

International Bible Lessons.

FIRST QUARTER.

LESSON I. (January 5.)

THE PROMISE OF POWER. Acts I, 1-11.

GOLDEN TEXT: "Ye shall receive power, after that the Holy Ghost is come upon you." Acts 1. 8.

Primary Notes.

BY JOSEPHINE L. BALDWIN.



Truth. Jesus has power to help.

Impression. Jesus promises to help me.

Expression. Readiness to ask for and expect help.

Point of contact. The power of steam or electricity.

Approach. Review of Christmas story.

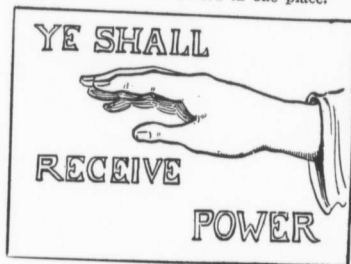
Lesson story. This lesson is one of three which are so closely connected that it is difficult not to infringe on the second when teaching the first; but by keeping the three distinctly in mind—the promise, the fulfillment, and the results—we will be able to give each due emphasis.

With children who are familiar with the running of trolley cars it might be well to open this lesson with a talk about those cars, and what it is that makes them go. It will be easy to develop the thought and acquaint the children with the meaning of the word "power." We cannot see the power which moves the car, but without it the car can never do the work for which it was made. In almost every country place the children have seen railroad trains, or steam engines of some kind, and from these the fact can be impressed that the power is a necessity if the engine is to do anything.

Recall the Christmas Lesson, and then continue something in this way: Yes, Jesus left his beautiful home in heaven, and came to this earth to live because he wished to give us power—power to do right; to say kind words and do helpful deeds. While he was here he taught many people, but you know that some would not listen or let him help them, and even hated him so much that they put him to death. But the power of Jesus was so great that death could not hold him. He rose from the dead and talked with his friends many times before he went back to his home in heaven. He had taught them how to do right, and how to help others, but he knew that they could not do these things alone; so

he said to them: "You are to tell others about me—go into all the world and preach; but you have not strength to do this by yourselves. I will send my Spirit to give you power to preach in the best way, and to be brave to bear hard things for my sake. Go to Jerusalem and wait there, and ye shall receive power, after that the Holy Ghost is come upon you."

The last time that Jesus talked with his friends in this way he led them out from Jerusalem over the Mount of Olives, and while he was talking he stretched out his hands and blessed them, and they saw as he did so that he was going up from the earth. Soon a cloud hid him from their sight, but they kept looking at the place where they had seen him last, perhaps hoping that they might see him again, until two angels spoke to them, saying, "Ye men of Galilee, why stand ye gazing up into heaven?" Then the disciples knew that Jesus had gone back to his home, and that they were to go on with his work on the earth; but the first thing they had to do was to wait until Jesus should send his Spirit to give them power to do that work. So they went back to Jerusalem and, together with many other friends of Jesus, praying and talking and singing hymns of praise, they stayed with one accord in one place.



Special Primary Suggestions.

BY JULIA H. JOHNSTON.

GOLDEN TEXT: "Ye shall receive power, after that the Holy Ghost is come upon you." Acts 1. 8.

Introductory. Thought to impress: How children get what they need. Talk about some childish needs—food, clothes, books to study from—and impress dependence upon parents. When any special need is felt, how natural to run and ask mother or father. Parents often say, "When you want such and such a thing come to me for it." The way to get such things is to ask for what has been promised. Illustrate farther