Drill. The teacher will draw a map on blackboard or paper before the class. Each pupil, being furnished with slips of paper by the teacher, draws with the teacher. Locate successively each place in Paul's journey. Give location of countries and relative distances. Encourage each to try, however faulty he may consider his work. Commend the work. Younger scholars may find the places mentioned, in the lesson, on the map.

The last lesson in the history we had May 26,

and a brief review of that lesson and the intervening verses will help to place events in their order. How many missionary journeys did Paul take? Which one includes our lesson to-day? Who was his companion in the first? Who in the second? Where was Barnabas?

Call attention to the fact that the beginning of the second journey was marred by a dispute between two friends who meant to perform it together. They parted and never met again. The quarrel was dropped and the old love soon returned. Paul mentions Barnabas with honor in his writings, and years later said of Mark that he was profitable to him for the ministry.

This episode shows the human side of these great men, who were of "like passions as we are," who had the same temptations and differences of opinion. The result was that the missionary influence was doubled, as they took different routes, and both did good work for the cause they represented. God can do a great work for the salvation of men with imperfect instruments, not because they are imperfect, but in spite of their imperfections.

The more timid pupils could answer questions where you might indicate the verse in which they would find the answer. Who started with Paul on this journey? Who joined them at Lystra? Note the change from "they" or "he" to "we," showing that here Luke joined the company.

Call on one to describe Paul's vision. Notice the form of the vision; it comes not as a command from God but a petition from man—Paul recognizes it as a divine summons—he is promptly obedient.

Locate on the map Troas, Samothracia, Neapolis, Philippi. In connection with verse 13, note the prominent part taken by women in the founding of the church. The conversion of Lydia at the first Christian service held on European soil prefigured what woman in Europe was to become under the influence of Christianity.

Probably the great and learned of Philippi would have scorned the idea had they been told that the chief title of their city to be remembered would be the presence in it of that insignificant Jew and his letter to the church founded on that morning.

PRACTICAL SUGGESTIONS.

Had Paul's vision beckoned him east instead of west missionaries from India and China might be coming to this country at the present day to tell the story of the cross. Stalker writes, "Providence conferred on Europe a blessed priority and the fate of our continent was decided when Paul crossed the Aegean."

The facts stated by the teacher or drawn by him from the scholars should be drilled upon by the teacher while the lesson is in progress. Some questions are intended to find out what the scholar