

Nathanael Bartholomew, the quick-witted.

"Thomas, the doubting, skeptical intellect, was joined with Matthew, one of the heroes of faith.

"James, the author of the Epistle, the most practical of men, was united with Jude, the man of doctrine.

"Simon, the Zealot, a man of zeal, enthusiasm, independence and patriotism, was with Judas Iscariot, the business economist.

"So the Master made one whole man out of two half men. And so his Church should go forth, two by two, each with the one most unlike himself, and therefore best able to help him."

#### TEACHING HINTS AND HELPS

"A missionary lesson," says the teacher. "We know all about the missions. It's just to be the same thing over again," say the class to themselves.

• Catch the class by a side wind.

*A Great Crowd.* How had it been gathered? Verse 35 supplies the answer. Take the scholars for a day along with Jesus, to observe His "teaching"—"preaching"—"healing."

It is thus the people were aroused. They follow from place to place. Again there is room for the imagination. What diverse elements in that crowd!

*Great Compassion.* An ordinary man's head would have been turned by the popularity. Jesus "was moved with compassion" for these shepherdless sheep. (v. 36.) Show their wretched condition under the leadership of the Pharisees; for want of spiritual nurture and care a prey to every foe. The heart of the Son of man bled for them.

*A Great Desire.* Vehemently He longed for their salvation, and bade the disciples earnestly pray. (vs. 37, 38.) Note that the waiting harvest was to be reaped by human hands. What a responsibility! Further, it is God that sends them, and through our prayers. Again, what a responsibility for us!

*A Great Plan.* In the prairies of the Northwest, there are wheat fields of unbroken miles in extent. It requires good organization and a strong force of men to gather in the harvest there. Jesus' organization is of

It is told of Alexander the Great, that when he was a youth, and his father, Philip, was still on the throne, he longed for the time when he would have the opportunity of doing great deeds. He was afraid that Philip would conquer all the countries in the world, so that there would be none left for him to conquer. We can imagine how eagerly he would have responded to the command of his father to join him in some great military enterprise. Now, Jesus Christ calls His followers to share with Him the work of saving the world. How ready we should be to obey that call! The hope of the Church is its eager youth.

the simplest, but effective—a body of picked and trained men. Count over the twelve apostles (men sent forth—missionaries), the variety of their characteristics and qualifications.

*A Great Endowment.* The men were excellently chosen, and as excellently endowed. (ch. 10: 1.) Their endowment was, at the first, for doing rather than teaching. Life and conduct are even more powerful than words.

*A Great Commission.* "Go"; aggressive effort, following their Master's own example. Their own people first, because God had promised them the first offer, and because the Twelve were not yet ready for the wider ministry. "Preach"; re-echoing the message of John the Baptist and of Christ Himself; the most wonderful and blessed news that can come to men. "Heal." They were to exercise the same gracious use of miracles as their Lord had done, to the end that men might be blessed and won.

*A Great Charity.* In the spirit of love and generosity was their work to be done, and out of a profound gratitude for what they had themselves received.

*Questions for Pupils.* How was Jesus ready? When He revisited Nazareth, where does He then go? In what work engaged? What did He say about His work? (Matt. 20: 28.) What did He preach? What gracious works did He do?

36. Who followed Him? Why? How did He feel towards them? To what did Jesus compare them?

37-38. What did Christ say to the disciples? What were the disciples to do? To whom? For what? What is prayer? (Shorter Catechism, Ques. 98.)

Ch. 10: 1. Whom did Jesus call to Him?