

DONT LEAVE THE FARM

COME boys, I have something to tell you come near I would whisper it low— You are thinking of leaving the homestead ; Don't be in a hurry to go.

The city has many attractions, But think of the vices and sin ; When once in the vortex of fashion, How soon the course downward begins.

You talk of the mines, boys — They are wealthy in gold no doubt ; But ah ! there is gold in the farm, boys, If only you'll shovel it out.

The mercantile trade is a hazard The goods are first high and then low Better risk the old farm a while longer ? Don't be in a hurry to go.

The farm is the safest and surest, The orchard is loaded to-day ; You're as free as the air in the mountains And monarch of all you survey.

Better on the farm a while longer, Though the profits come in rather slow, Remember you've nothing to risk, boys, Don't be in a hurry to go.

LESSON NOTES

FIRST QUARTER.

STUDIES IN THE ACTS OF THE APOSTLES.

A. D. 30.] LESSON III. [Jan. 21.

THE BELIEVING PEOPLE.

Acts 2. 37-47. Commit to memory verses 38-41.

GOLDEN TEXT.

Then they that gladly received his word were baptized. Acts 2. 41.

OUTLINE.

- 1. Earnest Seekers v. 37-40. 2. Glad Believers v. 41-43 3. United Christians. v. 44-47.

TIME.—A. D. 30, on the same day with the events of the last lesson.

PLACE.—Jerusalem.

EXPLANATIONS.—Then heard—The people who listened to Peter's address. Pricked in their heart—Were touched in their conscience by the truth, and felt that they were sinners. What shall we do?—They meant to ask how they might be saved. Repent—Turn away from sin and toward God. Be baptized—As a sign of faith in Christ, and a confession before all men that they were Christ's disciples. For the remission of sins—To have sins forgiven through faith in Christ as the Saviour. Receive the gift of the Holy Ghost—A promise that God's Spirit would come upon them as well as the disciples. The promise—God's promise of salvation through Jesus Christ. To your children—To their descendants, those who should come after them. After off Peter here meant the Jews in other lands, but it was equally true of the Gentiles. Our God shall call—All who may hear the call of God through those who preach his word. Testify—He claim the truth of the Gospel. Exhort—Urge people to do their duty. Unto another generation—The people who had crucified their Saviour, and were opposed to his Gospel. Gladly—Glad to have the opportunity of seeking Christ. Baptized—In token of their faith in Christ and union with his people. Doctrinal Teaching, or instruction. Fellowship—They went with them as friends. Breaking of bread—Taking their meals together, and doubling making every meal a celebration of the Lord's Supper. Prayers—The daily worship of the disciples in the temple, and also in the "upper room" where they had met. Fear—Reverence for Christ and respect for his followers. Wonders and signs—Miracles, one of which is related in the next chapter. All things common—Each brought what he owned into a common stock. This was not required by the Gospel, but done freely. Parted them—They gave to such as were in need. In Eastern lands the poor are very many. Eat their meat—Their daily food. Singleness of heart—With sincere, pure heart, not anxious for the future, but living wholly for Christ's cause. Having favour—Their glad, happy religion made people love them and honour Christ. The Lord added—All who are truly brought into the Church are added by the Lord. Should be saved—This should be "the saved," meaning those who were saved by turning to the Lord.

TEACHINGS OF THE LESSON.

Where in this lesson may we find— 1. How we should receive the Gospel ?

- 2. How we may keep the Gospel ? 3. How we may make others love the Gospel ?

THE LESSON CATECHISM.

1. What did Peter tell the people to do on the day of Pentecost? To repent and be baptized. 2 To whom did he say that God had given the promise of salvation? To them and their children. 3 How did the people receive Peter's words? With joy and gladness. 4 How many were on that day added to the Church? Thous thou and people. 5 How did the believers show their love to each other? by giving as each needed.

DOCTRINAL SUGGESTION.—Repentance from sin.

CATECHISM QUESTION.

6 Who was the mother of Christ ? The mother of Christ was Mary, a virgin of the house of David.

A. D. 30.] LESSON IV. [Jan. 28.

THE HEALING POWER.

Acts 3. 1-11 Commit to memory vs. 6-8.

GOLDEN TEXT.

Then shall the lame man leap as an hart, and the tongue of the dumb sing. Isa. 35. 6.

OUTLINE.

- 1. The Beautiful Gate. v. 1-5. 2 The Blessed Gift. v. 6-11.

TIME.—A. D. 33, a few days after the events of the last lesson, no events being named between them.

PLACE.—The Temple at Jerusalem.

EXPLANATIONS.—Went up together—These two disciples were friends, and generally went together. The hour of prayer—This was at the hour when the sacrifice was offered in the afternoon. The ninth hour—About three o'clock, the first hour being at sunrise and the twelfth at sunset. Lame from his mother's womb—One who had been born a cripple. They laid daily—He was brought by his friends, as he could not walk. Gate of the temple—A gate between two of the courts of the temple. Called Beautiful—It is not known which gate this was. Gifts of money. Them that entered in—People who worship God are generally more willing to give than others. Who, seeing—This man was like the sinner in helplessness, need, and the fact that he was outside the house of God, for no cripple was allowed to enter within. Fastening his eyes—Looking on him intently. Look on us—In order to obtain the man's fixed attention. Silver and gold. . . none—The apostles were poor men, not rich in the power of Jesus. Such as I have—The power given from God. In the name of Jesus—He did not speak of his own power, but as the messenger of his Lord. Rise up and walk—The command was to do what seemed impossible, but in obeying power was given from on high. Obeyed him up—As an encouragement and help. Entered. . . into the temple—Now healed, he had a right to go into the house of God. Praising God—He knew that the work was from God and not from men. People saw him—It was a time of day when great crowds were worshipping in the temple. Saw him walking—A person who had never walked could not do it at once without long practice, except by divine power. Knew that it was he—Because he was well known as a beggar. Had Peter and John—He clung to them in grateful love. Paralytic. . . called Solomon's—A covered colonnade on the east side of the temple. Perhaps Peter led the crowd toward it as a good place for preaching to them.

TEACHINGS OF THE LESSON.

Where in this lesson do we find— 1. That Christ's followers love to pray ? 2. That there are better things than silver and gold ? 3 That there is power in Jesus' name ?

THE LESSON CATECHISM.

1. Whom did Peter and John meet at the Beautiful Gate of the Temple? A lame man. What did Peter say to him? "Rise up and walk." 3. In whose name did he say this? In the name of Jesus Christ. 4. What did the lame man do? "He leaping up stood, and walked." 5. What did this miracle show? The power of Jesus' name. DOCTRINAL SUGGESTION.—Faith in Christ.

CATECHISM QUESTION.

7. Who was the supposed father of Christ? Joseph the carpenter was supposed to be the father of Christ, because he married his mother, Mary.

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