

living there, and got well acquainted with them in a few days. They were worth getting acquainted with, for they lived near enough to God to know what was about to take place.

Picture the parting scene on the seashore,—husbands and wives and children saying a fond and final farewell to Paul, whom they had learned to love during his few days stay amongst them. It does not take long to learn to love some people. See them kneeling on the shore; listen to Paul as he prays for them. There must have been some tender, loving reference to the children in that prayer.

2. A Day at Ptolemais, v. 7. Only one day, but it was something to have Paul with them even for one day. They would never forget that day. Let us try to put enough that is good into our lives to influence some life for good every day.

3. Some Days at Cæsarea, vs. 8-14. Describe the home they found there. Note the influence of Philip's religion upon his family. There is no better test of the quality of a man's religion, than the influence it has upon the members of his family.

Get some member of the class to tell about a visitor who came down from Jerusalem, and the message he brought, vs. 10, 11. Everybody except Paul got alarmed by this man's dramatic recital, and tried to prevail upon the apostle not to go up to Jerusalem. It was no use. Note the pious way in which his friends ceased their entreaties (v. 14), when they found that it was not possible for them to have their own way. This is human. When we fail to get our own way, we say piously, "The will of the Lord be done." Better to say this at the outset.

4. Paul's Last Journey Up to Jerusalem (vs. 15-17), where an old disciple received him into this home and the brethren received him gladly.

### For Teachers of the Boys and Girls

Spurgeon's story comes in well here (for the teacher), of the man sent in haste to carry a present of a fish from his master to a friend, and who got well laughed at when he arrived with an empty basket; in his hurry, he had forgotten the fish. There is so much of interesting incident in the Lesson, that it is

not difficult to fail to bring out the spiritual teachings.

Try these four headings:

I. A QUIET TIME, vs. 1-3. Have the map in sight. From Miletus to Coos, 40 miles; Coos to Rhodes, 50 miles; Rhodes to Patara, a short run. Discuss with the class the ancient ship, which sailed by day, and, when possible, ran into port for the night,—a mere cockle shell, compared with the smallest of our ships. Then, the bigger ship for the run of 350 miles across to Tyre—fair weather, evidently: no record, at any rate, to the contrary. How would the time be spent? See For Teachers of the Older Scholars and Bible Classes. Compare Jesus' invitation to His disciples, Mark 6:31. The Christian life needs its resting times, thinking times, praying times, as well as its working times.

II. A WEEK'S STAY, vs. 4-6. The occasion of it—see v. 4. The use made of it—to search out (for so the word signifies) fellow Christians (Acts 11:19 explains how there were likely to be Christians at Tyre). Imagine the welcome Paul got, and the help he gave; and learn what to do when traveling—be on the lookout for fellow Christians who need friendly encouragement. Note, too, how speedy and how strong are the friendships that a common love for Christ makes (vs. 5, 6). The safest friends, too, are Christian friends. It was a well spent week.

III. AN INTERESTING VISIT, vs. 7-14. A touch on Ptolemais, and the little Christian community there, from the seed scattered after Stephen's martyrdom. Next, Cæsarea, of which much is to be heard later. Mark it as the Roman capital. It was Paul's third visit (see chs. 9:30; 18:22); it was not to be his last. The chief point of interest is the visit to Philip's house. Bring out who Philip was: chs. 6:5; 8:26-40 tell. Philip's four daughters who prophesied. Compare Joel 2:28, and Acts 2:17. What a wonderful visit it must have been—Philip, his four daughters who prophesied, Paul, and his companions. A fresh visitor. Who remembers him? (See ch. 11:28.) Verse 11 will wake up even the sleepest scholar. And v. 12 shows how intense was the love for Paul; and v. 13, what a tender, loving heart Paul had; and are not the strongest and bravest often