

## THE BOY WHO HELPED JESUS.

We do not even know his name,  
His lineage, or his age ;  
And yet he lives in deathless fame  
Upon the gospel page.

The people round the Master pressed  
The sick, the poor, the sad ;  
He stands distinct from all the rest,  
The little fisher-lad.

We cannot guess what prompts his  
thought,  
That those five loaves he brings,  
Two fish he may himself have caught  
He carries on his strings.

He waits with patient, upraised head,  
The hungry crowd he sees ;  
The fish are here, the barley bread,  
And yet what use are these ?

Still all he has his Lord may take,  
And then it must be well.  
The Master took and blessed and brake,  
And wrought his miracle.

O glad child-heart, so pure and swift  
The perfect way to choose !  
O happy hands that bore the gift  
The Master deigned to use !

## LESSON NOTES.

## FIRST QUARTER.

STUDIES IN THE BOOK OF THE ACTS.

## LESSON IV. [January 26.]

## THE LAME MAN HEALED.

Acts 3. 1-10. Memorize verses 6-8.

## GOLDEN TEXT.

The Lord is my strength and song, and  
he is become my salvation.—Exod. 15. 2.

## THE LESSON STORY.

The disciples had seen Jesus go away from the sight of their eyes, but they had since received him back again into their hearts. He was nearer to them now than he was before, and he made them wise to speak and strong to do his work. About three o'clock one afternoon Peter and John went to the temple to worship. As they were entering the gate that was called "Beautiful" because it was made of costly brasswork, they saw a lame man lying there. He could not walk, though he was forty years old. His friends brought him there every day to beg for money. When he saw Peter and John he held out his hand, and Peter said, "Look on us," and the beggar looked, thinking to get a piece of money ; but Peter said : "Silver and gold have I none ; but such as I have give I thee : in the name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth rise up and walk." He took him by the hand, and the beggar rose and went into the temple praising God. The

people looked at Peter and John as though by their own power they had done this wonderful work, but Peter preached again, and told them that it was the Lord Jesus alone who had done this miracle.

There is a wonderful picture-lesson in this story. It is the picture of salvation. God has this great gift for every one, but all do not receive it. Do you know why ? Some do not want it enough to ask for it. Some will not reach out the hand of faith to take it even after they have asked for it. The gift is waiting for you, and your Father earnestly desires you to have it. Will you take it ?

## QUESTIONS FOR THE YOUNGEST.

What was the "hour of prayer" spoken of ? Three o'clock.

What was done then ? A lamb was offered in sacrifice.

Who lay at the temple gate ? A beggar.  
Could he go in to pray ? No, he could not walk.

Who came to the gate ? Peter and John.

What did the beggar ask of them ? Money.

Were Peter and John rich ? Yes, but not in money.

What did they give the beggar ? Strength to walk.

Was it their own gift ? No, it was the gift of God.

In whose name did they give it ? In Jesus' name.

What did the man do ? He went into the temple to thank God.

To whom did Peter and John give all praise. To the Lord Jesus.

## LESSON V. [February 2.]

## THE FIRST PERSECUTION.

Acts 4. 1-12. Memorize verses 8-10.

## GOLDEN TEXT.

There is none other name under heaven given among men, whereby we must be saved.—Acts 4. 12.

## THE LESSON STORY.

Peter preached his first sermon in the street, but this, his second, was preached in the temple. Many priests and Sadducees who hated Jesus heard it, and they took Peter and John and put them into prison near by, for it was too late to bring them to court that day. Early in the morning they were taken before the Sanhedrin, in the hall of judgment, close by the temple. The judges sat in the half-circle around the wall, Caiaphas, and Annas, and many more. Peter and John stood before them, and the man who had been a lame beggar was there too. He was not lame now, and he did not beg. He looked very happy. When the judges asked Peter and John in whose name and by whose power they had cured this man, they answered quickly that it was in the name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth, whom they had crucified, that the man

had been healed. Then the judges told them to speak no more in that name, but Peter and John could not promise this, for they must first obey God. Then they were allowed to go away. Do you wonder why the name of Jesus has such power in it ? You know the name of a great and good man is powerful. Sometimes the Governor-General of Canada, by signing his name, can give life and freedom to a prisoner who has been condemned to die. How much greater is the name of Jesus, the Son of God, than even the greatest human name ! There are many promises of life and freedom from sin in the Bible, given by Jesus, and they are made to us.

## QUESTIONS FOR THE YOUNGEST.

Who wanted to hear about Jesus ? The people.

Who were angry when they heard his name ? The priests and elders.

Were the apostles afraid of them ? They were not.

Why ? Because they had the Holy Spirit to make them brave.

What was done to Peter and John ? They were put into prison.

What was done next day ? They were tried in court.

Were they afraid then ? Not at all.

Who stood beside them ? The man who had been lame.

What did the Jews tell the apostles ? To say no more about Jesus.

Did they promise this ? No, they said they must obey God.

What was done to Peter and John ? They were set free.

Who stands by his friends in trouble ? The Lord Jesus.

## HOW THE DRUNKARD BEGAN.

Once a man was sitting in a saloon. He had an old battered hat on his head, a short black pipe in his mouth, a dirty shirt, and ragged clothes, and downtrodden shoes on. But he had not always been like that ; he had seen better days also. As he looked out of the saloon door he saw two tidy, clean little children come for their father's beer. As soon as they were outside the door the little girl took a drink from the jug, while her little brother waited patiently for his turn. The poor drunkard looked at them sadly, and then he said with a sigh : "Ah, that's how I began, and I can't leave it off now."

## NOT WORTH WHILE.

It is never worth while to be cross. Do you know why ? For one thing, it makes you a coward. If you have a trouble and are cross, it shows you are not bold enough to meet it. If you are cross with those who love you, it proves that you do not appreciate their kindness. So it goes on ; it is never worth while to be cross, no matter what happens.