

cross looks, words, and feelings were not to be found.

If you want to find out how this can be, try the helping in some way. This lesson tells how Jesus sent out his twelve friends and followers to be helpers. He looked about upon the crowds of people everywhere, and he said to his disciples that they were like

Scattered sheep. Sheep are very helpless when they have no shepherd to lead and care for them. When they are scattered about by themselves it is pitiful to see what trouble they are in. Those who are far off from Jesus are like this. They need him for a Shepherd far more than sheep need one. As Jesus, when on earth, went about the cities and towns preaching and doing good he saw the poor and sick and sinful everywhere, without a helper, and his loving heart was filled with pity for them. He healed the sick who fainted with pain and weariness, and he spoke loving words to all the tired, sorry, sinful ones. But the Lord did not choose to do all the helping himself. He might have done this. He might have gone to every sick and sad one of all who were like sheep without a shepherd, but he chose to send his friends to teach and to help some of them. He knew that this was the best way, and he chose it. He knew it would make his twelve friends more loving, and far happier and better every way, to have something to do in gathering in the scattered ones to their Shepherd. Jesus knew the blessing of helping. We will write this blessing across our circle of blessing to-day.

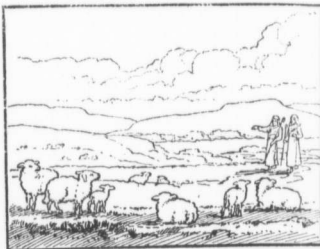
The helpers sent. Jesus called to him his twelve disciples (learners, followers), and gave them power to do his work. Then he sent them on their errands. They were now messengers, with a word to speak for Christ, and a mission, or something to do for him. They were called apostles now, which means messengers.

[It may be well here to teach the lines in which some one has rhymed these names:]

"These are the twelve apostles' names:
Peter and Andrew, John and James—
Two pairs of brothers who fished by the sea,
When Jesus said to them, 'Follow me.'
Then James the less and Jude were called too,
Phillip also, and Bartholomew,
Matthew, and Thomas, who doubted the word,
Simon, and Judas, who sold his Lord."

These Jesus sent to what he called the lost sheep, the wandering people, and to tell them that the kingdom of heaven was near them. They were to give their help, and freely as they had received.

We cannot be Jesus's apostles, as these men were. We cannot do a great work, as they did. But we can be little helpers and little messengers—run and do what Jesus sends us to do [specify what children can do]; and in pleasing him our own hearts will be made glad.



Sub-Primary Hints.

BY JULIA E. PECK.

GOLDEN TEXT: "For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life." John 3, 16. "Freely ye have received, freely give," Matt. 10, 8.

We have an opportunity to teach a missionary lesson. A missionary leaves his happy, comfortable home, and goes to live among people who never heard of Christ. Why does he do it? Home missionaries teach Christ in lonely parts of our own country. Foreign missionaries teach Christ on the other side of the world. God sends them where he needs them most. It may be he will call some of us to carry his name across the ocean, or across the prairie, into a hot country, into a cold country. Who knows? Some of our home missionaries are teaching Indians and Negroes that Christ died for them. They are at work over there [pointing in the direction]. Others are over there (South Africa or Asia), among people living on the lonely mountains—people who have never seen a church, a book, a railroad, or a school-house. Other missionaries are teaching away up in the logging camps among the lumbermen. An item or two about the life here will be listened to with interest by the boys.

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