

What did she do? **Believed and was baptized.**

Who went to stay at her house? **Paul and his friends.**

Words with Little People.

Are children called to "come over and help?"
O, yes, wherever we are; some one near by is

sick, or sorrowful, or poor, or in trouble of some kind. And then there are the poor heathen far away who need our pennies and our prayers. There is work for the children, and plenty of it.

Lesson Call.

Come over and help!

EXPLANATORY AND PRACTICAL NOTES.

BY ROBERT R. DOHERTY, PH.D.

General Statement.

A ship lies rocking in the harbor of Troas, bearing the fortunes of all Europe and America in the four men who stand together on its prow. They have been called by heavenly vision to Macedonia. Borne by favorable winds, the ship cleaves the blue Ægean waters, passes Samothrace, and leaves the shores of Asia in the distance. It anchors at Neapolis, and the four missionaries stand for the first time on European soil. They press inland to Philippi, where the Roman eagles flaunt their wings above the walls. Here they find no Jewish synagogue, but learn that on the Sabbath a meeting for worship is held outside the city. They turn their steps toward the meeting place, and by a riverside meet a little company of women, the only worshippers of the true God in that great city. It is but a small field for labor, but the disciples, like their Master, despise not the day of small things. By them the story of redemption is for the first time told in Europe. One heart, at least, is opened by the power of the Lord. Lydia, the purple seller, becomes the first European convert, and her household follow her example of faith. The evangelists find an abiding place under her hospitable roof, and, toiling at their trade through the week, meet an increasing congregation by the riverside on successive Sabbath days.

6. Phrygia. A province, variously bounded at different periods, in the interior of Asia Minor. **Galatia.** Another interior province, inhabited by a Gallie race, of the same origin as the French people, and with many of their characteristics. The rapid pen of the historian compresses into half a verse the record of months of incessant toil. **Forbidden of the Holy Ghost.** Not because souls were less precious in one locality than another, but because the time was not yet ripe in one, and the hearts of men were ready in the other. Afterward the Gospel met with great success in the very region then forbidden to the apostles (Acts 19. 10). **Asia.** Not the continent, but a preconsular province bearing that name.

7. Mysia . . . Bithynia. Adjoining provinces on the northwestern coast of Asia Minor.

8. Passing by Mysia. That is, not preaching there; they had to pass through it. **Came down to Troas.** A port on the Hellespont, near the site of ancient Troy. (1) "From the place where Grecian heroes once fought, soldiers of Christ go forth to the holy war."—Besser.

9. A vision . . . in the night. Showing that even on his couch Paul's thoughts were of his work. **A man of Macedonia.** Recognized by his dress, his language, and his words of invitation. **Into Macedonia.** A large province in the northern part of Greece, between the Ægean and Adriatic Seas. Philip, its king, subjected all Greece, and his son, Alexander the Great, conquered nearly all the known world. In Paul's time it was a Roman province, having Thessalonica for its capital. **Help us.** (2) *The cry of*

need comes even yet from a world blindly groping after Christ.

10. Immediately. Paul was ready on the instant when the path of duty was revealed. **We endeavored.** Thus simply and modestly does the historian Luke show himself for the first time in the company of missionaries. **That the Lord had called.** (3) *Where a soul is calling for help, there the Lord is calling to labor.*

11. Therefore. Influenced by Paul's vision, as related in the last lesson. **Loosing.** "Setting sail." **A straight course.** One of many phrases which show that Luke was familiar with sea life; it implies that they sailed before the wind. **Samothracia.** A small, rocky island, now called *Samotraci*, off the coast of Thrace. **Neapolis.** A seaport town, the harbor for Philippi.

12. Philippi. An ancient town, conquered, rebuilt, and renamed by Philip, the father of Alexander the Great. It was the place where Augustus and Antony gained a victory over Brutus and Cassius, and won the Roman world; and where Paul, a greater than either, was to win the first triumphs of the Gospel in Europe. **The chief city.** Better, "the first of the district;" that is, the first city in that province which Paul reached. The phrase refers to location, not to greatness. **A colony.** "A military settlement of Roman soldiers and citizens established to subdue a recently conquered district." **Abiding certain days.** Waiting for the Sabbath, in order to begin their work among the Jews.

13. On the sabbath. The Jewish Sabbath,