

stopped shining (Stephen : recall Lesson); and we heard about one person who scattered the lights abroad (Saul).

The Light in Samaria—Illustrate the effect of carrying a light from one place to another. These scattered lights went everywhere, shedding light and kindling new lights. Here is a city in Samaria where the light had not yet come (square). Within this square draw a light, and print PHILIP, one of the deacons (a friend of Stephen who was stoned), who went carrying the gospel light into Samaria. The Jews would never have anything to do with the Samaritans. The people of Samaria were surprised that Philip should come to preach to them.

Golden Text—Repeat Golden Text, and give simple illustrations of the miracles (Jesus gave the apostles power to do these wonders in His name). The people were glad to listen to Philip, and believed the message he brought. They received Jesus into their hearts, and were baptized, and there was great joy in that city.

The Gift of Jesus—Two more very bright lights, Peter and John, were sent down from Jerusalem, when the apostles heard the great news that the people of Samaria had received the Word of God. The Samaritans had confessed their sins and had been baptized; but they had not yet received the gift of the

Holy Spirit. Peter and John prayed God to send this gift, and God did so, when these apostles laid their hands on the heads of those who believed on Jesus. Then there were many lights in Samaria shining for Jesus, ready to give the light to others. In our Lesson stories to come, we shall see how the light was carried farther and farther. It is still being carried, and will be carried, till the whole world shall be filled with the light and joy of Jesus. (Teachers may think it best not to bring Simon into the Lesson in teaching very little ones. The fact that Simon thought he could buy the gift of God's Spirit may be mentioned to the older children, and the thought impressed, that the Holy Spirit is given only to those who seek God with a true heart.)

Little Lights (repeat)—

"Jesus bids me shine

With a clear, pure light,

Like a little candle

Burning in the night.

In this world of darkness

We must all shine,

You in your small corner

And I in mine."

Joy in Jesus—Jesus brings joy wherever He goes. Sing Hymn 553, Book of Praise.

Something to Think About—Jesus will make me glad.

FROM THE PLATFORM

A

WONDERFUL GIFT
SINFUL REQUEST
STERN REBUKE

Print on the blackboard, A WONDERFUL GIFT, a SINFUL REQUEST, a STERN REBUKE. Ask the scholars, What wonderful Gift is spoken of in the Lesson? They will answer at once, the Holy Spirit. Bring out by questioning the persons who received this Gift, how it was received and what its reception meant (see Exposition). It will be easy to get the scholars to tell next, what sinful request the Lesson contains. Have it made clear what Simon's sin was and refer to the modern name for it, simony. Lastly, question about the stern rebuke. Emphasize the truth that all God's gifts, and especially the Gift of the Holy Spirit must be received without money or price. How may we have the Holy Spirit to dwell in our hearts? Get the scholars to repeat with you the words of Jesus in Luke 11 : 13, and urge them to ask God for this great Gift, which He is so eager to bestow upon all His children.