

*Approach.* Brief review of last Sunday's lesson.

*Lesson story.* The Bible narrative simplified.

Mary Johnson was poor; her mother was sick, and there were three younger brothers to be taken care of. Mary was only a little over nine years old, but she had to work very hard. She swept and dusted, washed dishes and scrubbed, and was busy from morning till night, getting very tired often, but never getting what we call "cross." Almost always while at her work she sang some one of the songs that she knew, and they were bright and happy songs. One day a lady said to her, "Are you always happy?" "Yes," said Mary; "when I am at work I am happy because I am so glad that I can do these things for mother." That was what made her happy in the midst of her hard work—she loved her mother so much that it was a delight to do even hard things for her sake.

We have been talking about two men who were working for Jesus, and who loved Jesus very much. Do you remember their names? What new work were they sent out to do? It was not easy work to go to new places and tell about Jesus. It was often hard to get from one place to another, and then in every place there were many people who did not wish to hear about Jesus. Saul—or, rather, Paul as we will call him now, because after he went out to preach in other countries he was called Paul—and Barnabas went from the island of Cyprus over to the mainland and up north to another place called Antioch. There they went into the synagogue and preached to the Jews about Jesus, telling them how he had come to the world and had been crucified by those who would not receive him, and had been buried; but that he had risen from the dead, because he was God's Son and had power over death. He has power to forgive sins, too, they said. [Teach Golden Text.] The next Sabbath day great crowds came to hear these new preachers, and the Jews became angry and jealous of them and talked against them. So Paul said to them, "We had to come and give the message first to you, but if you will not listen and are not worthy to have eternal life we will turn to the Gentiles, for that is what Jesus told us to do." The Gentiles were very glad when they heard that the good news of the love of Jesus was for them, too, and that he would forgive their sins. So the good news was told through all that part of the country. But the Jews stirred up others against Paul and Barnabas, and finally drove the two messengers out of

the city. As they went away they felt glad that they had been able to tell so many about Jesus, and those who had heard and believed were very happy, too, for Jesus sent his Holy Spirit to guide and help them, and they knew that, besides serving Jesus themselves, they would help other people to know about him and love him.



### Special Primary Suggestions.

**GOLDEN TEXT:** "Through this man is preached unto you the forgiveness of sins." Acts 13. 38.

*Introductory:* Thought to impress—choosing light and choosing darkness. Illustrate by story of two men setting out on dangerous journey. Guides and lights were offered to both. One chose to take guide and light, and reached the journey's end safely. The other was sure—he knew the way—did not like the guide, sneered at the light, went by himself, lost his way. One was saved by using light, the other lost by refusing.

*Lesson story:* We learn to-day about two kinds of hearers. Bring up the missionary journey to Antioch in Pisidia, allowing children to tell as much as possible of preceding lesson, as it is reviewed, the review being the indispensable part of every additional lesson. Divide the blackboard space by a heavy line. Write above it in large letters, **HEARERS**. On one side, at the top, write **REFUSING**; on the other, **CHOOSING**. Tell of Paul's sermon and how the Jews, on seeing the multitudes gathered the next Sabbath, were filled with anger and jealousy—that is, they could not bear to have good news offered to others. They wanted everything themselves, yet were unwilling to take this offer of forgiveness because they did not feel the need of it. Write under **REFUSING** the words, **Angry, Jealous, Blaspheming, Persecuting**, explaining clearly. So these Jews