

THREE LITTLE SERVANTS.

I HAVE a little servant
With a single eye;
She always does my bidding
Very faithfully,
But she eats me no meat,
And she drinks me no drink—
A very clever servant, as you well may think.

Another little servant
On my finger sits.
She the one-eyed little servant
Very neatly fits.
But she eats me no meat,
And she drinks me no drink—
A very clever servant, as you well may think.

Now one more little servant
Through the single eye
Does both the others' bidding
Very faithfully.
But she eats me no meat,
And she drinks me no drink—
A very clever servant, as you well may think.

A needle and a thimble
And a spool of thread,
Without the fingers nimble
And the knowing head,
They would never make out,
If they tried a day,
To sew a square of patchwork, as you well may say.

LESSON NOTES.

SECOND QUARTER.

STUDIES IN THE ACTS AND EPISTLES.

LESSON IV. [April 25.]

PETER DELIVERED FROM PRISON.

Acts 12. 5-17. Memory verses, 7-9.

GOLDEN TEXT.

The angel of the Lord encampeth round about them that fear him, and delivereth them.—Psalm 34. 7.

OUTLINE.

1. The Prisoner, v. 5, 6.
2. The Angel, v. 7-11.
3. The Disciples, v. 12-17.

THE LESSON STORY.

Trouble came again upon the believers in Jerusalem. Herod was made king of Judea, and he commanded the soldiers to kill the apostle James, the brother of John. When he saw that this pleased the Jews he thought he would kill Peter too, and so he had him put into prison, and sixteen soldiers were sent to keep watch of him. The other apostles fled from Jerusalem lest they should be killed too. But there were many believers there still, and they

prayed earnestly to God to deliver Peter. The night before the day Peter was to be killed the Christians met in the house of Mary, the sister of Barnabas, to pray. Peter was asleep in his prison between two soldiers. There was a chain on each hand fastened to the hand of a soldier. Suddenly he woke and a bright angel told him to rise and follow him. What could chains and soldiers and prison doors do then? The angel led him down one street and then went quickly away.

Peter knew that friends were praying for him at Mary's house, and he went there and told the wonderful story of his deliverance. Then he told them to tell James, the brother of Jude, and the other brethren about it, and he went away where Herod could not find him.

LESSON HELPS FOR EVERY DAY.

- Mon.* Read what wicked King Herod did. Acts 12. 1-5.
Tues. Read the lesson verses. Acts 12. 5-17.
Wed. Find what happened another time. Acts 5. 17-20.
Thur. Learn why Peter could sleep sweetly. Golden Text.
Fri. Read how Paul and Silas were delivered. Acts 16. 23-26.
Sat. Learn who is near to help Christians. Heb. 1. 14.
Sun. Learn something to comfort the heart. Psalm 33. 18.

QUESTIONS ON THE LESSON STORY.

Who was appointed to rule over Judea? Was this the Herod who killed the babies? No; it was his grandson. Whom did he put to death? Whose brother was this? Why did this please the Jews? What did Herod think he would do next? Why did he feel sure that Peter could not escape from prison? What did he forget? Golden Text. What were Peter's friends doing? At whose house did they meet? How did Peter sleep in his prison? What happened in the night? Where did Peter go? What did his friends think when they saw him? Who did he say delivered him?

REMEMBER—

God did not love Peter more than James
God cares as much for a child as for an apostle.
God hears every true prayer offered to him.

LESSON V. [May 2.]

PAUL BEGINS HIS FIRST MISSIONARY JOURNEY.

Acts 13. 1-13. Memory verses, 2-4

GOLDEN TEXT.

Go ye into all the world, and preach the gospel to every creature.—Mark 16. 15.

OUTLINE.

1. The Call, v. 1-3.
2. The Field, v. 4, 5.
3. The Foe, v. 6-13.

THE LESSON STORY.

There were other Christian teachers besides Saul and Barnabas at Antioch in Syria. The Holy Ghost told them to set apart these good men to the work unto which he had called them. So they fasted and prayed, and then sent Barnabas and Saul out to preach to the heathen. They took a young man with them named John Mark. He was a nephew of Barnabas, and was much liked by his uncle.

They went first to the native country of Barnabas. This was a large and beautiful island called Cyprus. It took but one day by ship to reach Cyprus, and when they landed at the port called Salamis they began preaching the Gospel right away. They went all through the island, which is about a hundred miles long, preaching.

The governor was a Roman named Sergius Paulus. He lived at Paphos, at the further end of the island. He sent for Saul and Barnabas to come and preach to him, and they went gladly.

A wicked man named Elymas (meaning "Wise Man") was there, and he tried to keep the governor from believing in Jesus. Then the Holy Ghost spoke by Saul and rebuked him, telling him that he should be blind for a time, and gradually darkness came upon him. When the governor saw this miracle he believed in the Lord.

Then the apostles sailed away and came next to Perga, in Asia, and John Mark went back to Jerusalem.

LESSON HELPS FOR EVERY DAY.

- Mon.* Read the lesson verses very carefully. Acts 13. 1-13.
Tues. Learn at whose command the apostles went forth. Golden Text.
Wed. Find what God's plan was for Saul. Gal. 1. 15, 16.
Thur. Learn who led Saul and Barnabas forth. Verse 4.
Fri. Trace the first missionary journey on the map.
Sat. Find why Saul had power over Elymas. Luke 10. 19.
Sun. Think, "What does the Golden Text mean to me?"

QUESTIONS ON THE LESSON STORY.

Who were the Christian teachers at Antioch? What did the Holy Spirit tell them to do? Who went away to preach the Gospel to the heathen? Whom did they take with them? Where did they go first? Where did they land? What did they begin to do right away? How long was the island of Cyprus? Why did not Saul and Barnabas stay in one place? Who lived at Paphos? Where was this? What word was sent to the apostles? What wicked man tried to keep the governor from believing them? What did Saul say to Elymas? What followed? Did the governor become a believer? Where did the missionaries go next?

THIS LESSON TEACHES—

That God sends missionaries out.
That he helps them in their work.
That it is blessed to work with God.