

AT THE DOOR.

"We will watch the old year out to-night,
And the new year in!" Ned cried.
Then three-year-old Baby Winnie
Crept up to her mother's side,
And out from under her curly pate,
Where queer little questions grow,
Came—"Mamma, how do ve new years
come?
And where do ve old ones go?"

And mamma with a bright smile, told her,
"My dear little Winnie-wee,
That is very hard to answer;
You shall watch with us and see."
And so when night drew the curtains dark
And snug upon every side,
Little Win climbed into her high-chair,
Her blue eyes bright and wide.

But the minutes passed so slowly,
With so many in an hour,
That long before it was over
She felt the Sandman's power;
And two little fringed white curtains
Were dropping lower and lower,
When there came a timid summons
Against the outer door.

She was wide awake that instant,
And gazing all around,
When once again she heard it,
That gentle asking sound.
Mamma knew 'twas Dog Rollo;
Not so did Baby Win.
"Oh, mamma, hear ve new year
A-stratchin' to det in!"

LESSON NOTES.

FIRST QUARTER.

STUDIES IN THE ACTS AND EPISTLES.

LESSON III. [Jan. 17.]

A MULTITUDE CONVERTED.

Acts 2. 32-47. Memory verses, 38, 39.

GOLDEN TEXT.

The promise is unto you, and to your children, and to all that are afar off.— Acts 2. 39.

OUTLINE.

1. Earnest Seekers, v. 32-40.
2. Glad Believers, v. 41-43.
3. United Christians, v. 44-47.

THE LESSON STORY.

When Peter saw this great crowd wondering and inquiring he stood up, with the eleven apostles beside him, and began to speak in a loud voice. First, he told them the meaning of the strange things they heard and saw. He said it was the coming of the Holy Spirit prophesied by Joel, and then he spoke of Jesus, the Son of God, who had wrought miracles and lived a holy life, yet whom their wicked hands had slain. He told how Jesus had risen from the dead and gone up to

heaven, and now had sent upon believers this power of the Holy Spirit which they could both see and hear.

Yes, the multitude could see the brightness of the Spirit, and they could hear the wonderful words which the disciples spoke. Many began to feel very sorry for having crucified Jesus, and came to Peter and the other disciples, saying, "What shall we do?"

Then Peter told them to repent and be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ, for God's promise was to them and to their children, and to those who were afar off.

About three thousand were baptized that day, and the new believers lived happily together. They loved one another, and studied God's word, and prayed together, and the rich helped the poor, and so the new Church was like one large family, to which new members were added every day.

LESSON HELPS FOR EVERY DAY.

Mon. Read Peter's sermon. Acts 2. 14-39.

Tues. Read about the new Christian Church. Acts 2. 41-47.

Wed. Learn more about this living Church. Acts 4. 32-35.

Thur. Learn the Golden Text.

Fri. Find the fulfilment of John the Baptist's words. Matt. 3. 11.

Sat. Where had Jesus told the disciples to begin preaching? Luke 24. 47.

Sun. Learn a beautiful promise. Acts 2. 21.

QUESTIONS ON THE LESSON STORY.

Who preached on the day of Pentecost? What did he say the strange sights and sounds meant? What prophet had foretold this? How were John the Baptist's words fulfilled? [See Helps for Friday.] Whom did Peter preach to the crowd? Why was he not afraid? He was filled with the Holy Spirit. What great crime did he charge upon the people? How did some feel when they heard his words? What did they say? What good news could Peter tell them? Whom did Peter obey in teaching these things? [See Helps for Saturday.] How many were baptized that day? How did the new believers live together?

LESSONS FOR MF

Sin, when we see it, pricks the heart.
The way to get rid of sin is to repent and forsake it.
Those who love Jesus love one another.

LESSON IV. [Jan. 24.]

THE LAME MAN HEALED.

Acts 3. 1-16. Memory verses, 13-16.

GOLDEN TEXT.

His name, through faith in his name, hath made this man strong.— Acts 3. 16.

OUTLINE.

1. The Miracle, v. 1-11.
2. The Sermon, v. 12-16.

THE LESSON STORY.

Though Jesus had gone away, he yet lived and worked through those who believed in him. His apostles did many miracles, and this lesson tells of one.

About three o'clock one afternoon Peter and John went to the temple to worship. As they were about to enter the fine brass gate which is called "Beautiful" they saw a lame beggar lying there. He was forty years old, and had never been able to walk. His friends carried him to this gate every day, and he begged money of the people going through. When he saw Peter and John he asked them for something. Peter said, "Look on us," and the beggar looked, expecting a coin. 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 walked into the temple praising God.

The people who saw this were astonished. They knew the beggar, and that he had never walked before, and they looked at Peter and John as though they admired them. But Peter and John did not want this. They wanted everybody to praise the Saviour. So Peter preached Jesus again there in the temple, and said it was through him that this man had been made well and strong.

LESSON HELPS FOR EVERY DAY.

Mon. Read the lesson very carefully. Acts 3. 1-16.

Tues. Read the rest of the chapter.

Wed. Learn the Golden Text.

Thur. Learn why there were so many hours of prayer. Psalm 55. 17.

Fri. Learn how God honoured the apostles. Heb. 2. 4.

Sat. By whose power was the lame man healed? 2 Cor. 3. 5.

Sun. Tell some one the story of the healing.

QUESTIONS ON THE LESSON STORY.

How did Jesus still live on earth? In his disciples. What did the apostles do in his name? Where did Peter and John go one day? What offering was made at this time in the day? A lamb was sacrificed. Whom did they see at the gate Beautiful? What did he ask of them? What did they give him? Do you think he was surprised? Would he have been cured if he had not tried to walk? Do you think the beggar had faith in the name of Jesus? What did the people think who saw him? Why did Peter and John not want to be praised? To whom did all the glory belong? Where did Peter preach another sermon? Whom did he tell the Jews they had killed? The Prince of life.

WONDERFUL TRUTHS.

That Jesus lives now in hearts that love him.
That he can do great works through us.
That he has some strange power to give us. Shall we take it?