

THE COPTIC ORTHODOX PATRIARCHATE ST. GEORGE AND ST. RUEISS CHURCH SUNDAY SCHOOL PROGRAM

PRE-Schooler

Revised Edition 2021

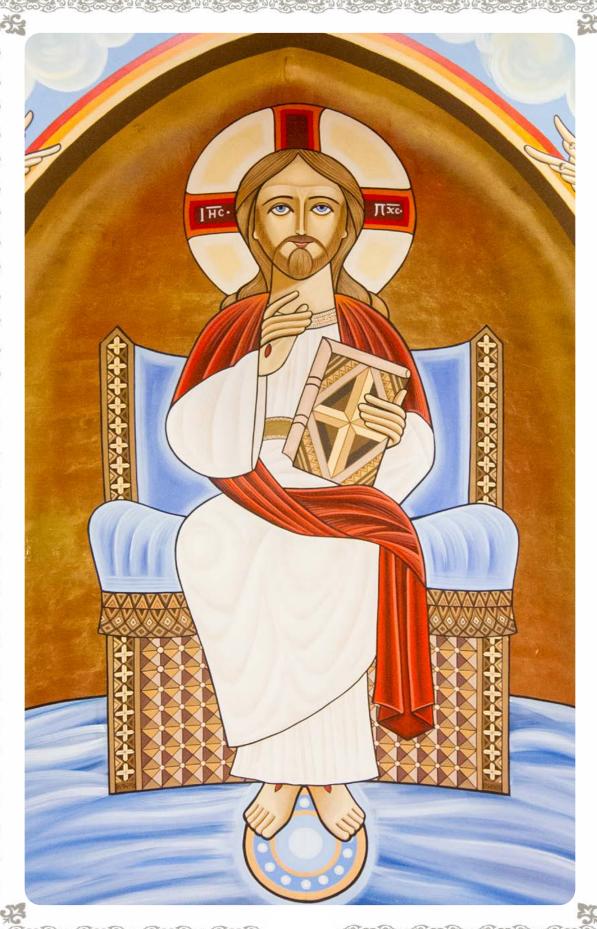
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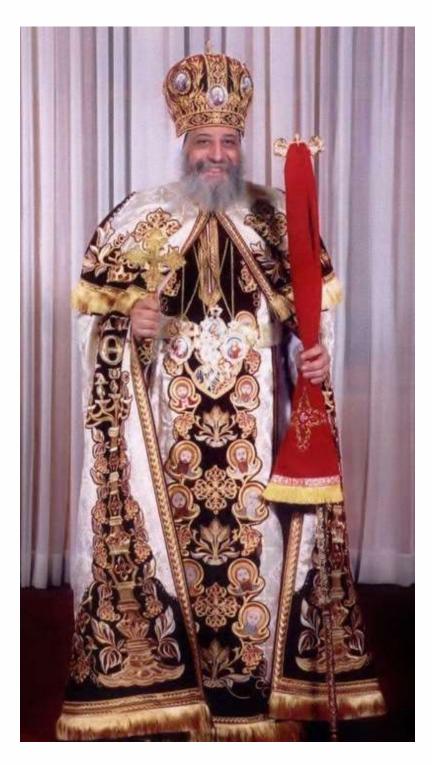
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THE THRICE-BLESSED POPE SHENOUDA III OF BLESSED MEMORY



HIS HOLINESS POPE TAWADROS II

Coplic Orthodox Batziarchate

FROM H.H. POPE SHENOUDA III

Deir Anba Ruciss. Ramses Avenue, ABBASSIYA.
C*: RO, EGYPT.

CABLE: ELANBARUEISS, CAIRO.



+

الل الدبنية المباركية القيمة مرتب الياس عبد لمسيح مدالتين تادرس يعقرب مللي

سلام رقبة ربعد ،

الربية الكندية بالمهر . مرد درست مده المنهج القدّع لمارس المنهج الكندية بالمهر . مرد درست مده المنهج الأساسية للمنهج ، درد الدخول في التفاصيل . وأبدت له بعق ملافظات مد جمة منا جج بدالعقيدة رائطت : و في الااقع أنه الجهد لمبذول جهد كبير حداً سريمة الشاحيل المناصل ، و في ذلك تحقاع دروس الكتاب المقدس الى ديادة . وسأرسل لكم ملاحظات الحامي بالتنفيل بحديثة

مَيْدِيلِكِ الدِب كُلُ مَا مَامُ بِهِ ابْنَا مُفَعَظُ مِهُ بِهِود فَى اجِداد المنهج ، مر في جمع المادة ، رفى عمل الترجمة ، مرليبارك الدِب أيضاً كل مِه اشتركوا في العمل ، وفي المراجعة

ربيكة عدننا عد ما نستليع العمدل اليه مه كمال على مَدّر امكانياجنا، ميكه تزميد المنهج أيضًا بالصور المناسبة رائق تترعا كنيستنا به النواص العقيدية مرا للعشدية والتاميجيه

Coplic Orthodox Patriarchate

FROM H.H. POPE SHENOUDA III

Deir Anha Ruciss. Ramors Avenue, ABBASSIYA,

C*:RO, EGYPT.

CABLE: ELANBARUEISS, CAIRO.



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To my blessed two sons: Hegomain Fr. Marcous Elias Abdel Massih and Hegomain Fr. Tadros Yacoub Malaty.

Peace and love be with you.

Dr. Mahfouz has visited me and brought with him the suggested Sunday school curriculum for the land of immigration. I have studied with him the basic topics of the curriculum without getting into details. Although I have pointed out some concerns on the doctrine and dogma curriculum, it is clear that the amount of work spent on preparing the curriculum is huge and worth thanking. Nonetheless, the Bible study part of the curriculum needs to be increased. God willing, I will also send you additional details on this curriculum.

May the Lord bless all the effort that our son Mahfouz has done in preparing the Sunday school curriculum, in collecting the relevant topics, and in performing the translation of materials? May the Lord also bless all those who have joined him in preparing this project and those who revised the topics.

Let our goal be to perform our best in order to try to arrive at perfection given our abilities. Lastly, I would also suggest the addition of different recognized pictures according to our doctrine, dogma and history to the Sunday school curriculum.

May the Lord be with you. Be in peace.

Signed

Pope Shenouda III 22 August 1986 The feast of St. Mary



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IMPORTANT RULES

FOR TEACHING

IMPORTANT RULES FOR TEACHING THE YOUTH IN THE LAND OF IMMIGRATION

Our youth in the land of immigration are influenced by the society and the culture they live in, this is considered perfectly normal and inevitable. Despite the similarities in the content of the Sunday school curriculum and the youth meeting topics across all the churches in the world, the difference lies in the presentation of the topic and the ability to tailor the content to fit the audience's background, culture and spiritual needs. This would greatly increase the topic's comprehension and its receptiveness.

In Saint Paul's sermon to the Jews (Acts 13: 16-41) he spoke to them regarding Moses the arch-prophet and gave an account of their experiences with our Lord throughout their history. Moreover, in another instance, he spoke to the Greek philosophers (Acts 17: 18-33) in a manner that suits their cultural background. In both cases the content is equivalent, both sermons aim to convey the message of salvation that our Lord Jesus Christ granted us on the cross.

Therefore, whether the Sunday school / youth servants are first generation immigrants or are born in the land of immigration, it is important to observe the following guidelines in conveying the topic:

- 1. <u>Correctness of the language and its clarity</u>...the servant must prepare the topic in an accurate, clear & coherent language. This language should be the audience's preferred first language
- 2. <u>Organization</u>...Our children live in a society where organization and punctuality are governing characteristics, hence, it is imperative to adopt those characteristics to portray to our children that our services and our churches are adhering to the norms of the society.
- 3. <u>Respect...</u>mutual respect is the prevailing trait in the western societies, as a result respect ought to be maintained at all times between the servant and those being served. This is manifested in good communication skills such as listening without interjecting and using appropriate words depicting respect.



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- 4. <u>Dialogue</u>...constructive discussions and valuing each other's opinions are fundamental in the western societies. Dialogue often leads to persuasion and mutual love as opposed to just giving orders.
- 5. <u>Give pertinent examples from the children's day to day life</u>...during the topic we must reference examples that are suitable and related for emphasis and clarification.
- 6. Questioning everything said or heard...Due to all the strong intellectual movements in the society, we as servants must be cognizant of any new infiltrating thoughts, this is achieved through research and analysis to be in a position to answer our youth's questions in a convincing intellectual dialogue.
- 7. <u>Love between the servant and the children</u>...our children often yearn for compassion and love in our fast pace materialistic society. Thus, it is extremely important that the servant uses expressions of love, affection and harmony.
- 8. <u>Establish and maintain the bond between the children and the mother church</u>...this is essential to our unity and there ought not to be any division or separation of any sort from the mother church nor its beliefs, holiness, saints, organization or any other matter.
- 9. We ask all Sunday school / youth servants to abide by the orthodox faith and dogma in all the topics and to use ample biblical examples and references.
- 10. We ask all Sunday school / youth servants to establish a good spiritual relationship with all those being served.

INTRODUCTION TO

THE Sunday SCHOOL

INTRODUCTION TO THE SUNDAY SCHOOL PROGRAM

The Principal Goal of Christian Upbringing

Children had and still have, first as a person and second as a child, a special importance to our Lord Jesus Christ. He called the children and considered them models of perfection, "Assuredly, I say to you, unless you are converted and become as little children, you will by no means enter the kingdom of heaven. Therefore, whoever receives one little child like this in my name receives Me. But whoever causes one of these little ones who believe in Me to sin, it would be better for him if a millstone were hung around his neck, and he were drowned in the depth of the sea" (Matthew 18:3-5).

Therefore, children are beloved to Christ and are His friends with their simplicity and purity of heart. Christ called them, blessed them and asked His Disciples and Apostles after Him to take care of bringing up children and to prepare the suitable environment for their spiritual growth.

St. Paul advises parents saying, "Fathers, do not provoke your children, lest they become discouraged", (Colossians 3:21). From a Christian point of view, the general principal goal of religious upbringing is the formation of the perfect man of God who is following the example of our Lord Jesus Christ, "Therefore you shall be perfect, just as your Father in heaven is perfect" (Matthew 5:48). Also, our Lord said, "For I have given you an example, that you should do as I have done to you" (John 13:15).

Hence, a Christian up bringing is not merely an education to be given or a curriculum to be taught, but it is rather a life that is given through example and behavior through teaching and discipleship. The saintly Fathers of the church have emphasized this fact. St. John said about his practice of life with the Lord "That which was from the beginning, which we have heard, which we have seen with our eyes, which we have looked upon, and our hands have handled, concerning the Word of life—the life was manifested, and we have seen, and bear witness, and declare to you that eternal life which was with the Father and was manifested to us—that which we have seen and heard, we declare to you, that you also may have fellowship with us; and truly our fellowship is with the Father and with His Son Jesus Christ" (1 John 1:1-3).



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The same fact was emphasized by St. Paul when he was talking to his disciple Timothy "But you have carefully followed my doctrine, manner of life, purpose, faith, long-suffering, love, persecutions, afflictions, which happened to me at Antioch, at Iconium... But as for you, continue in the things which you have learned and been assured of, knowing from whom you have learned them, and that from childhood you have known the Holy Scriptures, which are able to make you wise for salvation through faith which is in Christ Jesus" (2 Timothy 3:10-15). Also in the letter of St. Paul to the Philippians he said, "Brethren, join in following my example, and note those who so walk, as you have us for a pattern" (Philippians 3:17). Therefore, the principal goal of the Christian upbringing is to change the life of our children to the life of Christ in them, i.e. to a life based on the work of Christ in them as true Christians and not just religious persons who fear God but deny Him.

The Starting Point in Achieving the Goal of Religious Upbringing

The teacher should not start with the student from power Zero. The student comes equipped with many social and religious experiences. His religious experience, though it is limited, has a strong basis that is ready for spiritual growth. In the Sacrament of Baptism, the child has already obtained the spiritual birth i.e. he became spiritually re-born. After his baptism he was anointed with the Holy Myroun (Chrism) and the Holy Spirit dwelt in him. St. John said "But the anointing which you have received from Him abides in you; and you do not need that anyone teach you; but as the same anointing teaches you concerning all things, and is true, and is not a lie, and just as it has taught you, you will abide in Him" (I John 2:27).

Therefore, by obtaining these two Holy Sacraments and the Sacrament of Eucharist, the student becomes a member in the body of the Lord and a living part of the body of the Holy Church. This means that religious upbringing is not something foreign with respect to the student. The student is a temple of God and the Spirit of God dwells in him. This means that it is not the teacher who makes the student live a life for Christ, but it is the inside work of the Holy Spirit that makes the whole difference. The role of the teacher is to make the student aware of the effect and the work of the Spirit. In this sense, the student becomes aware of the secret grace inside him and as a result the divine word inside him grows as the seed grows inside the earth.

INTRODUCTION TO

THE Sunday SCHOOL

The Difference between Religious Education and Religious Upbringing

We should not aim at providing lessons in the form of giving information, i.e. a mere religious education. In this case, religious experience will never exceed the circle of the mind and will never affect the heart and practice of the student. If we consider religious education to be an element in religious upbringing, we are, in this case, following Christ's plan for the development and building of the Christian personality. Christ with His example and His perfection gave us a model which should be followed and achieved. As for His teachings, they are meant to clear the way for us in order to follow them as examples and models.

The Need of our Church for a Coptic Orthodox Sunday School Program

There is one basic difference between Eastern and Western theology; the latter depends on study, analysis and using scientific means, whereas Eastern theology is based on experience and depth which mainly leads to a true Christian life. The Eastern Church respects the role of the mind but it works under the supervision of faith.

The majority of recent Western Sunday School programs follow a pure analytical way of explaining the Bible. For example, miracles are explained through psychological and scientific factors. The man of God must accept miracles and believe them as they are. St. Athanasius said, "Our knowledge must not control (or have authority over) the word, but the word itself must have the control and authority over the mind".

Another basic difference is that our traditional Church uses the rites in education as a key in the process of living what is being taught.

Over and above what was mentioned before regarding the basic differences in religious education between Eastern and Western churches, there are also basic differences in the various beliefs and the way Christianity is lived by in actual life.

We, as parents, teachers and clergy, are responsible in front of God to bring up our children according to the same spiritual Orthodox principles that we received from our saintly Fathers who shed their blood to perpetuate the perfect Orthodox faith. Therefore, our children must learn from the same source from which we learned before them.

The Sunday School program in your hands is a fruit of love granted by our Lord Jesus Christ to our children and a gift from Him to them. This program is purely



Coptic Orthodox Church

Coptic Orthodox. All its references without exception are Coptic Orthodox (please review the reference list at the end of the book). In this manner all the information that is in this book (as well as all the books in this series) can be used with total confidence as it is devised according to our glorified church. The spirit of the lessons is indeed the same spirit of the Coptic Orthodox Church.

About the Books in Your Hands

These books in your hands are an integrated series of books, which were written for children from age 4 to 18. With the grace of the Holy Spirit, if the child at age 4 follows this series of lessons until age 18, he will obtain an all-rounded spiritual background. The books (covering the teachings from preschoolers to grade 12) cover a study of most of the major Biblical subjects of the Old and New Testaments, the celebrations of the church of our Master's feasts, the life of the Saints and their feasts, the divine liturgy with its rites and spirituality, the true Christian life and Christian behavior, church sacraments, fasting, prayers, the creed and its explanation, the Ecumenical Councils, the difference between the various major Christian sects, the Christian family, the history of our church, the major personalities in the Holy Bible, ... etc. The program is indeed comprehensive and it covers all the key areas of our Orthodox church. If these lessons were given in the spiritual way that was emphasized before, great results will be expected with the work of the Holy Spirit.

General Rules and Principles to be followed by the Sunday School Teachers

- 1) The teacher must know the stage and the characteristics of the growth of the children that he or she is teaching. A child who is 12 years old is different from a child who is 8 years old. The teacher must know the level of his/her students, their abilities to receive information that he/she is giving and the differences between the various abilities in the same class.
- 2) The positive participation of the students is very important during the lesson for the effectiveness of teaching. One of the key incentives for the student is to give importance to the lesson and have an effective communication with the teacher and, above all, to define clearly the purpose behind it and present the lesson in the form of problems that attract their attention.
- 3) The teacher must follow a psychological order of the facts he is presenting. Our Lord Jesus Christ used effectively the psychological method of teaching

INTRODUCTION TO

THE Sunday SCHOOL

through His parables. The parables in their simplicity are drawn from the daily life of the people. We must emphasize here that the psychological method is not the only method of spiritual teaching. We should mention this method as one of the methods used. It is quite important to note that spiritual teaching must be imparted with certain goals in mind which are connected with the life of the children and related to the problems they face. We should provide guidance that is mostly needed for them.

- 4) The teacher must present the lesson and illustrate it with relevant information and present it as a coherent unity without ambiguity or contradiction. He may use illustrations to help him explain what he means.
- 5) Application of Christian principles to the actual social life must be emphasized in every lesson. The teacher should use stories (from the Old or New Testaments or from church history or church books) to attract the attention of the students and show the Christian principle in an applied manner. The teacher also may divide the subject into stages or small subjects. A good practice is to summarize the lesson or better still, ask the students themselves to summarize it.
- 6) The manner of expressing the lesson to the students is also very important. A teacher who is living by what he/she teaches will definitely be more effective in giving his/her message across. A teacher who is teaching under spiritual influence with compatible emotions to what he/she teaches will be definitely more effective than a teacher who is giving information.



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ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

From someone who is not capable, and does not know anything, was taken and lead by hand, step by step, from the smallest to the largest thing for this work to be done.

"He gives power to the weak, and to those who have no might He increases strength." Isaiah 40:29

"All things were made through Him, and without Him nothing was made that was made." John 1:3

On behalf of the Coptic Orthodox children and youth, who are going to benefit a great deal from this revised Sunday School Program, I would like to express a word of appreciation and gratitude to the following people:

The Thrice-Blessed Pope Shenouda III of Blessed Memory

This program leans quite heavily on the writings of His Holiness the Late Pope Shenouda III. The majority of the contents of the lessons and their attachments are based on His Holiness' writings. This is a very bright and important aspect of this program. In 1986, during the time in which there was no Coptic Orthodox Sunday School program in the land of immigration, His Holiness reviewed the general contents of the program, commented and modified many key subjects, and then authorized the use of this program in all churches outside of Egypt, on a preliminary basis.

I can safely say that, if it was not for His Holiness the Late Pope Shenouda III's support, wisdom, and writings, these series of books would not exist. The whole generation is in debt to His Holiness the Late Pope Shenouda III, not only because of his great teachings and writings, but also because of his love and leadership.

His Holiness Pope Tawadros II

I had the blessing of meeting His Holiness in 2013 in Austria and I suggested to him about updating and revising the previous version of the Sunday School Program. His encouragement, wisdom, and follow up were key to the development and completion of this program.

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His Grace Bishop Reweiss

His Grace Bishop Reweiss has been behind us all the way with his love and guidance. He wrote the forward for our previous version of the program in 1986.

His Grace Bishop Moussa

His Grace Bishop Moussa has provided constant support and encouragement in the completion of the previous program. Of course, His Grace's writings for the youth have been utilized in all the subjects directed towards the youth, in this book.

Fr. Tadros Malaty and Fr. Marcos Marcos

These Beloved Fathers reviewed thoroughly all of the contents of the first six books of the earliest version of the program. Their dedication, experience, and wisdom have been an important factor in the quality of all the material. They contributed greatly towards setting up the lessons, in that sense. Father Tadros Malaty's deep writings, without any doubt, have been a key reference in the majority of the lessons.

Dr. Fayek M. Ishak

Dr. Fayek Ishak (head of the English Department at Lakehead University) reviewed the first six books of the earliest version of the program. He contributed, immensely, towards the setup of the lessons.

Fr. Makary Silwanis

This beloved father's computer skills were utilized in many functions related to this Sunday School Program. His love and encouragement were key factors to the progress of this program.

Tassoni Ragaa

The continuous support and encouragement of Tassoni Ragaa played an essential role in the write-up of the previous version of the program, as well as in this revision. One of the aspects that kept this program centered and on track was her continuous reminder that this program is for generations to come and every effort is worthwhile for the sake of the upbringing of the children and youth.





Coptic Orthodox Church

The Youth of St. George and St. Rueiss Coptic Orthodox Church

A main contributor to this project was Monica Gad, who valued and recognized the importance of having a Sunday School program.

Comments and proof-readings of many of the youth are greatly appreciated.

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TEACHER GUIDELINES:

HOW TO USE THIS PROGRAM?

- 1. The teacher should realize that each lesson has been prepared to cover a specific point; starting from the title of the lesson to the end of it.
- 2. The teacher should read all the materials referred to in the lesson (i.e. the Holy Bible as well as any articles attached to the lesson), and then proceed by emphasizing all the points.
- 3. The teacher should enlarge the picture ahead of each lesson and use it as a visual aid as he or she is teaching the lesson.
- 4. The teacher should discuss the practical applications as he or she proceeds with the lesson.
- 5. The teacher should summarize the main points of the lesson with the students and give prizes.

Effective teaching in Sunday School: by Fr Rueiss Awad

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=xbf9zEPULdU

FEATURES OF THIS

Sunday SCHOOL

FEATURES OF THIS SUNDAY SCHOOL PROGRAM

A COMPREHENSIVE SUNDAY SCHOOL PROGRAM

- 1. This Sunday School program was the very first program to be written in the lands of immigration. This work was initiated in 1974, and the first version was published in 1986. We thank our heavenly Father, Who has given us the opportunity to extensively revise and improve it, in 2005.
- 2. In this version of the program, any repetition that was in the previous program has been removed; all lessons were upgraded in both coverage and depth. Moreover, a whole new book, on contemporary issues, has been added.
- 3. The contemporary issues book covers subjects that are important for children and youth in today's world. These lessons are optional. For churches with regular youth group meetings, these issues would best be discussed during those meetings. On the other hand, for churches that do not hold regular youth group meetings, those issues can be discussed as part of the Sunday School program.
- 4. This version of the program also includes lessons, which form a basis for a missionary service, a service that should in the ideal situation be practiced by every member of our congregation. The objective is that each child, every youth, and in the long run each Coptic individual can behave and act in a way, which is an embodiment of the teaching and tradition of the Coptic Orthodox Church. In other words, our congregation would become role models in their communities, who attract people to our Lord Jesus Christ through their good practices: sincerity, commitment, hard work and dedication, tolerance, forgiveness, and all the other good qualities that differentiate a good practicing Christian from those who merely have a Christian education.
- 5. In this Sunday School Program, we depended heavily on the writings of H.H. Pope Shenouda III as a reference for most of the presented material.
- 6. The lessons in this version of the program have already been tried in Sunday School classes, reviewed, improved and tried again. This ensures that the lessons are relevant and suit the level of the students.
- 7. In this version of the program, efforts were put forth to ensure that every aspect of the Christian life in the Coptic Orthodox Church is covered.



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- 8. This Sunday School Program is not merely about giving specific education on Christianity to our children and youth but it is rather an attempt to deeply affect their feelings and spirituality. It is believed that such an approach will facilitate the practical application of the various aspects involved so that Christianity becomes a way of life for the individual, with deeply rooted Christian values, that are manifested as behavior and attitude.
- 9. All copyrights of other Sunday School programs, and other writers, have been fully respected.
- 10. In this version, each lesson comes complete with pictures and songs that are suitable for the lesson.
- 11. This Sunday School program comes in various formats, for convenience. In addition to being available on this website for widespread use, it is also available, upon request, in hard copy format or on CD.
- 12. It is our strong belief that this Sunday School program will play a vital role in the spiritual upbringing of our children. May the Lord bless this Sunday School program and all other programs, for the growth of His Kingdom in us.

THE PREPARATION OF

Sunday SCHOOL

THE PREPARATION OF SUNDAY SCHOOL LESSONS

A. What is a Sunday School Lesson?

- 1. It is not a record of events that we convey to the students with the hopes of appearing to satisfy the required preparation process in front of other people. Neither is it a lecture that we deliver to our audience or student regardless of their interest in the matter
- 2. However, it is, on one hand, a fruit of the live reaction between the servant and the lesson and, on the other hand, between the servant and the students. The Holy Spirit maturates this fruit and directs this service towards the salvation of the students and towards the glory of God.

For if the servant who teaches the people does not teach himself, the voice of the Lord will rebuke him saying, "You, therefore, who teach another, do you not teach yourself? "(Romans 2:21), and again in James 3:1, "My brethren, let not many of you become teachers, knowing that we shall receive a stricter judgment."

Therefore, the servant should engage himself in the lesson through prayers, relevant spiritual readings, and practical application, so that when the servant speaks with his students from experience and true knowledge, he says, with St. John the Beloved, "That which was from the beginning, which we have heard, which we have seen with our eyes, which we have looked upon, and our hands have handled, concerning the Word of life-" (1 John 1:1)

If a servant is not aware of the spiritual level of his students, he may burden them with instructions and lessons, which they cannot handle nor apply, and this, in turn, may cause the students to go astray and lose their eternal life. Therefore, it is crucial for the servant to establish a healthy, trustworthy, and fruitful relationship with his students, as well as to share in their joys and cheers, and their sadness and fears, all towards Jesus Christ. This is what St. Paul refers to in his epistle to the Galatians when he says, "My little children, for whom I labor in birth again until Christ is formed in you..." (Galatians 4:19). This close relationship with the students allows the servant to choose the most appropriate lesson that caters to their needs.



Coptic Orthodox Church

Hence a Sunday School lesson is:

A live mixture between the personal lives of the servants and the students through the lesson; the Holy Spirit creates this mixture and allows it to result in the bearing of fruit.

B. The Requirements for Sunday School Lessons

1. Humility in prayer before God.

God said, "...for without Me you can do nothing." (John 15:5)

My beloved brethren, sit down in peace and tranquility with the Lord and talk to Him about your personal need for Him in your service. Ask for the guidance of the Holy Spirit and pray saying, "Guide me dear God. What would you like my students and me to learn this week?" Be obedient to His voice. It would be suitable to maintain a prayer time which equals that of the lesson

2. Accurate knowledge of the meanings contained within the lesson.

This is achieved through:

- a) Occupying yourself throughout the week with understanding the new lesson, starting from the end of the previous lesson until the beginning of the new one. It is wise to use your free time, time before sleep, and time with fellow servants to increase and enhance your understanding of the lesson.
- b) Resorting to spiritual and religious references and literature to help you develop the right understanding and concepts behind the lines.
- c) Resorting to general educational references and literature to embody this understanding and these concepts, making them clear in the minds of your students.
- 3. Aids of presentation.

It is important that you transform your understanding of the lesson into a simple and clear presentation. It has been stated and proved that 85% of knowledge acquired is acquired through the sense of sight and visual learning, as opposed to the 10% that is acquired through the sense of

THE PREPARATION OF

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hearing. The rest of the knowledge acquired is done so through the other three senses

In reality, the least effective way of transmitting knowledge to others is by merely talking; this has the weakest influence on the students. In contrast, the most effective way to teach is to use the "Learning by Doing" method, which requires enough time as well as sound experience.

What differentiates between the effectiveness of the two means of presentation, are the tools used in the presentation. These tools aid the students in effectively understanding and retaining the purpose of the lesson by engaging both senses of sight and sound. These tools may include audiovisual devices such as pictures and movies, spiritual trips and outings, role-playing during class, intellectually stimulating games, etc.

C. Recording the lesson.

It is recommended that the servant records the following during the preparation of the lesson:

- Date of the preparation of the lesson.
- Date of the delivery of the lesson.
- Title of the lesson.
- Purpose of the lesson.
- References.
- Preface
- Lesson.
- Inference.
- Bible verse.
- Homework.
- Aids of presentation.
- Other points for memory.
- Songs.
- Personal reflections of the servant.

Purpose of the lesson:

It is necessary for the servant to clearly understand the purpose of the lesson at the beginning of their preparation. It is also necessary that the purpose of the lesson agrees with the maturity level of the students. For example, it is more appropriate for children to learn about God's love. On the other hand, learning about the power



Coptic Orthodox Church

of God in their lives and in the lives of the saints is more appropriate subject matter for youth. As for young adults, learning about Christian virtues and spiritual practices is most appropriate.

Most importantly, the purpose of the lessons should agree with Coptic Orthodox Christian teachings, whether in specific occasions or in general.

References:

References could include:

- a. Stories, examples, verses, etc. from the Holy Bible.
- b. Spiritual books and literature.
- c. General educational books and literature.

Recording the references is very useful for the servant because it helps the servant to refer back to them, if forgotten.

Preface:

The preface is the background of the lesson. It cultivates the thoughts of the students and directs their thoughts towards the lesson. This allows the lesson to be implanted in their minds and to, eventually, bear fruit.

It is important that the preface remain simple, short, and concise. The introduction could be in the form of focused questions, but should not be in the form of stories. Several stories in one lesson may deteriorate its effectiveness.

The Lesson:

The lesson could be divided into the following sections:

- 1. Introduction it should be quick and concise and related to the preface. It should introduce the lesson smoothly without interrupting the chain of thoughts.
- 2. Body of the lesson it contains the principle subject of the lesson, and follows these guidelines:
 - a. You must be accurate and careful when explaining theological concepts.

THE PREPARATION OF

Sunday SCHOOL

- b. You must be careful when relating events and examples to elucidate the subject of the lesson, in order to properly guide the students' imagination without restricting it.
- c. You must diligently expose the Coptic Orthodox doctrine in the lesson
- d. You should not use more than one story during the lesson and the story used should be relevant to the subject matter.
- 3. Focal Point the point during the lesson at which the purpose of the lesson is clearly defined. (Examples: The Lord responds to the prayers of a needy person, or the angels come to give the saints their heavenly crowns and take them to heaven after many trials and persecutions.)
- 4. Conclusion it should be, like the introduction, short and concise. It can summarize the purpose of the lesson, without introducing any new concepts.

Inferences:

Inference is a method used to determine how much the students have absorbed and retained from the lesson. It should be in the form of questions with the following guidelines:

- a. They should clearly show the purpose of the lesson.
- b. They should suit the maturity of the students.
- c. They should be simple and direct.
- d. They should relate to each other.
- e. They should not be 'Yes' or 'No' questions.
- f. They should each have one correct answer.

Bible Verse:

The memorization of a Bible verse is an excellent way to help the students remember the purpose of the lesson. The chosen Bible verse should meet the following guidelines:

- a. It should show the purpose of the lesson clearly.
- b. It should be short which allows it to be easily memorized.
- c. Children can easily memorize, as well as understand it.

Homework:



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The height of your diligence in preparing the lesson is in choosing the proper and effective homework or application. The homework should have the following characteristics:

- a. It should contain practical applications that apply to everyday life.
- b. It should suit the maturity level of the students.
- c. It should help in mastering the comprehension and retention of the lesson.
- d. It should not include more than one instruction, in order to simplify the application of the lesson.

INTRODUCTION

AGE 7 TO 8 YEARS

INTRODUCTION TEACHING PRE-SCHOOLERS (AGES 4 TO 5 YEARS OLD)

- 1. This age is characterized by the inclination towards movements, playing and exploring the world around the child through his or her personal experimentation.
- 2. In this age the child forms the idea of the "I" and concentrates on himself or herself and wants to take everything for himself or herself. We must not expect the child to get rid of the love of oneself quickly but it will take time, effort and prayer.
- 3. Some of the children also at this stage would like to do opposite to what they are told to do. Kindness and understanding are key factors in treating the children in this respect.
- 4. Imitation is one of the key characteristics of this age. This can be positively utilized to enhance the love of the children to worship, to get used to going regularly to church, to learn to give to the poor, to learn to deal nicely with people, to learn the polite way of talking, etc. The child is very flexible and ready to be shaped. As the adults around the child follow good manners, the child also easily imitates them.
- 5. In addition to all the above, the teacher must start from simple to more difficult facts, from the known to the unknown and from the total to the parts and back to the total again. Children must love the teacher, the class, the lesson and come very eager to attend the class.
- 6. The story must be given as a story without too many comments. Illustration means may be limiting the wide imagination of the children at this age. More effective than the illustration means, are the good stories, the hymns accompanied with music, the class activities such as coloring, cutting and pasting pictures, etc.



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SEPTEMBER FIRST SUNDAY

THE STORY OF ZACCHAEUS

Please read Luke 19:1-10, the attached sheet "Jesus knows where we are", and give the story, emphasizing the points below.

VIDEO: https://youtu.be/Fe7dTNID6h8

PURPOSE OF THE LESSON

The Lord Jesus knows where we are and what we are doing. He is trying all the time to help us.

MEMORY VERSE

"...For the Son of Man has come to seek and to save that which was lost" Luke 19:10

PLEASE EMPHASIZE

Jesus entered and passed through Jericho because He is the Good Shepherd and He is working towards saving the lost sheep. Perhaps Zacchaeus had heard about Jesus and perhaps he was very anxious to see Him, but he did not go anywhere else to see Jesus. Jesus came to his city and then Zacchaeus acted quickly to see Jesus.

So was Zacchaeus searching for Jesus?

Or, was the Lord Jesus entering Jericho searching for Zacchaeus?

SEPTEMBER

FIRST Sunday

- Jesus knew Zacchaeus' name and where he was without anyone telling Him. The Lord Jesus is God.
- Tacchaeus was surprised and was also happy to welcome Jesus in his house.
- Zacchaeus became a good Christian and gave back the money that he had unfairly taken from other people.

WHAT DO WE LEARN FROM THIS LESSON?

- 1. Our beloved Jesus is searching for us to be with Him and have a beautiful life with Him. We have to come to Him and obey what He tells us to do in the Bible as Zacchaeus obeyed Him.
- 2. The Lord Jesus is God. He loves us and He wants to help us.







FIRST Sunday

SONGS ...

O MY CHILDREN

"Let the little Children come to me, and do not forbid them: for of such is the kingdom of heaven." (Mat 19:14)

O my little dear children You are so precious come to me.

Dear Lord Jesus Our God We love you and praise you Our Lord.

I hear you praising and bless you My eyes are upon you all the time.

RECITATION CURRICULUM: PLEASE LOOK AT THE RECITATION CURRICULUM AT THE END OF THIS BOOK.



Coptic Orthodox Church

JESUS KNOWS WHERE WE ARE

Once a very short man named Zacchaeus heard some exciting news! Jesus was going to be in the town where he lived. Zacchaeus wanted very much to see Jesus.

When Jesus came, Zacchaeus tried so hard to see Him, but he could not. He was too short to see the Lord as crowds of people were around Him. So, what could he do?

"I know what I will do," thought Zacchaeus. "I will run ahead and climb up that tree and I will see Jesus when He passes by". And that is exactly what Zacchaeus did.

Jesus stopped right under the very tree where he was! He looked right up at Zacchaeus and He said, "Zacchaeus, you come down. I am coming to your house to visit you today."

How surprised Zacchaeus was! Jesus knew his name! Jesus knew where he was! Jesus is wonderful! Zacchaeus scrambled right down out of that tree as fast as he could! How glad he was that Jesus was going to visit him!

FIRST Sunday



ST GEORGE



ST. MENA



ST. BACHOMIOS



Coptic Orthodox Church



SEPTEMBER SECOND SUNDAY

EL-NAYROUZ FEAST

PURPOSE OF THE LESSON

The church is celebrating a new "Coptic Year" in memory of all the people who loved the Lord Jesus Christ.

PLEASE EMPHASIZE

- Ask the children where their parents were born. They were born in Egypt. Have you visited Egypt? What did you see in Egypt? I saw many things; like the pyramids, the old churches and the monasteries. I also saw my uncles, aunts and grandparents.
- The Egyptians have had certain names for the months of the Coptic Year. They are different from those we have in Canada, the United States, Australia and Europe. This Coptic (or Egyptian) Year was known about 5000 years before the birth of Jesus.
- These days our Church celebrates "El-Nayrouz Feast", which is the beginning of the Coptic New Year.
- When we celebrate the Coptic New Year, we remember the Saints who loved Jesus more than anything else. They are good examples for us.
- The Coptic Year has 13 months. The Western Year has 12 months. Ask the children the names of the Julian calendar months.
- The Coptic Year always starts in September (about the beginning of the school year).

SECOND Sunday

- Give them some dates.
- Show them some pictures for the Saints such as St. George, St. Mina and St. Mark. Then teach them how to recognize them. Those Saints love Jesus back.

WHAT DO WE LEARN FROM THIS LESSON?

- There are many saints whom we can take as good examples in our lives many of those saints were from Egypt.
 Can you name some of them? (St. Mina, St. Demianah, St. Athanasius, St. Anthony the Great, St. Rueiss, etc.).
- 2. Some saints are men, women, and even young children.







SECOND Sunday

SONGS ...

O MY CHILDREN

"Let the little Children come to me, and do not forbid them: for of such is the kingdom of heaven." (Mat 19:14)

O my little dear children You are so precious come to me.

Dear Lord Jesus Our God We love you and praise you Our Lord.

I hear you praising and bless you My eyes are upon you all the time.

RECITATION CURRICULUM:
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THE END OF THIS BOOK.





Coptic Orthodox Church



For the success
Of this Sunday
School Program
the teacher should
refer to the
HOLY BIBLE
In his/her preparation
of the lessons and in
teaching the children
in the class

Second Sunday





Coptic Orthodox Church



SEPTEMBER THIRD SUNDAY

THE LORD JESUS HELPS THE FISHERMEN

Please read Luke 5:1-11, and tell the story, emphasizing the points below.

VIDEO: https://youtu.be/UWiqXIn9tyg

PURPOSE OF THE LESSON

To show the power of our beloved Jesus, the Son of God.

MEMORY VERSE

"So when they had brought their boats to land, they forsook all and followed Him" Luke 5:11

PLEASE EMPHASIZE

- Jesus always starts the move towards us and in many cases He appears as if He needs something from us. But He always plans to grant us a lot of blessings in our lives.
- Simon and the other fishermen had been trying to fish all night, but they could not catch any fish. Fishermen usually cannot fish during the day because the fish can see the nets and escape. But, we will see in this story that God can do anything.
- Jesus got into one of the boats, which was Simon's, and asked him to move away a little from the land. Then He sat down and taught the multitudes from

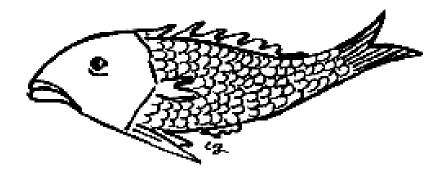
Third Sunday

the boat. This shows us that Jesus borrowed the boat from Simon and appeared needy; but Jesus had a plan to give Simon lots of fish and later on to make him one of His disciples.

- There were two boats: one was carrying Peter and his brother Andrew, and the other James and John. Jesus entered the first one. He asked Simon to put his net in the water, even though it was still during the day. Simon obeyed the Lord Jesus. They collected lots of fish and they asked the help of their friends James and John.
- After they filled the two boats with fish, they left all the fish and followed Jesus. They did this because they believed in His power and that He is the Son of God.
- ♣ Let us praise the name of the Lord.

WHAT DO WE LEARN FROM THIS LESSON?

- 1. Whatever we cannot do, can be done by Jesus. All what we have to do is to ask Him and obey Him so that He comes to us as He came to Simon's boat.
- 2. We must learn from Simon to obey Jesus and give Him the small things that we have. How? We should help the poor. If we have a relative who is sick, we must help him or her. Then Jesus will give us in return great blessings.
- 3. The Lord Jesus may come to us as needy. But His intention is to give us His blessings.







Third Sunday

SONGS 🎜

PETER AND JAMES AND JOHN

"Follow Me, and I will make you fishers of men." (Mat4:19)

Peter and James and John and the fishermen (3) Out in the deep blue sea.

They went fishing; they caught nothing (3) Out in the deep blue sea.

Then came Jesus walking on the water (3) Out in the deep blue sea.

Then the boat was filled with fish (3) Out in the deep blue sea.

RECITATION CURRICULUM:
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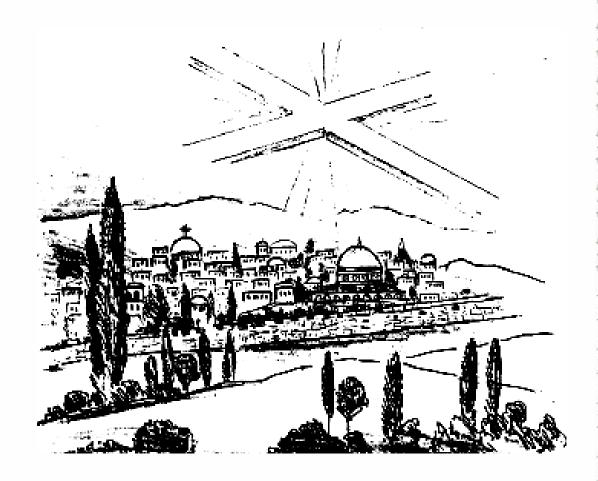






NOTES

Third Sunday





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SEPTEMBER FOURTH SUNDAY

THE DAY OF THE FEAST OF THE CROSS

Please read the attached sheets entitled "The Appearance of the Cross in the Sky" and "The Day of the Feast of the Cross" and give the lesson with emphasis on the points below.

PURPOSE OF THE LESSON

- To learn about the apparition of the cross in the sky and St. Helene's finding of Jesus' cross.
- To learn how to cross yourself properly.
- To appreciate the power of crossing yourself

MEMORY TEXT

"Jesus keep me near the Cross."

PLEASE EMPHASIZE

- Please show the picture of Jesus on the cross. Jesus died on the cross, to assure us that He loves us. Since then all the Christians believe that the cross is a sign of love that we, as Christians, must always remember.
- The appearance of the shining cross in the sky three times (described in the attached sheet) was received by the people with joy and astonishment.
- Tell the story of finding the cross (as described in the attached sheet).

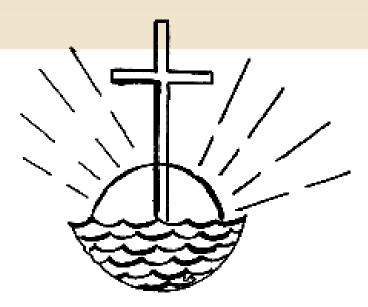
Fourth Sunday

- Crossing yourself makes you in company with Christ and, thus, you cannot fear anything. You must cross yourself before you sleep and before entering a dark place.
- You should wear a cross and have one in your room.
- Cross yourself in the name of the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit. Let us learn to cross ourselves in a proper way.

(Be sure to show the children how to arrange their fingers.)

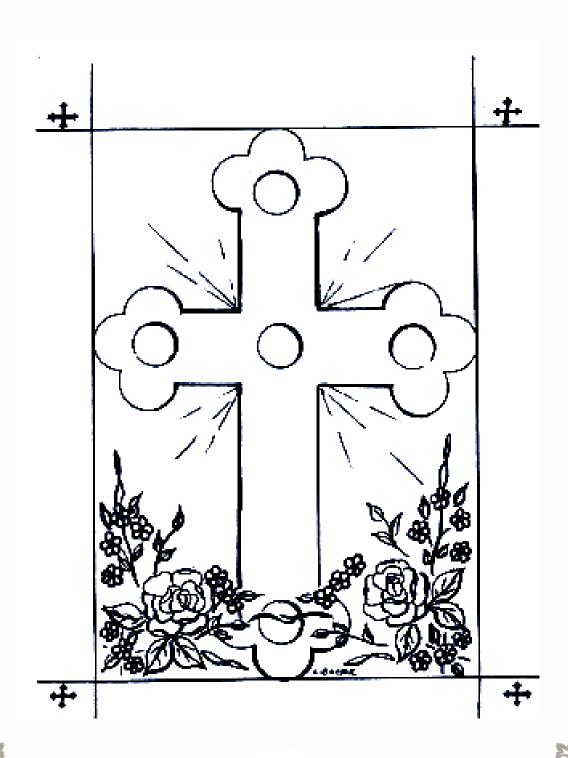
WHAT DO WE LEARN FROM THIS LESSON?

- 1. What is the best sign that God gave us to show His love for us? The cross.
- 2. The cross is the sign that we are Christians.
- 3. We must be crossing ourselves several times during the day so that we do not fear the devil.









Fourth Sunday

SONGS 🎜

MY CROSS

My cross, my cross my glory is in you!

I place you on my bosom and in my bedroom too.

REFRAIN

My cross, my cross

you're made of lowly wood

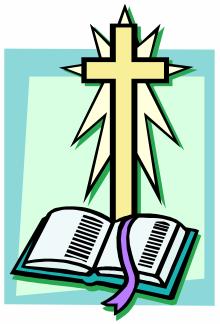
But in my heart, my cross

you're more precious than gold

My cross, my cross is with me everywhere I sign you every morning and whenever I fear

My cross, my cross my victory is in you
The pledge of my success in whatever I do

RECITATION CURRICULUM:
PLEASE LOOK AT THE RECITATION CURRICULUM AT
THE END OF THIS BOOK.





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THE APPEARANCE OF THE CROSS IN THE SKY

This happened **THREE** times:

- 1. The **FIRST** time, it appeared in the sky to the Emperor Constantine The Great to assure him victory before he was set to go to war. He and his officers saw it like a pillar of light in the sky surrounded by the following words: "With it (the cross) you will conquer." Constantine was encouraged, became a Christian, went to war and was victorious.
- 2. In the **SECOND** time, the cross appeared to Julius Caesar on the doors of the city of Antioch. It appeared in the East like a pillar of light, which startled all those who saw it.
- 3. The cross appeared again, for the **THIRD** time, to all the people of Jerusalem. This happened in the sacred days of the Pentecostal Feast. To be exact, on the 8th day of May, 351A.D. at 3:00 pm (about 9:00 am our time), a big cross appeared in the sky on Golgotha stretching to Mount Olive. It was very clear and was seen not only by one or two, but by all the people of the city also. It remained (there) for many hours shining brighter than the rays of the sun. All the people of the city came out to see the apparition. People were astounded, scared, but with great joy they witnessed that heavenly scene. Old and young, men and women of all ages, Christians and non-Christians, from all places praised Jesus Christ, our Lord.

Fourth Sunday

THE DAY OF THE FEAST OF THE CROSS

In the day of the Cross Feast we remember the appearance of the glorious cross of Jesus Christ our Lord. When the Jews found out the very large number of miracles done in the name of Jesus' tomb, they became angry and asked everyone in the Jewish nation to collect all the garbage and put it on top of the tomb to bury it. The Jews continued to do that for over 200 years until a very large pile of dirt was formed. Saint Helene, the mother of King Constantine, went to Jerusalem and asked about the location of the cross. Nobody told her until she met an old man who told her that the cross was underneath that pile of dirt. She then ordered that the pile of dirt should be removed. It was then easy to get out the Holy Cross of Jesus Christ. Afterwards she built a church on that site and the Christians go to visit the cross and the Church.

St. Helene did that because she loved the cross because it appeared to her son, King Constantine before he went to war and he won that war.



OCTOBER

FIRST Sunday



OCTOBER FIRST SUNDAY

LET US LOVE ONE ANOTHER

Please read (1John 4:7-10), the attached sheet "A Rich Woman Shares Her Home with Elisha" (2 Kings 4:8-11), and tell the story, emphasizing the points below.

VIDEO: https://youtu.be/jWqM4gYLlpo

PURPOSE OF THE LESSON

We must share our toys, play together and love one another. We must make our guests feel welcome.

MEMORY VERSE

"Let us love one another"1 John 4:7

PLEASE EMPHASIZE

- Elisha was a prophet in the Old Testament, who was a disciple of another prophet who came before him named Elijah. Elisha was a good man. He loved God and God gave him the power to perform many miracles.
- The rich woman knew that Elisha was "a holy man of God". She wanted to give him a place in her house.
- The rich woman who was kind and loving built a room for Elisha in her house.



Coptic Orthodox Church

- God is love. If we are the sons and daughters of God, we must love one another.
- We have to say "thank you" when people do something nice for us. Elisha, too, thanked the rich lady.
- If we love other people, we must help them.
- If we love our parents, we must help and obey them.
- If someone did something wrong to us, we should forgive them and continue to love them.

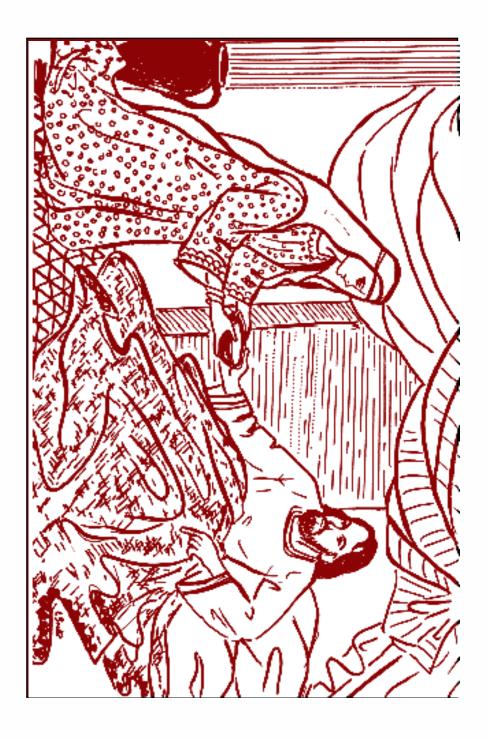
WHAT DO WE LEARN FROM THIS LESSON?

- 1. We must share what we have with other people.
- 2. When we have guests, we must do our best to make them happy and comfortable.



OCTOBER

FIRST Sunday





Coptic Orthodox Church

SONGS 3

<u>CHRISTIAN LOVE</u> "And now abide in faith, hope, love, these three, but the greatest of these is love." (1Cor 13:13)

In Christianity, the A-B-C's spell L-O-V-E. First Corinthians thirteen tells us what love

First Corinthians thirteen tells us what love really means.

Love is patient; love is kind looks not for mistakes to find Love is humble, love is meek love will never self-seek.

Does envy, never selfish never proud nor snobbish Is not jealous, is not rude love rejoices in the truth.

Bears all things believes all things
Hopes all things endures all things
Now remains faith, hope and love but the greatest of these is love.

RECITATION CURRICULUM: PLEASE LOOK AT THE RECITATION CURRICULUM AT THE END OF THIS BOOK.



OCTOBER

FIRST Sunday

A RICH WOMAN SHARES HER HOME WITH ELISHA 2 Kings 4:8-11

In a large house near the road there lived a kind, rich woman. As she watched the people who walked past her house, she noticed a man who went by often. "He must be the one who goes from place to place telling people about God". She thought, "How tired he looks! I wish he would stop at my house for dinner, and I would like to hear him talk about God".

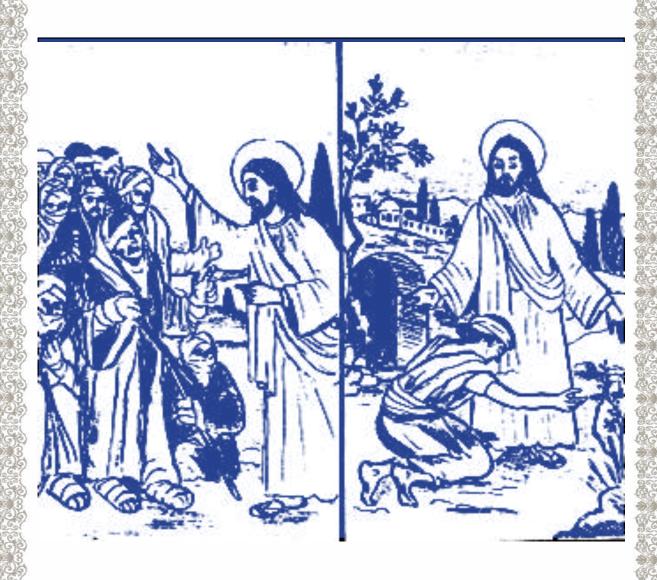
She hurried outside and called Elisha. How glad he was to go into the cool house! The kind woman made him feel welcome. Then she invited him to share a delicious dinner. Elisha had a good time telling her about God's wonderful ways. He thanked her for the food. Whenever Elisha was near, she invited him to rest and have dinner.

One day after Elisha had gone; the woman asked her husband if they could build a special room for him so that he could stay as long as he wanted. Her husband liked this idea, and built a nice room on the roof of their house.

One day Elisha came again and the women said, "We have a new room for you". They went upstairs to look at it. How surprised Elisha must have been! He wished to be in such a room to rest and pray after he helped people and told them about God all day.

Elisha thanked the woman for her kindness. She was happy too. She was glad to share her home with Elisha.





OCTOBER

SECOND Sunday



OCTOBER SECOND SUNDAY

THANKSGIVING TO GOD

Please tell the story of the ten lepers (Luke 17:11-19), emphasizing the points below.

VIDEO: https://youtu.be/LzZUDRrKgI8

PURPOSE OF THE LESSON

Let us count our blessings and be thankful.

MEMORY TEXT:

Thanksgiving Prayer "Let us give thanks to the beneficent and merciful God"

PLEASE EMPHASIZE

- Ask the children, what are some of the things they should thank God for? We thank Him because He has given us our clothes, toys, a good house and good health.
- Fill in some of the things that the children forget to mention in thanking God. For example: He created us, made Heaven and Earth for us, gave us His Body and Blood in the church and gave us our parents to take care of us.
- Tell them the story of the ten lepers in detail.



Coptic Orthodox Church

- The ten men were suffering from their bad disease. They had been like that for a long time, and they lost all hope. All the people rejected them. This is the reason why Jesus met them at the outskirts of the village. No one had mercy on them.
- They said, "Jesus, Master have mercy on us. They had faith in Him and called Him "Master" and sought His mercy. He healed them and ended their misery.
- But only one of them did the right thing. He came back to Jesus to say "thank you" and glorified Jesus' name.
- Remind them to thank God in all their prayers.
- We should celebrate Thanksgiving weekend with our family and thank God for our parents, and thank our parents because they are taking care of us.

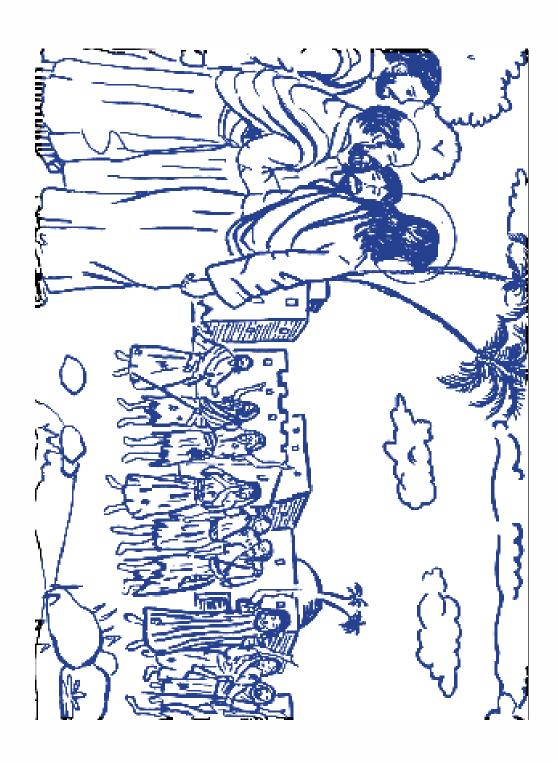
WHAT DO WE LEARN FROM THIS LESSON?

Let us say "thank you" to Jesus during the day for everything we have. Then at the end of the day we must thank Him for keeping us safe.



OCTOBER

SECOND Sunday





Coptic Orthodox Church

SONGS ...

FATHER I ADORE YOU

"For there are three that bear witness in heaven: the father, the word, and the Holy Spirit, and these three are one." (1Jn 5:7)

Father I adore you Lay my life before you How I love you.

Jesus I adore you Lay my life before you How I love you.

Holy Spirit I adore you Lay my life before you How I love you.

Three in one I adore you Lay my life before you How I love you.

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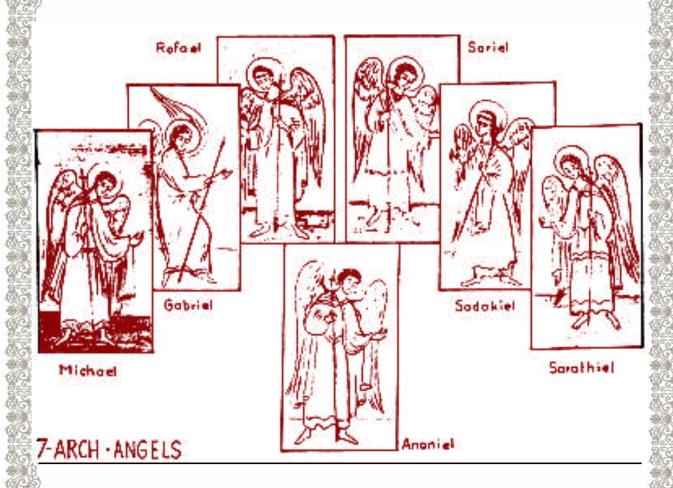
OCTOBER

SECOND Sunday



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October

Third Sunday



OCTOBER THIRD SUNDAY

THE ANGELS –I JACOB WAS COMFORTED BY THE ANGELS

Please read Genesis 28:10-21 and tell the story emphasizing the points below.

VIDEO: https://youtu.be/TK3QB719xPs

PURPOSE OF THE LESSON

This is lesson 1 in a series of two lessons about the angels. God sends his angels to help us.

MEMORY VERSE

"The angels of God were ascending and descending on it" Genesis 28:12

PLEASE EMPHASIZE

- Jacob was afraid of his brother Esau after Jacob took the blessing of his father Isaac instead of the older brother Esau. Esau wanted to kill Jacob for that. Their mother asked Jacob to escape to his uncle Laban. While Jacob was traveling away from home and he was still afraid, the Lord sent his angels to him to comfort him. The angels indeed comforted him.
- ♦ We must pray every night before we sleep so that the angels protect us.
- The angels are white and bright (luminous) creatures.



Coptic Orthodox Church

- God sends the angels to do various things. For example, He sent the Archangel Gabriel to the Virgin Mary to tell her the good news that Jesus would be born from her and the Holy Spirit. He sent the Archangel Michael to Mary Magdalene and other women when Jesus rose from the dead, and He sent an angel to get St. Peter out of jail.
- Let us learn the names of the 7 Archangels: Michael, Gabriel, Rafael, Sorial, Sadakiel, Sarathiel and Ananiel.

Please give out some prizes for memorizing those names.

Jacob called the place in which God talked to him and the angels came to him, the "House of God".

WHAT DO WE LEARN FROM THIS LESSON?

- 1. God sends his angels to benefit and serve us.
- 2. The angels are our friends. When we pray, they go up to heaven with all our prayers. Then they come down from heaven to us with an answer for our prayers.



Third Sunday





Coptic Orthodox Church

SONGS ..

FATHER I ADORE YOU

"For there are three that bear witness in heaven: the father, the word, and the Holy Spirit, and these three are one." (1Jn 5:7)

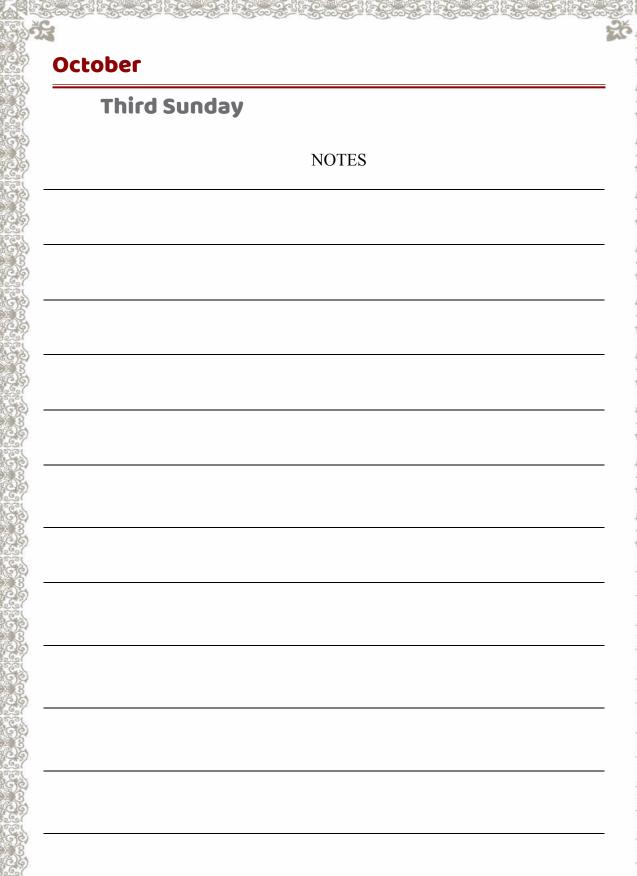
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Coptic Orthodox Church



Fourth Sunday



OCTOBER FOURTH SUNDAY

THE ANGELS – II THE GUARDIAN ANGELS

Please read Matthew 4:6.

PURPOSE OF THE LESSON

To learn that God sends His angels to protect us, that the angels are nice and that we should love them.

MEMORY VERSE

"He shall give His angels charge concerning you" Matthew 4:6

PLEASE EMPHASIZE

- **†** Let us start by reviewing the last lesson.
- **♥** Who can remember the names of the archangels?
- ₩ How many are they?
- Everyone has a guardian angel. As the name indicates, the guardian angels are sent from God to guard and protect us from the devil who is bad and wants to hurt us. We must please our guardian angel by obeying God.
- **†** Tell the following story:

There was a man and his wife who used to help the poor and make a large supper for them in every celebration for the angels. They did that every year. It so happened one year that they did not have money and they were very sad. An angel appeared to the man and asked him to go and buy a lamb, a fish and some bread. The man sold his clothes and used the money to buy what the



Coptic Orthodox Church

angel told him. The man's wife cooked the food and at the angels' celebration a large number of poor people came to eat. The man was ashamed because the food was very little for this number of people. The angel appeared to him and asked him to go to the kitchen and look in the cupboard. He did, and found a large amount of food for him and all his guests. The angel also told him to open the mouth of the fish he had told the man to buy. He found \$300 in it. He took \$200 for him and his wife and bought clothes instead of the ones he sold and gave \$100 to the church.

- The above is from the Synaxarium of the church. The name of the man is Dorotheos and his wife is Theobesta.
- Please ask the children some questions to follow up the story.

WHAT DO WE LEARN FROM THIS LESSON?

- 1. God sends His angels to serve and protect us.
- 2. When we are in trouble, God sends His angels to remove the trouble and make us happy.

Fourth Sunday





Coptic Orthodox Church

SONGS ...

FATHER I ADORE YOU

"For there are three that bear witness in heaven: the father, the word, and the Holy Spirit, and these three are one." (1Jn 5:7)

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Fourth Sunday



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Coptic Orthodox Church



Fifth Sunday



OCTOBER FIFTH SUNDAY

THE RICH MAN AND LAZARUS

Please read Luke 16:19-31, and tell the story emphasizing the points below.

VIDEO: https://youtu.be/2FH0y-mSl0k

PURPOSE OF THE LESSON

To learn that the angels come to receive the souls of the good people after they die and send them to heaven.

MEMORY VERSE

"The beggar died and was carried by the angels to Abraham's bosom" Luke 16:22

PLEASE EMPHASIZE

- If someone is hungry and comes to your house, would you give him some food? Yes, I would give him food. Why? Because I love the poor people and I must help them.
- Give a description of the things that the rich man enjoyed. He did not help Lazarus who suffered a lot. Describe the story in detail.



Coptic Orthodox Church

- The bad people will go to Hades where they will cry and suffer while the good people will go to Paradise, where they will have a nice time without tears or sorrow.
- We have to help the needy. We have to help the sick people.
- There is no other chance for the bad people to do good things after they die.
- We have to love God and do what He is telling us.
- The angels help us during our lives as you recall from the previous lessons. After we die, they carry our souls to Paradise.

WHAT DO WE LEARN FROM THIS LESSON?

- 1. Blessed are the merciful because they will have mercy from God and will gain a place in Paradise.
- 2. If you would like to go to heaven, be nice to people, help the poor people and help the sick people to feel better.



Fifth Sunday





Coptic Orthodox Church

SONGS ...

CHRISTIAN LOVE

"And now abide in faith, hope, love, these three, but the greatest of these is love."
(1Cor 13:13)

In Christianity, the A-B-C's First Corinthians thirteen

Love is patient; love is kind Love is humble, love is meek

Does envy, never selfish Is not jealous, is not rude

Bears all things Hopes all things Now remains faith, hope and love spell L-O-V-E.

tells us what love really means.

looks not for mistakes to find love will never self-seek.

never proud nor snobbish love rejoices in the truth.

believes all things endures all things but the greatest of these is love.

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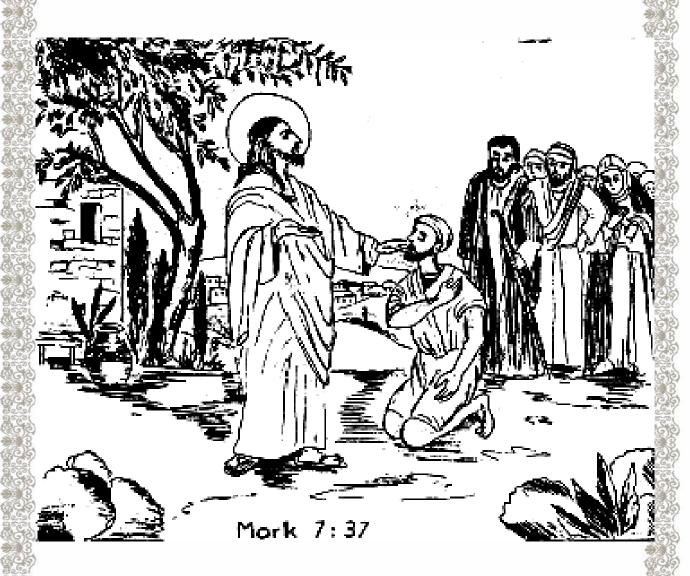
Fifth Sunday



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Coptic Orthodox Church



First Sunday



NOVEMBER FIRST SUNDAY

JESUS HEALS A DEAF-MUTE

Please read Mark 7:31-37, and tell the story emphasizing the points below.

VIDEO: https://youtu.be/iYuksIX6XnY or https://youtu.be/Gbmpc4E9LrE

PURPOSE OF THE LESSON

To learn that Our Lord Jesus did everything perfect when He was on earth in the flesh. He is still with us and does everything for our benefit if we ask Him in our prayers.

MEMORY VERSE

"He makes both the deaf to hear and the mute to speak" Mark 7:37

PLEASE EMPHASIZE

- The man was deaf and could hardly speak. He was very miserable. Others asked Jesus just to lay His hands on him. They had faith and they saw His other miracles.
- By the words of Jesus "be opened", the man could hear and speak immediately.



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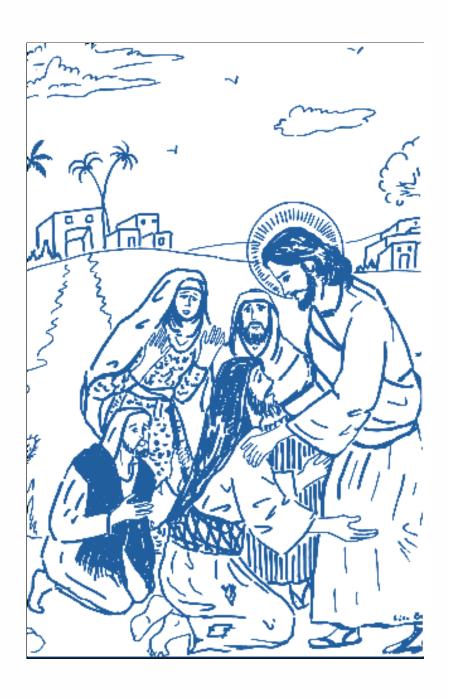
- Jesus asked the people not to tell anyone about what He did with the deaf/mute to teach us not to tell anyone about something good we did, otherwise we will only be rewarded by people.
- When people saw the miracles, they were amazed saying "He has done all things well" and they could not hide their feelings. They went telling all the people.
- Jesus did every good thing when He was on earth. He taught, healed the sick, fed the hungry, and made the dead rise from death.
- People took the sick man to Jesus, so when we have a friend who is sick, we must pray for him.

WHAT DO WE LEARN FROM THIS LESSON?

- 1. When we are sick, we must ask Jesus in our prayers to heal us. Jesus can heal us.
- 2. When we do something good, we should not go around telling everyone that we did it. Otherwise, we lose our reward in heaven.



First Sunday







Coptic Orthodox Church

SONGS ...

OMY CHILDREN

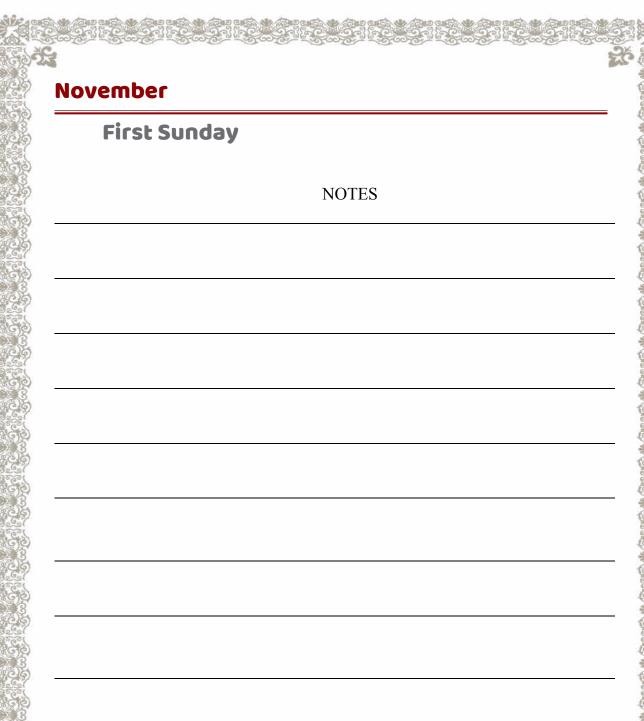
"Let the little Children come to me, and do not forbid them: for of such is the kingdom of heaven." (Mat 19:14)

O my little dear children You are so precious come to me.

Dear Lord Jesus Our God We love you and praise you Our Lord.

I hear you praising and bless you My eyes are upon you all the time.

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St. George and St. Rueiss 🏶 Coptic Orthodox Church



Second Sunday



NOVEMBER SECOND SUNDAY

A SERVANT LEARNS GOD'S WAYS

Please read the attached material entitled "A Servant Learns God's Ways". Also read the Epistle of St. Paul to Philemon and emphasize the points below.

PURPOSE OF THE LESSON

To learn that when we make a mistake we have to say sorry to God and to people. God will accept us.

MEMORY VERSE

"Show me your ways, O Lord" Psalm 25:4

PLEASE EMPHASIZE

- Onesimus had to run away after he took the money. He was very sad. When he met St. Paul, he found St. Paul very happy because St. Paul loved God.
- When we are with God, we are happy. Onesimus became very happy when he learned the ways of the Lord from St. Paul.
- He was sorry and prayed that God would forgive his sin. St. Paul also prayed for him and sent a letter to his disciple Philemon to accept Onesimus and then Philemon accepted him.
- When we make a mistake, we have to act like Onesimus: say sorry and promise not to do it again. God will forgive our sins and then we can take Communion.

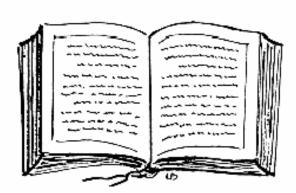




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WHAT DO WE LEARN FROM THIS LESSON?

- 1. Anyone who makes a mistake should say sorry.
- 2. What is God's way? If we repent and seek forgiveness, God will accept us.
- 3. When someone does something bad to us, we must forgive him as Philemon forgave Onesimus.



Second Sunday







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SONGS ..

OMY CHILDREN

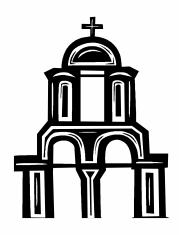
"Let the little Children come to me, and do not forbid them: for of such is the kingdom of heaven." (Mat 19:14)

O my little dear children You are so precious come to me.

Dear Lord Jesus Our God We love you and praise you Our Lord.

I hear you praising and bless you My eyes are upon you all the time.

RECITATION CURRICULUM: PLEASE LOOK AT THE RECITATION CURRICULUM AT THE END OF THIS BOOK.



Second Sunday

A SERVANT LEARNS GOD'S WAYS

Onesimus worked for a man named Philemon. Philemon loved the Lord, but Onesimus did not. He did not do things to please the Lord. One day, Onesimus saw some money left out that belonged to Philemon. How he wanted that money! No one was near, so he took it. Then he ran far away to a big city.

Later he met Paul in the city. Because Paul loved the Lord, he always told everyone about Jesus. And Paul told Onesimus about the Lord too. Onesimus could see that Paul was happy. Onesimus had not been happy since he took Philemon's money. Onesimus told Paul about taking the money. Paul told Onesimus that the Lord loved him and would forgive him if he were sorry that he had sinned. Onesimus was glad to hear this. He asked the Lord to forgive him.

After that, Onesimus saw Paul often. One day Onesimus said, "I must go back to Philemon. The Lord has forgiven me for taking the money, and I want Philemon to forgive me too."

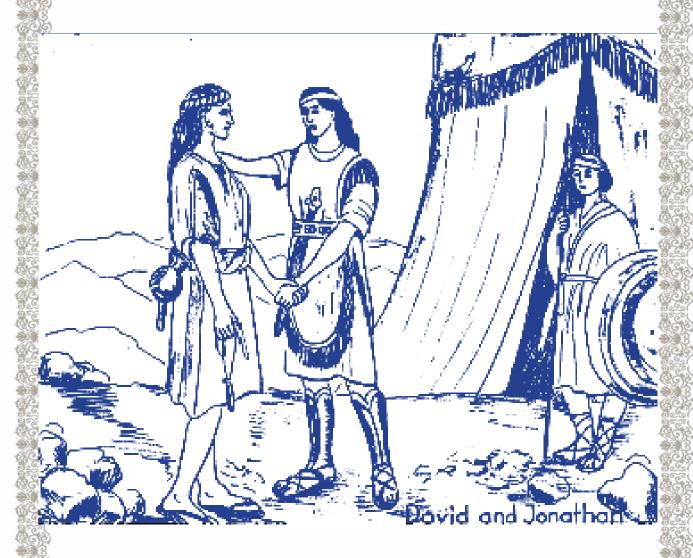
Paul said, "Do not be afraid. I will write a letter to Philemon for you. He will be glad that you have learned to love the Lord now."

So Paul wrote to Philemon to ask him to take Onesimus back again. Then Onesimus began the long journey back. He was afraid but he knew he was doing the right thing. The Lord would be with him.



Coptic Orthodox Church





Third Sunday



NOVEMBER THIRD SUNDAY

BE A GOOD FRIEND LIKE DAVID AND JONATHAN

Please read 1 Samuel 18:1-5, 19:1-7, 20, 23:16-18, and emphasize the points below.

VIDEO: https://youtu.be/pZ2hRq-ei0U or https://youtu.be/MZQS2TPn0QI

PURPOSE OF THE LESSON

To learn that we have to be loyal to our friends. When the need arises, we must cooperate with them and give them gifts.

MEMORY VERSE

"And Jonathan took off the robe that was on him and gave it to David" **1 Samuel 18:4**

PLEASE EMPHASIZE

Jonathan was a loving friend (1 Samuel 18:1-5). After David killed the Philistine (who was bad and insulted God and His people); King Saul invited David to his house. King Saul's son, Jonathan, loved David since that time and they became good friends.

Jonathan was a loving friend because he treated his friend David very nicely in his house and gave him his robe. Jonathan told David that he loved him as much as himself.



Coptic Orthodox Church

- Jonathan was a loyal friend (1 Samuel 19:1-23). Saul's jealousy of David grew so much that he said, "I want David dead." David escaped.
- Tell the story of the banquet at the king's table. The king was angry that David was missing and then David knew that his life was in danger.

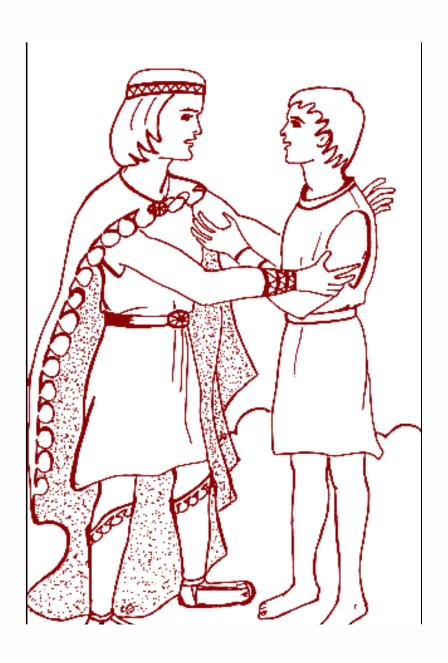
 Jonathan was a loyal friend because he was honest with David and told him the truth that King Saul (Jonathan's father) wanted to kill him. Jonathan advised David to be careful.
- Jonathan was a lasting friend (1 Samuel 20:24-42). We must be nice to people: help them, treat them well, share our toys with them and do as Jonathan did to David.

WHAT DO WE LEARN FROM THIS LESSON?

- 1. Good friends are loving, loyal (they tell the truth), and lasting.
- 2. We must be honest with people. A friend who supports us when we are sick or in trouble is a true friend. Someone who does not support us when we are sick or in trouble is not a true friend.
- 3. A true friend will never encourage us to do something or go somewhere dangerous. A true friend will want us to be safe.



Third Sunday







Coptic Orthodox Church

SONGS ...

O MY CHILDREN

"Let the little Children come to me, and do not forbid them: for of such is the kingdom of heaven." (Mat 19:14)

O my little dear children You are so precious come to me.

Dear Lord Jesus Our God We love you and praise you Our Lord.

I hear you praising and bless you My eyes are upon you all the time.

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Third Sunday



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Fourth Sunday



NOVEMBER FOURTH SUNDAY

ST. MENA THE WONDER-MAKER

Please read the attached material entitled "St. Mena, the WONDER-Maker", and tell St. Mena's story, emphasizing the points below.

PURPOSE OF THE LESSON

To show that St. Mena loved the Lord and that many miracles were performed by his prayers.

MEMORY VERSE

"He left all, rose up, and followed Him" Luke 5:28

PLEASE EMPHASIZE

- St. Mena was born to a Christian family after many prayers from his mother to have a baby. He joined the army, then left the army after 3 years and went to the desert as a hermit. (Relate this to the memory verse).
- The angels told him that he would go to heaven with Jesus.
- He became very happy when the angels told him that he would be with Jesus. He went and told all people that he was a Christian and that he believed in the Lord Jesus Christ as the Son of God.
- Many people became Christian when they knew or saw what St. Mena did.
- Why do we have a camel with the picture of St. Mena? Explain. Also, how was his body found? Explain from the attached material.



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Tell the story of the healing of King Zinon's daughter by visiting the area where St. Mena's body was buried. A large number of miracles were performed by his prayers and, therefore, he is called "The Miracle/wonder-Maker".

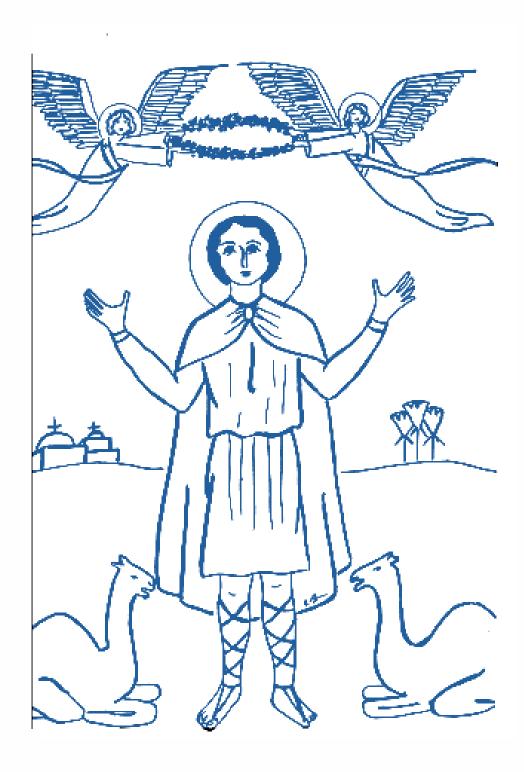
WHAT DO WE LEARN FROM THIS LESSON?

- 1. We must love the Lord our God as St. Mena loved him.
- 2. We must always be ready to say that we are Christians, as St. Mena was ready.



November

Fourth Sunday





Coptic Orthodox Church

SONGS ...

GOD IS DWELLING IN MY HEART

"For our heart shall rejoice in Him because we have trusted in His holy name."
(Ps 33:21)

<u>REFRAIN</u>

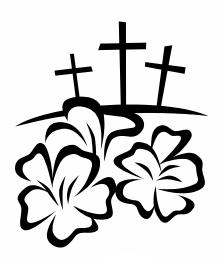
God is dwelling in my heart He and I are one All His joy He gives to me through Christ his Son.

And with Jesus in my heart what have I to fear? For He is the Son of God in my heart, He is near.

Christians who are baptized have you ever realized
The great mystery God dwells in you and me.

This joy God gave to you share it then with others too Show them that God is love lift their hearts above.

RECITATION CURRICULUM: PLEASE LOOK AT THE RECITATION CURRICULUM AT THE END OF THIS BOOK.



November

Fourth Sunday

ST. MENA, THE WONDER-MAKER

St. Mena is considered to be the most well known saint in the East and West, due to the many miracles that are performed by his prayers for us. That is evident in the numerous little clay bottles on which his name and picture are engraved. These were discovered by the archeologists in diverse countries around the world, For example, they were found in Heidelberg, Germany, Milan, Italy, Dalmata, Yugoslavia, Marseille, France, Dongola, Sudan, and Jerusalem, Israel. Visitors to these cities, and others, would buy these bottles which usually contain oil or water for blessing, and take them back to their relatives.

The Saint was born in the year 285, in the city of Niceous, which lies in the vicinity of Memphis. His parents were really ascetic Christians, his father Audexios, and his mother Auphomia. On the feast of St. Mary, the mother who did not have any children prayed in front of the icon of the Virgin Mary, with tears that God may give her a blessed son. A voice came to her ears saying "Amen", and thus she called her son Mena.

His father, a ruler of one of the administrative divisions of Egypt, died when Mena was fourteen years old. At fifteen he joined the army, and was given a high rank because of his father's reputation, and was appointed in Algeria. Three years later, he left the army longing to devote his whole life for Christ. He headed towards the desert to live a different kind of life.

After he had spent five years as a hermit, he saw the angels coronating the martyrs with glamorous crowns in a revelation and longed to join them. While he was thinking of it, he heard a voice saying: "Blessed be you, Abba Mena, because you have been called for the pious life since your childhood. You will be granted three immortal crowns: one for your celibacy, the second for your asceticism and the third for your martyrdom.

Immediately he felt as if the earth under him was vanishing, and he was overwhelmed with great eagerness to be carried to heaven. In a mood of valour, he hurried to the ruler declaring his Christian faith. His endless sufferings and the tortures that he went through attracted many of the pagans, not only to Christianity, but also to martyrdom.



Coptic Orthodox Church

THE SAINT'S BODY

The Saint's assassins tried to burn his relics but they failed as the believers loaded his body on a camel and headed towards the western desert. At a certain spot, the camel stopped and the people could not force it to continue its trip by any means. Right there, they buried him near a water well (that place is his present monastery, at the end of Marriute Lake).

DISCOVERY OF HIS BODY

It so happened that a shepherd was attending to his sheep in that area and a sick lamb fell to the ground. As it struggled to get on its feet again, its scab was cured. The story was spread quickly and the sick who came to this spot recovered from whatever illness they had, just by lying on the ground.

During that time, the daughter of King Zinon, the lover of Christ, caught the itch. His advisors suggested that she should try that place, and she did. At night, the Saint appeared to the girl and told her that his body is buried in that place. The following morning, she bathed in the well and was healed. She related her vision about St. Mena to her servants, and that he cured her.

ST. MENA IN MARRIUTE

Immediately, King Zinon ordered that the Saint's body be dug out and a church to be founded there. Not only that, but he also ordered to build a large city to be named after the Saint's name. Sick people from all over the world used to visit that city and were healed through the intercession of St. Mena, the wonder-maker.

Mrs. Bucher recorded that destruction started to take place in the city and its inhabitants were degraded after the Arab Conquest. During the period after Haroun El-Rasheed, the Barbarians attacked it and burned a large portion of it. At the time of El-Mamoun, he ordered to pull the entire city down, and then he used its marble pillars which are numerous, to build his palace and the mosques. It was in the twentieth century that international missions began to search for the city and the church. The remainder of it, no doubt, demonstrates the glory of the Coptic past.

THE NEW CHURCH OF ST. MENAS

As soon as Pope Cyril the Sixth was coronated on St. Mark's throne, he began to put down the foundations of a very great monastery close to the remains of this old

November

Fourth Sunday

city. Thus, in his blessed days, God's will had permitted the old monastery of St. Mena to be resurrected, and the Copts to visit it and to be blessed by the Saint. What is even more interesting is that the Pope has stated in his will that his body should not to be buried in the new famous Cathedral in Cairo, but in the monastery of his friend and intercessor, St. Mena the wonder-maker!



Coptic Orthodox Church



First Sunday



DECEMBER FIRST SUNDAY

ZECHARIAH AND ELIZABETH

Please read Luke 1:5-25 and tell the story with emphasis on the points below.

VIDEO: https://youtu.be/hJXrSRxSX-Y

PURPOSE OF THE LESSON

To learn that we must trust in God's promises.

MEMORY VERSE

"My words, which will be fulfilled in their own time" Luke 1:20

PLEASE EMPHASIZE

- Describe the circumstances related to the birth of St. John the Baptist. His parents had no children and were too old to bear children. They kept praying that a child be born to them. At the right time God sent His angel to convey the happy news to Zechariah.
- What was Zechariah doing at the altar? He was a priest and he was praying and burning incense. The rest of the people were praying outside the altar.
- Zechariah was afraid of the angel and did not believe that he and Elizabeth would have such a great son. Why didn't Zechariah believe? Because he and his wife were too old to have children anymore. (People their age had grandchildren, or even great-grandchildren, not little babies.)



Coptic Orthodox Church

- The angel told Zechariah that he was sent from God and that Zechariah should have believed him because of that. He told Zechariah that he would not be able to speak until he saw the baby God promised.
- God sent His angel Gabriel to give a message to Zechariah. God uses the angels to serve us. We must trust God and His promises.
- "Then an angel of the Lord appeared to him, standing on the right side of the altar of incense" Luke 1:11. Actually the angel of the Lord is always standing in this place and never leaves the right side of the altar of incense. The angel raises the offerings, the prayers and the incense up to heaven. This is the reason Abouna at the end of the Divine Liturgy says "O Angel of this day, flying up to heaven with these oblations, mention us in front of the Lord so that He may forgive our sins.
- In the days after the angel appeared to Zechariah, Elizabeth conceived. She was very happy and thankful to God.
- Techariah remained silent because he did not believe the message of God.
- The Lord answers our prayers. We must trust Him because He loves us.

WHAT DO WE LEARN FROM THIS LESSON?

- 1. An angel waits until the end of our praises and prayers, and then he rises up. We must trust that the angel comes back carrying the fulfillment of our prayers in the right time as he did with Zechariah and Elizabeth.
- 2. As we trust that God loves us, we must trust His promises. We must not question God.



First Sunday

Colouring







Coptic Orthodox Church

SONGS ..

King of Kings

"And His name will be called...Prince of Peace." (Isa 9:6)

King of kings and Lord of Lords Glory, Alleluia.

Jesus, Prince of Peace Glory, Alleluia.

RECITATION CURRICULUM:
PLEASE LOOK AT THE RECITATION CURRICULUM AT
THE END OF THIS BOOK.



December First Sunday NOTES

Coptic Orthodox Church





Second Sunday



DECEMBER SECOND SUNDAY

THE VIRGIN MARY AND THE ANGEL

Please read Luke 1:26-38. Also read the attachment "Christmas Message", and tell the story, with emphasis on the points below.

VIDEO: https://youtu.be/Z1OLLwtCqtM

PURPOSE OF THE LESSON

To let the children rejoice by telling them a very happy story and having them know it by heart.

MEMORY VERSE

"The Lord is with you" Luke 1:28

PLEASE EMPHASIZE

Start with the childhood of the Virgin Mary. Her parents did not have any children and they were old. They prayed to God to give them a child and they promised to give this child back to serve God. After the birth of the little girl Mary, and at the age of 3, her parents gave her up for service and prayer in the altar. She stayed there until she became 12 years old. An old man named Joseph took her to his house to look after her, and they were later engaged. After some time the angel came to her with the happy message.

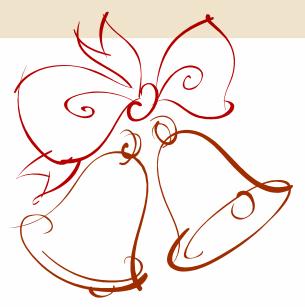


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- Describe the conversation between the angel and St. Mary, in detail. The greeting of the angel had 3 parts: (1) Peace be with you, (2) The Lord is with you, and (3) He has greatly blessed you. Explain each part.
- The Virgin Mary was used to seeing angels during her prayers but she was troubled this time because of the greetings of the angel, and she was wondering why an angel would greet her like that. St. Mary was very humble. In her view, she did not deserve all these greetings. She never looked for, or accepted, any praise from people. She had a secret life with God in prayer and never became happy when people spoke so highly of her. This is the reason why she was troubled upon hearing the greetings of the Angel.
- The memory verse "The Lord is with you" Luke 1:28, reminds us of when Abouna says the same phrase to all of us in the Divine Liturgy. We then answer saying, "And with your spirit". Let us learn this by heart.

WHAT DO WE LEARN FROM THIS LESSON?

- 1. The Virgin Mary believed and obeyed the message of God. This teaches us to believe what God tells us in the Bible and to obey it.
- 2. Let us all rejoice with St. Mary, as she was getting ready to receive Baby Jesus.



Second Sunday

Christmas Colouring





Coptic Orthodox Church

SONGS ...

I AM GLAD

"Behold, I bring you good tidings of great joy which will be to all people" (Lk 2:10)

I am glad, I am glad that you came to our land With Your peace and your love we will go hand in hand

REFRAIN

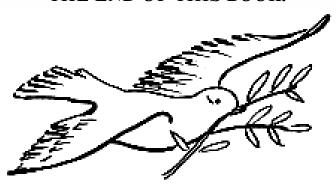
He came for us with His tender love
Our God, our God came to save us our God

Saint Mary was pleased when she heard Gabriel He told her you will bear our Lord Emmanuel

The angels in the sky praised the Lord for His birth Glory to God in the highest and peace be on earth

A bright star far in the east appeared to the three wise men It lead them to the manger in the city of Bethlehem

RECITATION CURRICULUM:
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Second Sunday

CHRISTMAS MESSAGE

A JOYFUL MESSAGE

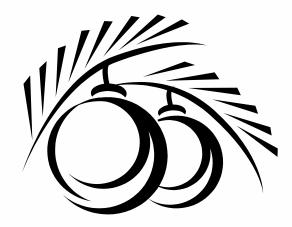
Nazareth was such a pretty village among the hills of Galilee, above the sea. In this village, there lived a young virgin, named Mary, who devoted all her life to worshipping God.

One day, while she was praying, a bright light suddenly filled her room and an angel appeared to her.

"Do not be afraid," he said, "God has sent me to give you such happy news."

As Mary quietly listened, the angel said, "The Holy Spirit will come upon you and the power of the Highest will overshadow you...you will give birth to a child named Jesus. He is the Son of God; He will save all the world and bring them to Heaven!"

St. Mary was very happy. Bowing her head, she whispered, "I will gladly do whatever God wants me to do."



Coptic Orthodox Church





Third Sunday



DECEMBER THIRD SUNDAY

MARY VISITS ELIZABETH

Please read Luke 1:39-45 and tell the story with emphasize on the points below.

VIDEO: https://youtu.be/s 1xtrrA2Ks

PURPOSE OF THE LESSON

To learn from the Virgin Mary's love to her relative, Elizabeth.

MEMORY VERSE

"And entered the house of Zechariah and greeted Elizabeth", Luke 1:40

PLEASE EMPHASIZE

- Let us emphasize the love of the Virgin Mary. Although she was carrying a baby in her womb, she traveled a long distance to help Elizabeth because she heard from the angel that Elizabeth was also pregnant, in her old age. She came to serve her. Nobody asked her. But St. Mary was so nice.
- We have to love each other, serve and care for each other.
- The baby leaped in Elizabeth's womb with joy when St. Mary entered Elizabeth's house and greeted her.



Coptic Orthodox Church

- Elizabeth was very happy that St. Mary, the Mother of God came to visit her.
- After St. Mary served Elizabeth and helped her with the housework, she returned to her house.
- St. Mary stayed in Elizabeth's house for three months.
- Elizabeth gave birth to a baby. The neighbors could not agree about what name to give him. His father, Zechariah, brought something to write on and he wrote the name of "John".

WHAT DO WE LEARN FROM THIS LESSON?

If we love St. Mary and carry her picture and hang her picture in our homes, we must do as she did with Elizabeth. We should help other people, especially the elders.



Third Sunday





Coptic Orthodox Church

Christmas **SONGS** ...

I AM GLAD

"Behold, I bring you good tidings of great joy which will be to all people" (Lk 2:10)

I am glad, I am glad that you came to our land With Your peace and your love we will go hand in hand

REFRAIN
He came for us
Our God, our God
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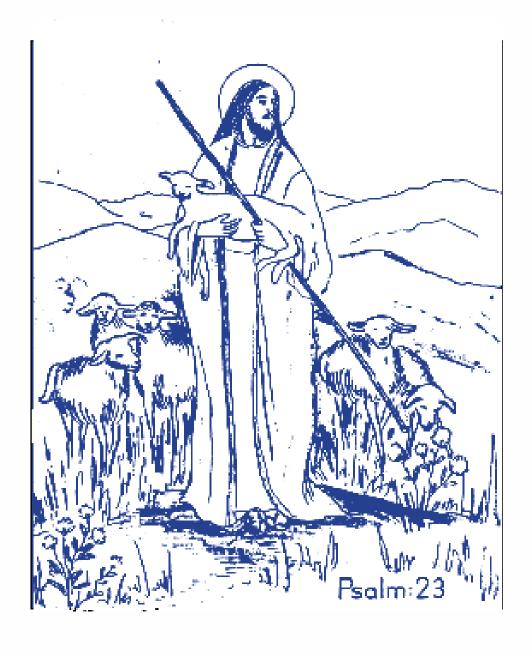




Third Sunday

NOTES

Coptic Orthodox Church



Fourth Sunday



DECEMBER FOURTH SUNDAY

THE NEW YEAR -WHAT DOES GOD WANT US TO DO?

PURPOSE OF THE LESSON

To see what God wants us to do and if we are willing to do it.

MEMORY VERSE

"The Lord is my shepherd, I shall not want" Psalm 23:1

PLEASE EMPHASIZE

- Last year God gave us many things and took care of us. Let us count the blessings He gave us with the children.
- God wants us to do certain things too:
 - 1) He wants us to go to church to pray and receive the Holy Communion.
 - 2) He wants us to say our prayers at home: at least in the morning, before meals, and in the evening.
 - 3) He wants us to hear His voice: we must ask Mommy and Daddy to read the Bible for us every day. The Bible always has a message for us.
 - 4) He wants us to help Mommy and Daddy: we should tidy things up at home and obey our parents. He wants us to be nice with our friends.
- If in this New Year, we do what God wants us to do so that we become true sons and daughters of God, He will be very happy with us.



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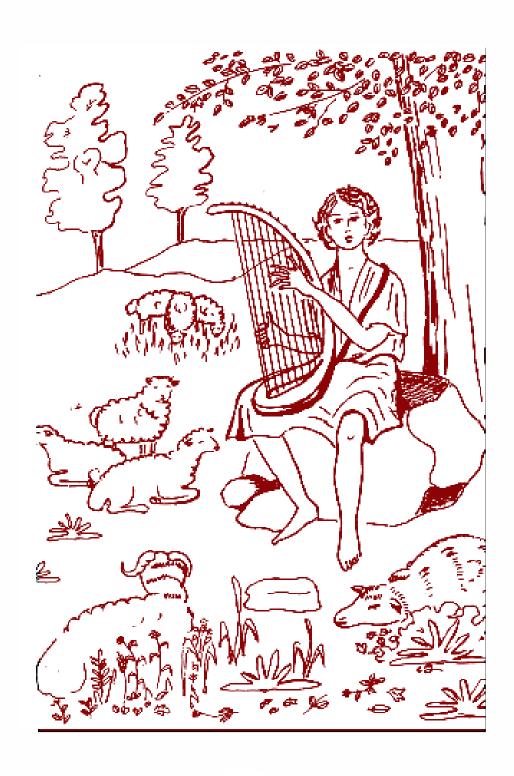
Explain the meaning of "The Lord is my shepherd." The sheep totally depend on the shepherd to be safe and happy. The shepherd protects the sheep, feeds the sheep, and if one is lost he goes to look for it. We should start the New Year depending completely on God to take care of us. The only thing is that we have to love Him and do what he wants us to do.

WHAT DO WE LEARN FROM THIS LESSON?

In this New Year, we should behave like sons and daughters of God so that when we pray we can truthfully say "Our Father who art in heaven..."



Fourth Sunday







Coptic Orthodox Church

SONGS ...

AWAY IN A MANGER

"...And wrapped Him in swaddling clothes, and laid Him in a manger" (Lk 2:7)

Away in a manger no crib for a bed

The little Lord Jesus lay down His sweet head

The stars in the sky look down where He lay

The little Lord Jesus asleep on the hay

The cattle are lowing the Baby awakes

The little Lord Jesus no crying He makes

I love You Lord Jesus look down from the sky
And stay by my side till morning is nigh

<u>RECITATION CURRICULUM:</u> PLEASE LOOK AT THE RECITATION CURRICULUM AT THE END OF THIS BOOK.

January

First Sunday



JANUARY FIRST SUNDAY

CHRISTMAS SONGS AND SLIDE PRESENTATION ABOUT THE EVENTS BEFORE AND AFTER THE BIRTH OF BABY JESUS.



Coptic Orthodox Church





January

Second Sunday



JANUARY SECOND SUNDAY

THE WISEMAN AND THE SHEPHERDS VISIT BABY JESUS

Please read Luke 2:4-20 (the shepherds visit Baby Jesus), and Matthew 2:1-12 (the wise men visit Baby Jesus), and tell the stories with emphasis on the points below.

VIDEOS: https://youtu.be/TJIC57EvYFo?t=30 and https://youtu.be/TJIC57EvYFo?t=30

PURPOSE OF THE LESSON

To explain the glorious part of these visits.

MEMORY VERSE

"We have seen His star in the East "Matthew 2:2

PLEASE EMPHASIZE

- Explain how the angel brought the good news to the shepherds "I bring you good news of a great joy which will come to all the people. For to you is born Christ the Lord." A multitude of angels then appeared singing, "Glory be to God in the highest and peace on earth."
- The shepherds went and saw Baby Jesus in the manger. What is the job of a shepherd? A shepherd herds and takes care of sheep. Since Jesus takes care of us, He is called the Good Shepherd.



Coptic Orthodox Church

- The wise men came from far away. It was revealed to them by a star, that a King was born. They traveled a very long distance guided by the star until it stopped where Jesus was born.
- The wise men offered gifts: gold, frankincense and myrrh.
- The angel had told Joseph "And she (meaning Mary) will bring forth a Son, and you shall call His Name JESUS, for He will save His people from their sins." This means that the meaning of the name "JESUS" is "SAVIOR". Let us know this by heart: Jesus means Savior.

WHAT DO WE LEARN FROM THIS LESSON?

- 1. Jesus is the Son of God, and when He was born there were many heavenly signs: the angels who broke the good news to the shepherds and the star guiding the wise men.
- 2. Jesus means "Savior". He came to save us.

January

Second Sunday







Coptic Orthodox Church

SONGS ...

AWAY IN A MANGER

"...And wrapped Him in swaddling clothes, and laid Him in a manger" (Lk 2:7)

Away in a manger no crib for a bed

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<u>RECITATION CURRICULUM:</u> PLEASE LOOK AT THE RECITATION CURRICULUM AT THE END OF THIS BOOK.



January

Second Sunday



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In his/her preparation
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Coptic Orthodox Church



Third Sunday



JANUARY THIRD SUNDAY

JESUS WAS KEPT SAFE IN EGYPT

Please read Matthew 2:13-15 and 2:19-21 and tell the story with emphasis on the points below.

VIDEO: https://youtu.be/ISmDaZgC mk

PURPOSE OF THE LESSON

To learn that Our Lord Jesus visited our homeland, Egypt. He blessed Egypt.

MEMORY VERSE

"Out of Egypt I called my Son" Matthew 2:15

PLEASE EMPHASIZE

- Start by reviewing the previous lesson.
- On the same day that the wise men visited Jesus, the angel appeared to Joseph and asked him to take St. Mary and the Lord Jesus to Egypt. Jesus was about 2 years old.
- How many members were in the Holy Family?
- ₩hat were their names?



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- King Herod wanted to kill Jesus because he thought that Jesus would be a king instead of him. He did not realize that Jesus is the Son of God. Jesus' kingdom "is not of this world".
- When the Holy Family went to Egypt, they went to Cairo and to the upper part of Egypt. In Zaitoun, where St. Mary appeared in her Church, the Holy Family stayed for some time.
- When Herod died, the angel appeared to Joseph in a dream and told him to go back to the land of Israel.

WHAT DO WE LEARN FROM THIS LESSON?

Jesus' visit to Egypt was not only to escape from King Herod. There were many countries closer to Judea (where Jesus was born) than Egypt. However, the main purpose of Jesus' visit was to bless Egypt. This is why we sing, "Blessed be Egypt".



Third Sunday







Coptic Orthodox Church

SONGS 🎜

King of Kings

"And His name will be called...Prince of Peace." (Isa 9:6)

King of kings and Lord of Lords Glory, Alleluia.

Jesus, Prince of Peace Glory, Alleluia.

RECITATION CURRICULUM: PLEASE LOOK AT THE RECITATION CURRICULUM AT THE END OF THIS BOOK.



Third Sunday		
	NOTES	

Coptic Orthodox Church



Fourth Sunday



JANUARY FOURTH SUNDAY

EPIPHANY

Please read Matthew 3:13-18 and tell the story with emphasis on the points below.

VIDEO: https://youtu.be/ VMNO2MAmwA

PURPOSE OF THE LESSON

To know the story of the baptism of Our Lord Jesus by St. John the Baptist in detail.

MEMORY VERSE

"The heavens were opened to Him, and He saw the spirit of God descending like a dove" Matthew 3:16

PLEASE EMPHASIZE

- Our beloved Jesus was about 30 years old when He was baptized.
- \$\foatilde{T}\$ St. John was called the Baptist because he baptized Jesus.
- When St. John tried to prevent the Lord Jesus from being baptized, saying "I have need to be baptized by you, and are you coming to me?" Matthew 3:14, Jesus answered him very nicely saying, "Permit it to be so now" Matthew 3:15. So, in effect, the Lord was saying "please". We must always remember to say please and be nice with people.



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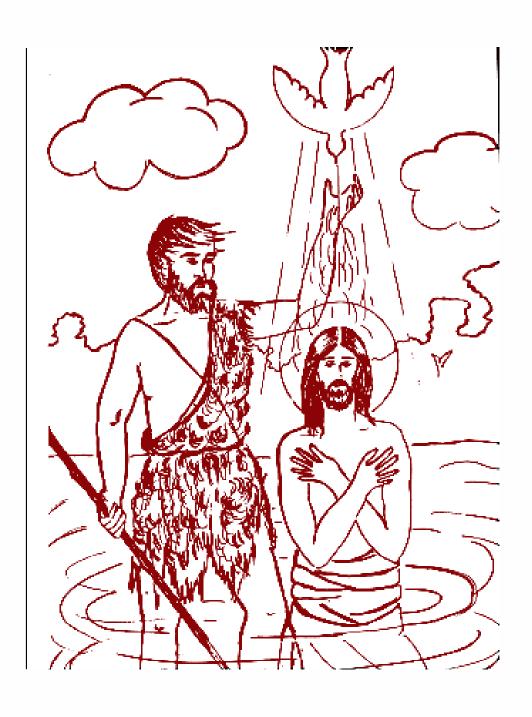
- When our Lord Jesus was baptized, the Holy Spirit came down in the form of a dove, the Father spoke from Heaven, and Jesus (the Son of God) received the message. When we cross ourselves we say, In the name of the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit, the One God, Amen.
- Review what happens when someone is baptized:
 - † His/her mother declares the faith.
 - † Aboung immerses the child 3 times in the water.
 - Abouna anoints the child with the Holy Chrism (Myroun oil) 36 times and then the child wears a white garment (symbol of purity). Abouna then, puts a red ribbon around his/her neck (el-zennar) as a symbol of joy and strength. (Please review these things and give prizes.)

WHAT DO WE LEARN FROM THIS LESSON?

- 1. We have to be nice with people and say "please" as the Lord Jesus said to St. John the Baptist.
- 2. When we were baptized, we became Christians.



Fourth Sunday







Coptic Orthodox Church

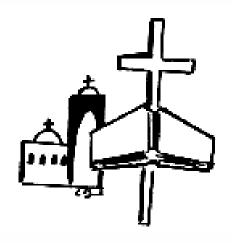
SONGS .

I AM A CHRISTIAN

"And they shall reign forever and ever."

I am a C.
I am a C.H.
I am a C.H.R.I.S.T.I.A.N.
And I have C.H.R.I.S.T
In my H.E.A.R.T.
And I will L.I.V.E. E.T.E.R.N.A.L.L.Y.

RECITATION CURRICULUM: PLEASE LOOK AT THE RECITATION CURRICULUM AT THE END OF THIS BOOK.



Fourth Sunday



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Coptic Orthodox Church



Fifth Sunday



JANUARY FIFTH SUNDAY

THE CHURCH LOVES EVERYONE: THE STORY OF ANANIAS THE DISCIPLE

Please read Acts 9:10-18 and tell the story with emphasis on the points below.

VIDEO: https://youtu.be/9eRXq-cKmr0

PURPOSE OF THE LESSON

To learn that God is Love. The Church, which belongs to God, loves everyone.

MEMORY VERSE

The Lord said to him, "Arise and go...Saul"
Acts 9:11

PLEASE EMPHASIZE

- When God wanted to select a name for Himself, He said: "God is Love". If we belong to God, we have to love all people, not only the Christians.
- Ananias, the Disciple, was afraid at first to go to Saul who was known to hate Christians. But God asked him to go because Saul would become a Christian, and his name would be changed to Paul.
- After his vision on his way to Damascus, Saul could not see. But when Ananias entered his house, he prayed for him and put his hands on Saul's eyes, and Saul was able to see and he praised the Lord.



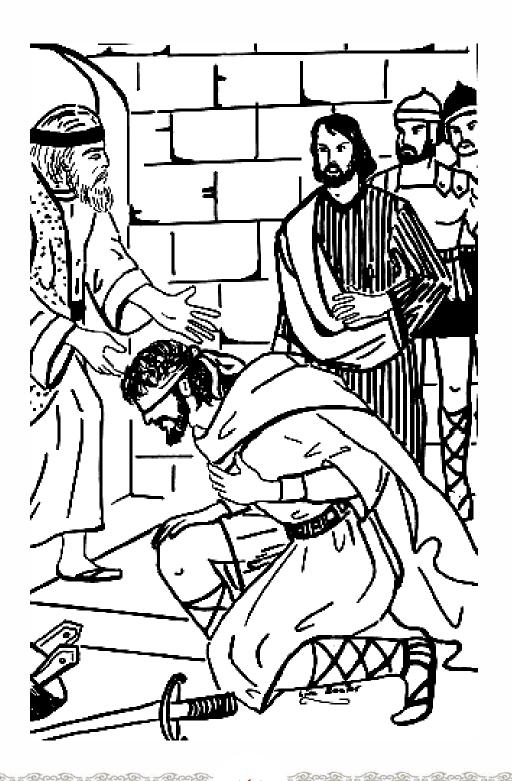
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- After Saul regained his sight through the prayers of Ananias, the Disciple, he was baptized and became a Christian. Remember: a person must be baptized to become a Christian.
- Saul became very happy to be a Christian and started to tell other people that Christ is the Son of God.
- We have to tell our friends to come to church. If someone is absent, maybe he needs some help or a reminder. We should phone him and do so.

WHAT DO WE LEARN FROM THIS LESSON?

- We have to love all people, whether they beat school, at church, at home and anywhere we go. Ananias learned to love Saul and not to fear him.
- We have to tell our friends that we are Christians. Tell them as well that living with Jesus is so sweet.

Fifth Sunday





Coptic Orthodox Church

SONGS .

CHRISTIAN LOVE

"And now abide faith, hope, love, these three, but the greatest of these is love." (1Cor 13:13)

In Christianity, the A-B-C's First Corinthians thirteen

Love is patient; love is kind Love is humble, love is meek

Does envy, never selfish Is not jealous, is not rude

Bears all things Hopes all things Now remains faith, hope and love spell L-O-V-E. tells us what love really means.

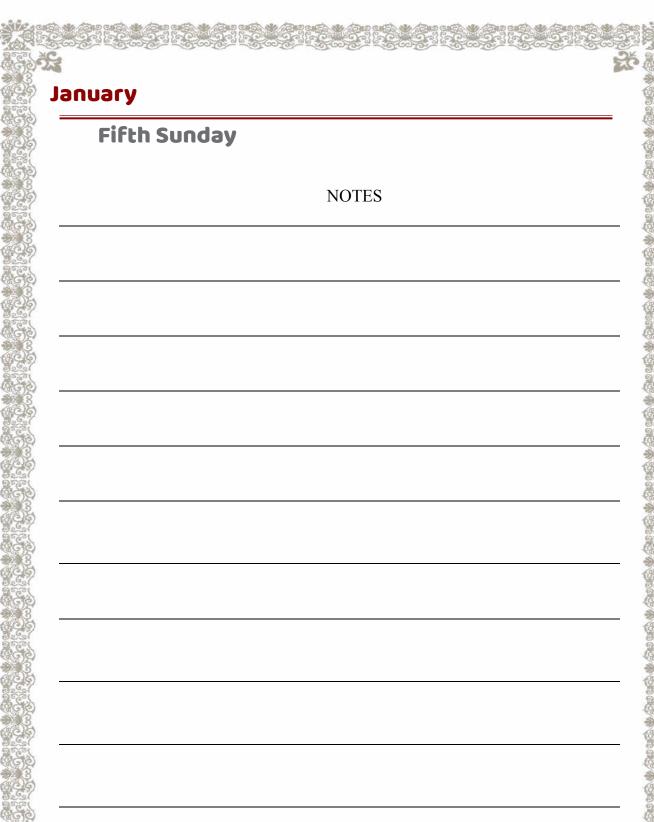
looks not for mistakes to find love will never self-seek.

never proud nor snobbish love rejoices in the truth.

believes all things endures all things but the greatest of these is love.

RECITATION CURRICULUM:
PLEASE LOOK AT THE RECITATION CURRICULUM AT
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Coptic Orthodox Church





February

First Sunday



FEBRUARY FIRST SUNDAY

COOPERATION (OR HELPING ONE ANOTHER)

Please read Luke 5:1-11, and tell the story emphasizing the points below.

PURPOSE OF THE LESSON

To learn that as Christians we must cooperate with one another.

MEMORY VERSE

"They signaled to their partners in the other boat to come and help them. And they came and filled both the boats..." Luke 5:7

PLEASE EMPHASIZE

- Jesus asked Peter to spread his nets to catch fish. Jesus knew that Peter had a family and needed to catch fish to feed his family. So, Jesus wanted to help him. Peter said that he and the other fishermen worked all night long and did not catch any fish.
- Peter obeyed Jesus and tried again. He collected a huge amount of fish. Peter was so happy to catch that huge amount of fish. But now he had another problem: the fish were too much for his boat. Now, Peter needed help. **His boat was going to sink.**
- Peter asked his partners in the other boat to come and help him. They did, and the two boats were completely filled with fish.



Coptic Orthodox Church

- If the other fishermen did not help out Peter, what would have happened? **Peter's boat would have sunk**. So, even very little help to people can produce great benefits.
- Let us cooperate at:

Home: To help our parents tidy things up and help our younger

brothers and sisters.

School: To cooperate and help the teacher.

Church: To cooperate by not causing any noise

WHAT DO WE LEARN FROM THIS LESSON?

- 1. When we need help we must ask for it as Peter did. Also, if anyone asks us for help, we must help.
- 2. If we help each other at home, no one would get too tired by working a lot.

February

First Sunday

SONGS ...

PETER AND JAMES AND JOHN

"Follow Me, and I will make you fishers of men." (Mat4:19)

Peter and James and John and the fishermen (3) Out in the deep blue sea.

They went fishing; they caught nothing (3) Out in the deep blue sea.

Then came Jesus walking on the water (3) Out in the deep blue sea.

Then the boat was filled with fish (3) Out in the deep blue sea.

RECITATION CURRICULUM:
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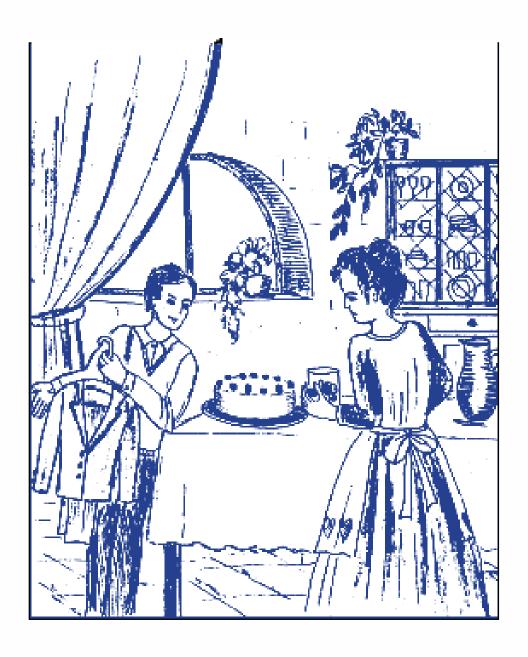
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February

Third Sunday





Coptic Orthodox Church



FEBRUARY SECOND SUNDAY

ALMS - THE FEAST'S CAKE

Please read Matthew 6:1-4 and 2 Corinthians 8:9 and tell the story below.

PURPOSE OF THE LESSON

To show that when we give some money to the church, we must do it quietly.

MEMORY VERSE

"When you do a charitable deed, do not let your left hand know what your right hand is doing" Matthew 6:3

PLEASE EMPHASIZE

Start by telling the following story:

John and George were two good friends at school. When one of the church feasts was close, they talked about how to celebrate the feast.

George: I will pass by your house and pick you up to go together to the church

to celebrate the feast.

John: O.K. George, that is a good idea.

On the night of the feast, George went and picked up his friend John and they were walking together to the church. They were very happy and they were talking all the way.

George: Do you have cake similar to ours to eat after the service?

February

Second Sunday

John: No

George: Why not?

John: We are poor and do not have money to bake a cake.

George: Do you have new clothes for the feast?

John: No, I have my old clothes only.

George was very much affected and was thinking: "How can I help my friend?" When he went home he talked to his mother and told her about his friend John.

Mother: What do you suggest we do, George?

George: Let us give John and his family half of our cake.

Mother: Good idea, but I can bake a whole cake for them.

George: Thanks Mom. That is so nice of you.

Mother: You are welcome, George.

George: Can I give some of my new clothes to John?

Mother: Sure, go look in your closet and select what you would like to give

him.

George went and selected the best suit he had and came to his Mom saying:

George: This is the one, Mom.

Mother: Let us go quickly to John's house. The cake is also ready.

When we give money to the church, part of this money goes to the poor people. When we give money, we should give it **with joy** and quietly.

Remember to ask your Mom or Dad to give you some money for the church every week.



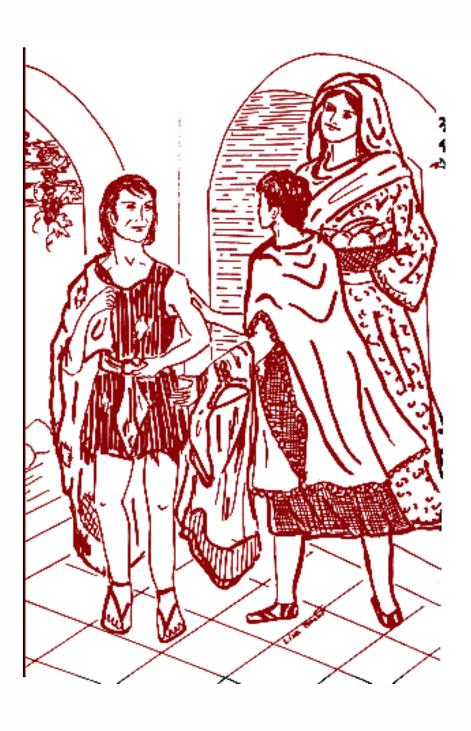
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WHAT DO WE LEARN FROM THIS LESSON?

We must remember to give some of our things to the poor. Get some money and give it to the Sunday School teacher who will then pass it along to the church to send to the poor.

February

Fourth Sunday





Coptic Orthodox Church

SONGS ...

CHRISTIAN LOVE

"And now abide faith, hope, love, these three, but the greatest of these is love." (1Cor 13:13)

In Christianity, the A-B-C's First Corinthians thirteen

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looks not for mistakes to find love will never self-seek.

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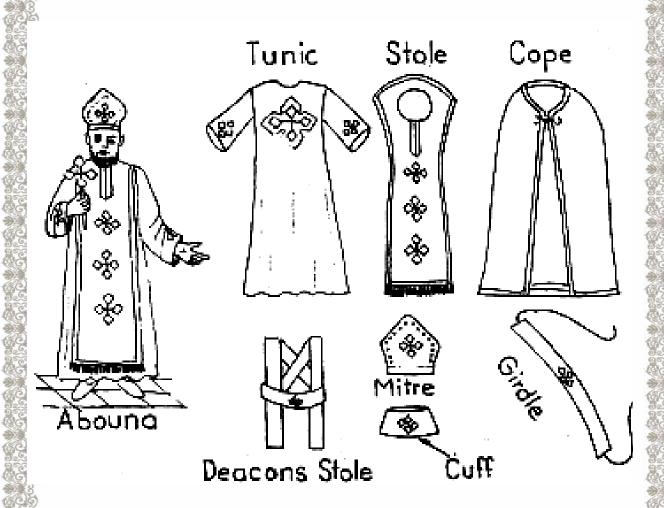


Fourth Sunday

NOTES



Coptic Orthodox Church



February

Third Sunday



FEBRUARY THIRD SUNDAY

OUR RESPECT FOR ABOUNA

Please read: Matthew 10:40, Luke 10:18-20 and John 20:21-23, and give the lesson with emphasis on the points below:

PURPOSE OF THE LESSON

To learn about why we respect Abouna.

MEMORY VERSE

"He who receives you receives me"
Matthew 10:40

PLEASE EMPHASIZE

- Who baptizes the children in our church? Abouna.
- Who gives Holy Communion in our church? Abouna.
- When we meet Abouna we kiss his hand as a sign of respect, and also because these hands carry the Body and Blood of our Lord Jesus in the Sanctuary.
- We ask Abouna to pray for us when we are sick or when we need help.
- When we do something wrong, we go to Abouna and talk to him about it. Abouna gives us advice and prays for us.



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- Story: There was a monk, who was gifted by God the blessing of seeing his guardian angel in front of him wherever he went.
 - The monk was chosen to be a priest (Abouna). After he was ordained as Abouna, he did not find his guardian angel in front of him as usual. He got very sad because he thought his guardian angel left him. Then he looked and found his guardian angel behind him. He had asked him why do you walk behind me and not in front of me as before? The angel answered: "You now have gained a degree in priesthood higher than the angels."
- **What does Abouna wear?**
- Do you like Abouna? Why do you kiss his hands?

WHAT DO WE LEARN FROM THIS LESSON?

Every time Abouna speaks to us, we must listen. Then, when he tells us to do something, we should go and do it. Abouna loves us, he serves us, and he prays for us.

Febrauary

First Sunday







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SONGS .

O my children

"Let the little Children come to me, and do not forbid them: for of such is the kingdom of heaven." (Mat 19:14)

O my little dear children You are so precious come to me.

Dear Lord Jesus Our God We love you and praise you Our Lord.

I hear you praising and bless you My eyes are upon you all the time.

RECITATION CURRICULUM: PLEASE LOOK AT THE RECITATION CURRICULUM AT THE END OF THIS BOOK.





First Sunday

NOTES

Coptic Orthodox Church



February

Fourth Sunday



FEBRUARY FOURTH SUNDAY

EVERYONE OF US IS IMPORTANT TO GOD

Please read Luke 15:1-7.

VIDEO: https://youtu.be/ Ry2MaMyvGo?t=55

PURPOSE OF THE LESSON

To learn that every one of us is very dear to God. We are not forgotten in the crowd.

MEMORY VERSE

"The Lord is my shepherd" Psalm 23:1

PLEASE EMPHASIZE

Please tell the parable of the lost sheep by telling them the following story:

Mark had 100 sheep. The sheep loved each other, walked together, played together, ate together and listened to their shepherd. Their shepherd wore long clothes and carried a stick in his hand. He used it to protect his sheep and to make sure none of them went away.

One day, he took them to a far place to eat, drink and play. One of the sheep was a small beautiful one. His name was Touto. The shepherd knew every sheep by its name. A big sheep from outside came to the sheep that belonged to Mark. The big sheep **from outside** talked to the small sheep Touto and told him: "Let us go



Coptic Orthodox Church

away; I know a better place to play and eat more." The big sheep from outside pushed the small sheep Touto away from the rest of the sheep and he took him away to a very far place. There was no food or drink there. The big sheep started to play with Touto. After some time the small sheep Touto got very hungry and the big sheep left him alone in this far place. Touto started to cry: he was afraid and hungry.

On that same night, when the shepherd went home and counted his 100 sheep, he found them to be only 99. He looked to find out who was missing. It was Touto. The shepherd loved Touto very much. He told the 99 sheep to wait because he had to go and search for Touto. The other sheep were sad for their lost friend. Mark, the shepherd, went out late at night with a lamp in his hand and he was shouting "Touto, Touto", but no answer. After some time he found Touto who was crying all alone. Mark carried him and kissed him. When they arrived home, the rest of the sheep jumped for joy and thanked God, thanked their good shepherd, Mark, and kissed Touto.

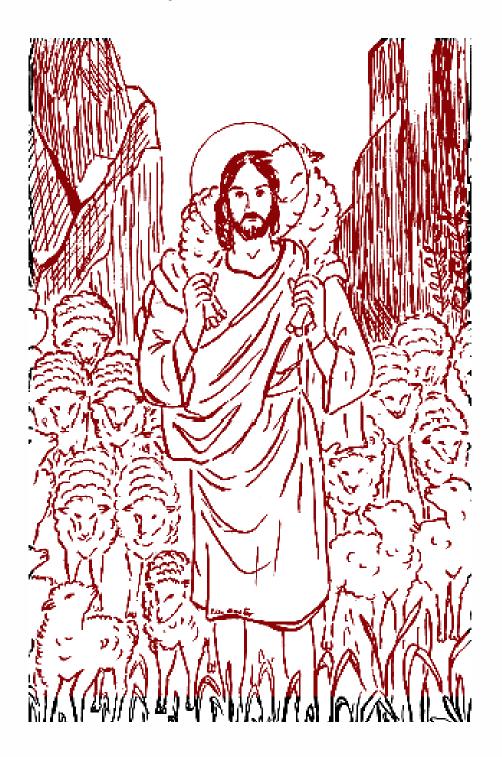
Jesus is the Good Shepherd. He loves us and gives all our needs. When we do something wrong (like being noisy at home or not listening to Mommy and Daddy) Jesus calls on us to be good again and come back to him.

WHAT DO WE LEARN FROM THIS LESSON?

Our Lord Jesus takes care of us. Every one of us is important to God.

February

Fourth Sunday





Coptic Orthodox Church

SONGS .

O MY CHILDREN

"Let the little Children come to me, and do not forbid them: for of such is the kingdom of heaven." (Mat 19:14)

O my little dear children You are so precious come to me.

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I hear you praising and bless you My eyes are upon you all the time.

RECITATION CURRICULUM: PLEASE LOOK AT THE RECITATION CURRICULUM AT THE END OF THIS BOOK.



February

Fourth Sunday



For the success
Of this Sunday
School Program
the teacher should
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HOLY BIBLE
In his/her preparation
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Coptic Orthodox Church





First Sunday



MARCH FIRST SUNDAY

THE CHOOSING OF NOAH AND NOAH'S ARK

Please read the attached materials entitled "The Choosing of Noah", "Noah's Ark", and give the lesson with emphasis on the points below:

VIDEO: https://youtu.be/D0r2X1I4cHQ

PURPOSE OF THE LESSON

To learn about God looking after Noah in the ark.

MEMORY VERSE

"The Lord said to Noah, "Come into the ark" Genesis 7:1

PLEASE EMPHASIZE

- Start from Adam. What is the name of the first man God created? Adam lived a long time and had many sons and daughters. One of Adam's descendants was Enoch, who was very good. Enoch had a son and his name was Methuselah. Methuselah had a son and his name was Lamech had a son and his name was Noah.
- In the days of Noah, all the people living on earth were bad and did not love each other, except Noah and his family.
- God made an agreement with Noah because **He chose Noah** to live. Noah was good and he loved God.



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- God told Noah that He was going to destroy everything that was bad. God told Noah that He was going to bring a big flood to destroy everything and everybody.
- God told Noah to build an ark (a big ship) and that He was going to take care of Noah and his family inside the ark.
- God told Noah how to build the ark. It was very large and had rooms. Noah took with him one pair, a male and a female, of all living creatures into the ark: animals, birds and reptiles. Noah also took enough food with him for both his family and the animals.
- Noah built the ark just as the Lord God told him. Then God said to Noah "Go inside the ark".
- Seven days after Noah entered the ark; there was rain for forty days and forty nights.
- What is a flood? It is an overflow of water in rivers because of heavy rain, which drowns everything. But Noah's ark was floating on top of the water and the water of the flood could not get in.

WHAT DO WE LEARN FROM THIS LESSON?

- God took care of Noah and his family because Noah trusted God, obeyed Him and did not listen to the people who made fun of him while he was building the ark.
- Even if people make fun of us because we are Christians and we adhere to God's commandments, we should ignore that just as Noah did.



First Sunday







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SONGS .

O MY CHILDREN

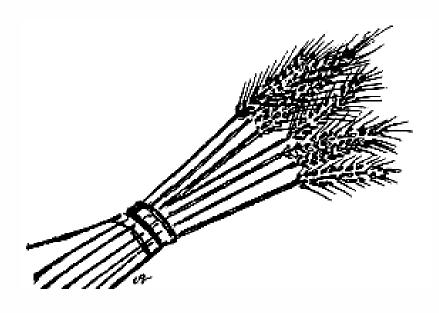
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<u>RECITATION CURRICULUM:</u> PLEASE LOOK AT THE RECITATION CURRICULUM AT THE END OF THIS BOOK.



First Sunday

THE CHOOSING OF NOAH

Adam lived nine hundred and thirty years. During his lifetime he had many sons and daughters and they too had many children.

One of the descendants was named Enoch, who became the father of Methuselah. Enoch walked with God and lived for three hundred and sixty-five years. One day he vanished; God had taken him. Methuselah lived longer than anyone else. He was nine hundred and sixty-nine years old when he died. But before that he had many children, one of whom was Lamech. And when Lamech was one and hundred eighty-two years old, he became the father of a son whom he called Noah, saying, "This one shall be a comfort to us who toil so hard in the land that the Lord has cursed." Noah had three sons, Shem, Ham and Japheth.

As the number of people on the earth began to grow, there were naturally many daughters among the children. The sons of God noticed that the daughters of men were beautiful, so they chose them for their wives. There were giants on the earth in those days. So when the sons of God had children after marrying the daughters of men, the children grew up to be mighty men who became famous for their mighty deeds.

But God saw how great the wickedness of man was. He saw that man's mind was constantly having evil thoughts. And He was sorry that He had created man, for man's evil ways made the heart of God ache with grief. So God said, "I am going to destroy man from the face of the earth. Not only man, but beasts and reptiles and birds, too. For I am sorry that I made them."

But Noah found favor with God, for he was a just man and blameless among the people of his time. So God said to him, "Everywhere I look, I see corruption. The earth is filled with violence, hatred and murder. Therefore, I am going to destroy all the good things that I have made. But I have chosen you and will let you live because you are a righteous man. So I want you to build an ark from cypress wood. Make rooms inside it and cover it with pitch, both inside and outside. You are to make it four hundred and fifty feet long, seventy-five feet broad and forty-five feet high. Put three decks in it and cut in windows and a door for I am going to send a flood upon the earth, which will destroy every living thing. But I am going to establish my covenant with you so that you will live by going aboard the ark, you and your wife and your sons with their wives."



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God then added, "You are to bring one pair, a male and a female, of all living creatures into the ark, animals and birds and reptiles, to keep the breed alive. And you must also take enough food, both for the animals and for your own family." So Noah did everything that the Lord commanded.

NOAH'S ARK

Noah made the ark just as the Lord God instructed him. Then God said to Noah, "Go into the ark, you and all your family, for I have found you to be a righteous man. And you are to take seven pairs, male and female, of every clean animal, but only one pair of every unclean animal. Also take seven pairs, male and female, of all the birds that fly, so that life may continue. For after seven days, I am going to make it rain on earth for forty days and forty nights. And everything on earth that I have made will be destroyed."

Noah did as he was told. He took his sons and his wife and his sons' wives into the ark. And the clean beasts and the unclean, the birds and the creeping things, they all went in two by two, male and female, just as God had commanded. And God shut them in.

After seven days, the windows of heaven were opened and rain fell heavily causing a huge flood.

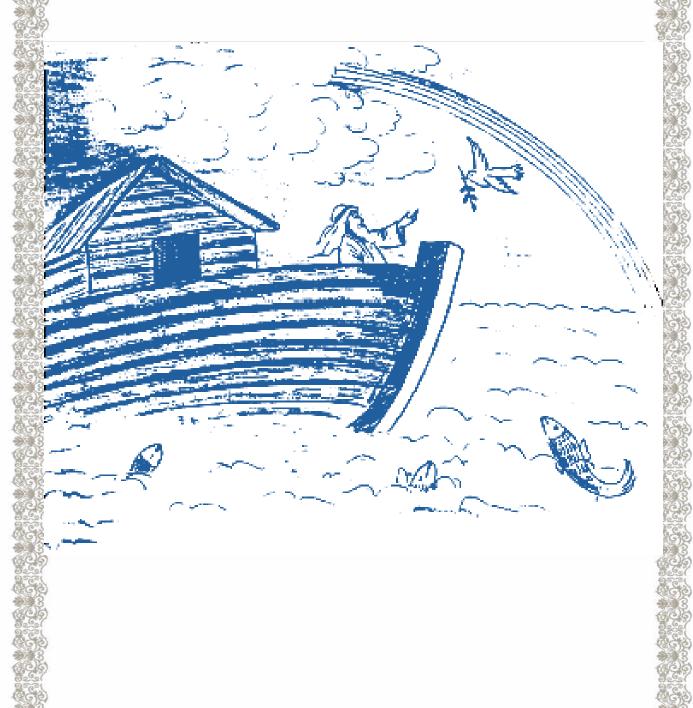


First Sunday

NOTES

Coptic Orthodox Church





Second Sunday



MARCH SECOND SUNDAY

THE END OF THE FLOOD

Please read the attached material entitled "The End of the Flood" and give the lesson with emphasis on the points below.

VIDEO: https://youtu.be/FDNsCHugYt4?t=29

PURPOSE OF THE LESSON

To learn that we should be thankful and careful in everything we do. Noah gave thanks to the Lord as soon as he came out of the ark. He took his time until he made sure that the flood was over.

MEMORY VERSE

"Then the dove came to him in the evening, and behold, a freshly plucked olive leaf was in her mouth" Genesis 8:11

PLEASE EMPHASIZE

- The rain was continuous for forty days and forty nights. Noah stayed inside the ark for seven months because the flood stayed that long until God sent the wind to dry the flood.
- Noah sent a dove out three times. The third time, the dove did not return, so Noah knew that the flood had ended.

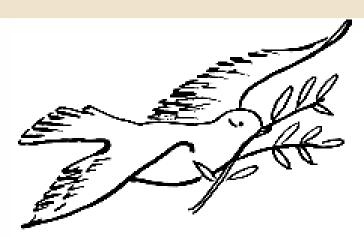


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- As soon as Noah left the ark, what do you think he did? He thanked God and built an altar. The Lord was pleased with Noah.
- God blessed Noah and promised him that He would never flood or destroy the earth again.
- All the animals and birds left the ark with Noah too.
- Then God said to Noah, "I hereby establish my covenant with you and your descendants, and all living creatures on the earth, all that came out of the ark. I promise that never again will there be a flood to destroy life on earth. And this is to be the sign of the covenant that I make with you and all your descendants. I will put a rainbow in the clouds. And in the future, when clouds cover the earth, I will see the rainbow. This will remind me of the covenant we have made: never again to destroy the earth with a flood."

WHAT DO WE LEARN FROM THIS LESSON?

- 1. We must thank God at all times and for all things. In particular, the first thing we must do if God gives us something is to thank Him.
- 2. We must take a bit of time to be sure of things before we do them, just as Noah went out of the ark after he made sure that the flood was over.



Second Sunday







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SONGS 🎜

O MY CHILDREN

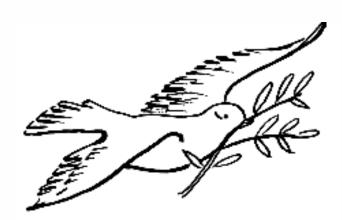
"Let the little Children come to me, and do not forbid them: for of such is the kingdom of heaven." (Mat 19:14)

O my little dear children You are so precious come to me.

Dear Lord Jesus Our God We love you and praise you Our Lord.

I hear you praising and bless you My eyes are upon you all the time.

RECITATION CURRICULUM: PLEASE LOOK AT THE RECITATION CURRICULUM AT THE END OF THIS BOOK.



Second Sunday

THE END OF THE FLOOD

Then God remembered Noah and all the beasts and cattle that were with him in the ark. And God made a wind to pass over the earth to dry up the waters. In the seventh month, the ark came to rest on Mount Ararat in Armenia. The waters kept right on subsiding until the tenth month, when the other mountains were visible.

So Noah opened a window of the ark and let a raven fly out. But the raven flew back and forth, since it could find no place to shelter. Next, Noah sent out a dove, to see if it could find a shelter. But the dove flew back to the ark. So Noah waited seven days and then sent the dove out again. This time she flew back to the ark in the evening, but she had a freshly picked olive leaf in her beak. Thus Noah learned that the waters had finally subsided. Nevertheless, he waited another seven days and sent the dove out again. This time she did not return. And finally the earth was dry again.

Then God spoke to Noah, saying, "Go forth from the ark, you and your wife and all your family. And take with you every living thing that was with you in the ark, all the animals, and the birds and the creeping things, that they may breed abundantly, and be fruitful and replenish the earth."

So Noah and his family went forth from the ark, along with all the creatures. And as soon as he stood on dry land again, Noah built an altar and offered sacrifices to God. The Lord was pleased with Noah and said to Himself, "Never again shall I curse the ground on account of man. Neither shall I ever again destroy all the living creatures as I have done. As long as the earth remains, seedtime and harvest, cold and heat, summer and winter, day and night shall not cease."

Then God blessed Noah and his sons, and said to them, "Be fruitful and multiply and fill the earth. It is for you to rule over all the beasts of the field and all the birds of the air and all the fish of the sea. And you may eat animals as well as plants. Just remember that I will avenge the shedding of your blood. Whoever takes human blood shall have his own blood shed by human hands. For man was made in the image of God and his life is sacred."

Then God said to Noah, "I hereby establish my covenant with you and your descendants, and all living creatures on the earth, all that came out of the ark. I promise that never again will there be a flood to destroy life on earth. And this is to be the sign of the covenant that I make with you and all your descendants. I will



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put a rainbow in the clouds. And in the future, when clouds cover the earth, I will see the rainbow. This will remind me of the covenant we have made. And it will remind me of my promise: never again to destroy the earth with a flood.

The three sons of Noah were named Shem, Ham and Japheth. From them the whole earth was populated again.

Noah lived three hundred and fifty years after the flood. All the days of Noah amounted to nine hundred and fifty years. Then he died.



Second Sunday



For the success
Of this Sunday
School Program
the teacher should
refer to the
HOLY BIBLE
In his/her preparation
of the lessons and in
teaching the children
in the class



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Third Sunday



MARCH THIRD SUNDAY

THE CALL OF ABRAM

Please read Genesis 12:1-9 and tell the story with emphasis on the points below.

VIDEO: https://youtu.be/v3rK PcEMfA

PURPOSE OF THE LESSON

To learn that we must obey the word of God even if we do not understand its purpose. As we need our homes, we need the church.

MEMORY VERSE

The Lord had said to Abram: "Get out of your country" Genesis 12:1

PLEASE EMPHASIZE

- Abram was one of the descendants of Noah. He was a good man. Sarah was his wife. Lot was his nephew. The Lord told him to leave his country and his father's house. To where? God did not tell him.
- God promised Abram saying, "I will make you a great nation, I will bless you and make your name great; and you shall be a blessing. I will bless those who bless you, and I will curse him who curses you, and in you all the families of the earth shall be blessed". With this promise from God, Abram believed that God was with him and would support him. Abram was too old



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(aged seventy-five years old) to travel from his country. But Abram did what God asked him to do. He took his wife and his nephew and all that they had. When they came to a land called Canaan, the Lord appeared to Abram in a part of Canaan called Moreh.

- God promised Abram to give this land to him and his descendants.
- Then Abram thanked God and built two things:
 The altar for prayer, and the tent as a house to live in.
- Everywhere Abram went he built an **altar** and a tent.

WHAT DO WE LEARN FROM THIS LESSON?

- 1. We should listen to what God tells us to do even if we do not understand His purpose. This is because we **trust** and **love** God.
- 2. As we need our homes to live in, we need our church to go too regularly and get all the blessings.



Third Sunday





Coptic Orthodox Church

SONGS .

A WISE MAN BUILT HIS HOUSE

"Therefore whoever hears these sayings of mine, and does them, I will liken him to a wise man who built his house on the rock." (Mat 7:24)

A wise man built his house upon the rock (3) And the rain came tumbling down. The rain came down and floods went up (3) And the house on the rock stood firm.

A foolish man built his house upon the sand (3) And the rain came tumbling down.

The rain came down and floods went up (3)

And the house on the sand went down.

So build your house on the Lord Jesus Christ (3) And the blessings will come upon you. As the blessing come down the prayers go up (3) And the house in the Lord stands firm.

<u>RECITATION CURRICULUM:</u>
PLEASE LOOK AT THE RECITATION CURRICULUM AT
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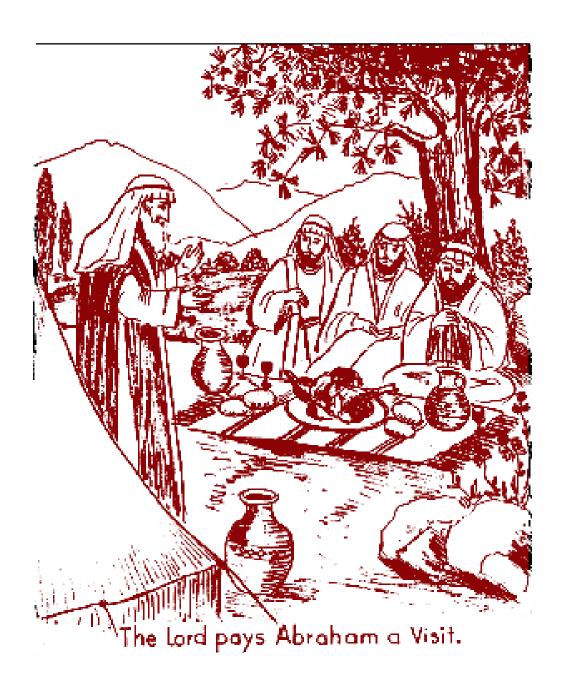


Third Sunday

NOTES



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Fourth Sunday



MARCH FOURTH SUNDAY

THE LORD PAYS ABRAHAM A VISIT

Please read Genesis 18:1-8 and tell the story with emphasis on the points below.

VIDEO: https://youtu.be/AoRHWyj57II

PURPOSE OF THE LESSON

To learn that we must welcome our visitors and be very nice to them. God is willing to visit our homes as He visited Abraham.

MEMORY VERSE

"My Lord, if I have now found favor in your sight, do not pass on by your servant" Genesis 18:3

PLEASE EMPHASIZE

- Abram changed his name to Abraham. One day, he was sitting at the door of his tent when he saw three men standing outside: God with two angels. Abraham ran quickly towards them and bowed to the earth and invited them to his house. They accepted his invitation.
- He did everything possible to welcome them. Abraham was very happy that God himself visited him. He hastened in everything he was doing.



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- He brought water for their feet, bread, cake and meat from the best cow he had.
- Abraham was very happy and stood in front of them to see if they were comfortable and brought all that they wanted.

WHAT DO WE LEARN FROM THIS LESSON?

- We must welcome our visitors, share our toys, and make sure their stay in our house is a happy one.
- As God blessed Abraham's house with a visit, He is very willing to visit our homes and bless them for us.



Fourth Sunday





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SONGS .

<u>A WISE MAN BUILT HIS HOUSE</u>

"Therefore whoever hears these sayings of mine, and does them, I will liken him to a wise man who built his house on the rock." (Mat 7:24)

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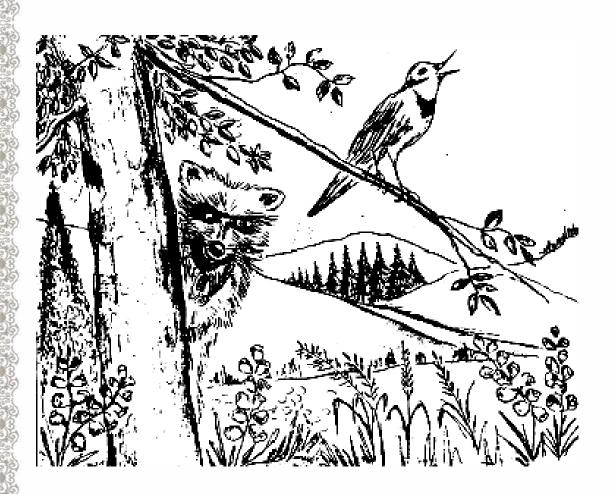


Fourth Sunday



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Coptic Orthodox Church



First Sunday



APRIL FIRST SUNDAY

EVERYTHING IS BEAUTIFUL

Please take the attached material with you and show the children.

PURPOSE OF THE LESSON

To learn that when we **look** around us, we find everything God has created is beautiful. We lift up our eyes and say: "We thank You Our Lord Jesus".

PLEASE EMPHASIZE

- Let us learn to **look** around us and **discover** how beautiful things are. This discovery of beauty increases our faith in the power of God and His love for us. He made the world beautiful for us.
- The sky is blue and nice ...it may be cloudy at times but it turns blue and beautiful.
- **Even the clouds are good** because they give us rain. Rain helps the plants to grow.
- The trees and flowers ... even Solomon did not wear colours as nice as one of the petals of these flowers.
- The birds are lovely ... their singing is beautiful. Some of them have pretty colours. Do you have one of these at home in a cage?
- The sea and the rivers look nice and they are full of fish.
- Ask the children to describe what they see around them. What is its colour?



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Does it have a special sound? What does it do for us?

WHAT DO WE LEARN FROM THIS LESSON?

- 1. God is great. He created everything visible and invisible. Everything He created is beautiful and has certain functions.
- 2. Let us get used to looking around us and discovering the beauty of the colours, the shapes and the sound. This helps our faith in God a great deal.

First Sunday

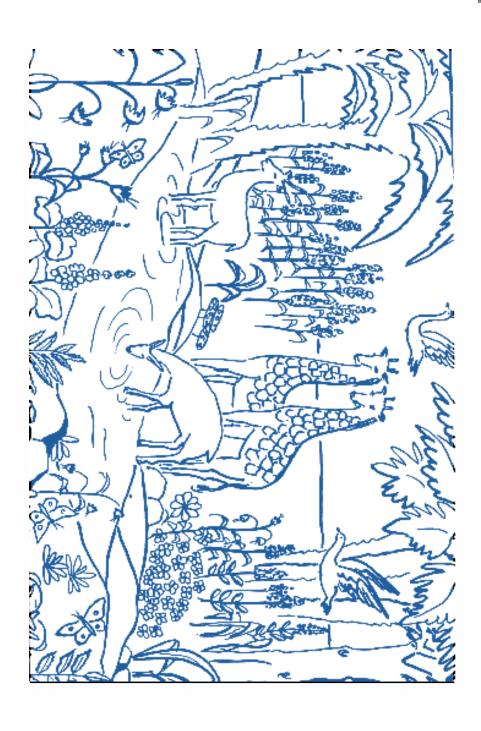
EVERYTHING IS BEAUTIFUL







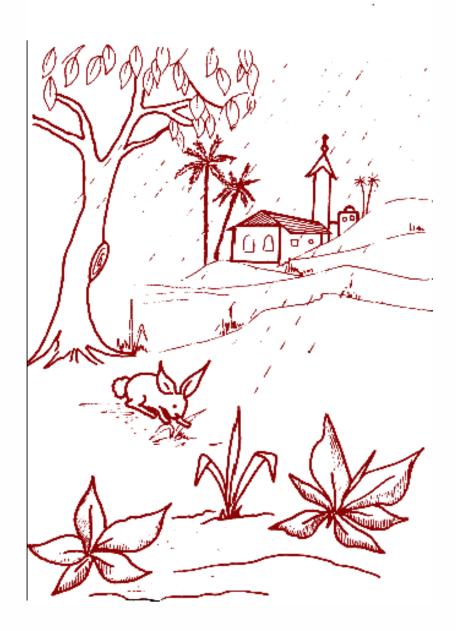
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First Sunday

Rains to water the crops and earth

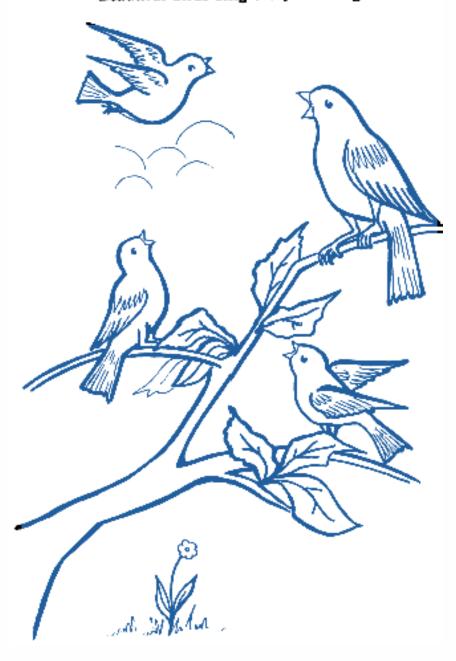






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Beautiful birds sing every morning



First Sunday

A cute puppy to play with me







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SONGS ...

AWESOME GOD

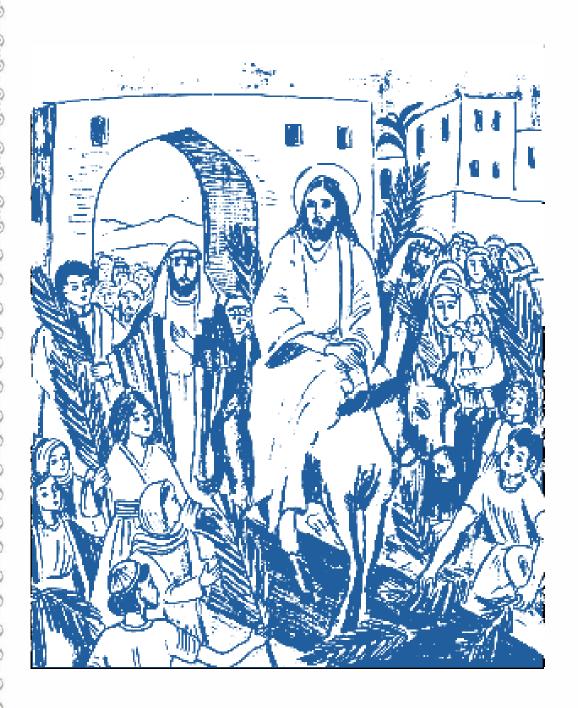
Our God is an awesome God He reigns from Heaven above With wisdom, power and love Our God is an awesome God

RECITATION CURRICULUM: PLEASE LOOK AT THE RECITATION CURRICULUM AT THE END OF THIS BOOK.



April

First Sunday





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APRIL SECOND SUNDAY

PALM SUNDAY- THE CHILDREN RECEIVE JESUS

Please read John 12:12-15 and Luke 19:29-44 and tell the story with emphasis on the points below.

VIDEO: https://youtu.be/ITmbTuutBgg

PURPOSE OF THE LESSON

To appreciate the glory of the Lord Jesus and People's love for Him especially the little children. Do we welcome the Lord Jesus and ask Him to come to our homes and our hearts?

MEMORY VERSE

"Hosanna! Blessed is He who comes in the name of the Lord! John 12:13

PLEASE EMPHASIZE

- Please show a large picture of the Lord Jesus entering Jerusalem on Palm Sunday.
- Try to act out the drama of what happened: Our beloved Jesus sent two of his disciples to bring a colt. The owner of the colt agreed to give them the colt. Jesus rode the colt and entered Jerusalem. People cut branches of palm trees and were happy singing "Hosanna in the highest, this is the King of Israel."

April

Second Sunday

- Hosanna means "save us". Make sure the children know the meaning of this word.
- Give out pictures of Palm Sunday and tell the children that our church celebrates Palm Sunday.
- Jesus is the "King of Peace" (He does not like war or fighting) so He entered the city riding a colt, not a strong horse.
- Every child offered something to the Lord Jesus. Some children cut branches of palm trees or olive leaves to greet Him. Other children took off their garments and laid them on the road for Him to ride the colt on.

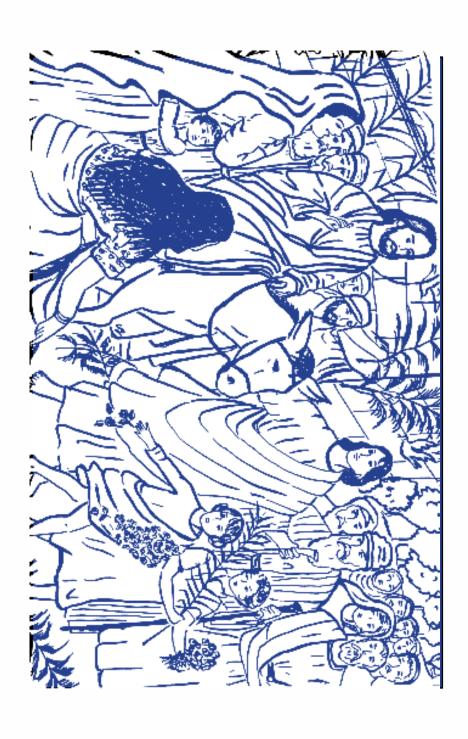
WHAT DO WE LEARN FROM THIS LESSON?

- 1. As the children in Jerusalem were very happy and singing "Hosanna" when Jesus entered their city Jerusalem, we must be very happy because Jesus is the King of our lives. Jesus is in your heart.
- 2. As the children of Jerusalem did their best to welcome the Lord Jesus Christ, we must ask Him in our prayers to come in and enter our homes and our hearts.
- 3. As the children of Jerusalem each offered something to the Lord Jesus, each of us should offer something too. What can we offer Him? Our hearts, our obedience to His Word in the Bible, some money to the church to help the poor people, etc.





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April

Second Sunday

SONGS ...

O MY CHILDREN

"Let the little Children come to me, and do not forbid them: for of such is the kingdom of heaven." (Mat 19:14)

O my little dear children You are so precious come to me.

Dear Lord Jesus Our God We love you and praise you Our Lord.

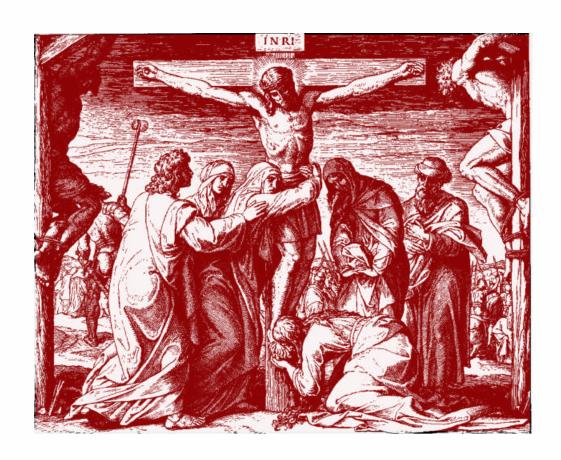
I hear you praising and bless you My eyes are upon you all the time.

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Coptic Orthodox Church



Third Sunday



APRIL THIRD SUNDAY

GOOD FRIDAY THE SOLDIERS NAILED JESUS TO THE CROSS

Please read John 13:3-8 (Jesus Washes the disciples' Feet), Matthew 26:20-25 (The Last Supper) and Matthew 27:27-44 (The Crucifixion of Jesus) and emphasize the points below.

VIDEO: https://youtu.be/vScHI fxJGM

PURPOSE OF THE LESSON

To learn that our beloved Jesus died for us by **His own free will**. He is God and accepted to die to show His love for us. We will see that He would rise again and the people who were doing bad things could not keep Him dead.

MEMORY VERSE

"And He touched his ear and healed him" Luke 22:51

PLEASE EMPHASIZE

- Please do not lay stress on Jesus' suffering but rather emphasize His strength and love.
- **At the Last Supper**
 - † He washed His disciples' feet.



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He gave them His Body and Blood as a new covenant. This is what we receive now in the Holy Communion.

- † He told them that He was going to die and that He would rise again.
- **Our Master and Lord Jesus healed the ear of the high priest's slave,** Luke 22:47-51

While the priests and soldiers were capturing Jesus, Peter, trying to defend Jesus with a sword, cut off the ear of Melchus, the high priest's slave. Jesus told Peter not to do that anymore and healed the ear of Melchus. Jesus is God and He could have destroyed all those sinners but He did not want that because He loves even His enemies. He also knew that He would rise.

On Friday, the soldiers nailed Jesus to the Cross. The people were happy but Jesus forgave them and said, "Forgive them, Father. They do not know what they do."

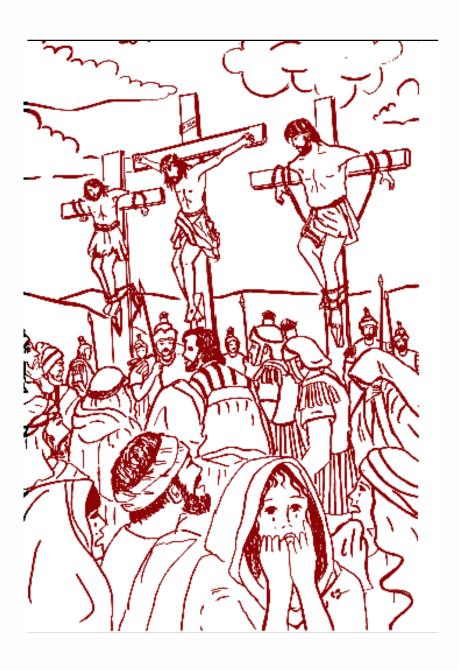
WHAT DO WE LEARN FROM THIS LESSON?

- 1. If someone does something bad to us, we should say, "God forgive you" as Jesus, said to the people who were hurting Him.
- 2. When you look at Jesus on the cross, you remember His love for you, His forgiveness and His power because He rose from the dead.



April

Third Sunday





Coptic Orthodox Church

SONGS ..

MY CROSS

My cross, my cross my glory is in you!
I place you on my bosom and in my bedroom too.

REFRAIN My cross, my cross

But in my heart, my cross

My cross, my cross I sign you every morning

My cross, my cross The pledge of my success

you are made of lowly wood

you're more precious than gold

is with me everywhere and whenever I fear

my victory is in you in whatever I do

RECITATION CURRICULUM: PLEASE LOOK AT THE RECITATION CURRICULUM AT THE END OF THIS BOOK.



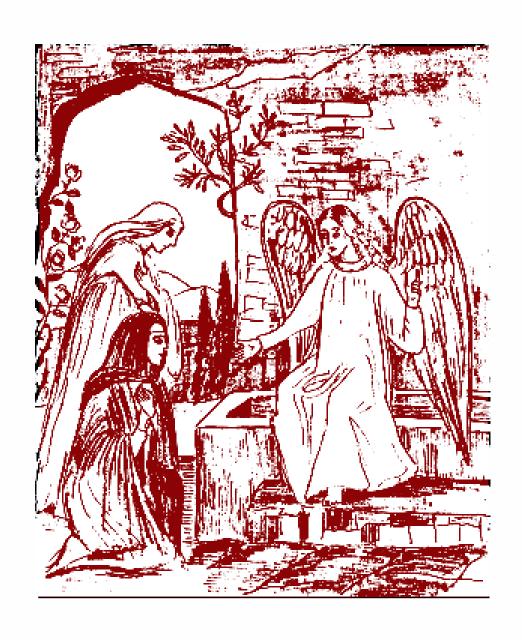


Third Sunday

NOTES



Coptic Orthodox Church



Fourth Sunday



APRIL FOURTH SUNDAY

THE LORD JESUS ROSE AGAIN AND THE STONE OF THE TOMB WAS ROLLED

Please read Luke 24:1-12 and tell the story with emphasis on the points below.

VIDEO: https://youtu.be/CmFXxEQYUTg?t=188

PURPOSE OF THE LESSON

To learn that our beloved Jesus rose from the dead. He is God and the bad people could not keep Him dead.

MEMORY VERSE

"He is not here, but is risen!" Luke 24:6

PLEASE EMPHASIZE

- Please try to act out the whole drama. The Mary's visit the tomb, the stone is removed and they do not find our beloved Jesus. The angels declared to them that Jesus rose from the dead (one child acts as an angel, two girls as the Mary's, etc.)
- Remember that the people crucified our beloved Jesus but after three days, He rose again and the huge stone of the tomb was rolled. The soldiers were afraid. The two angels proclaimed, "Christ is risen"

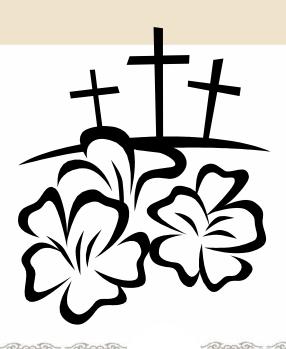


Coptic Orthodox Church

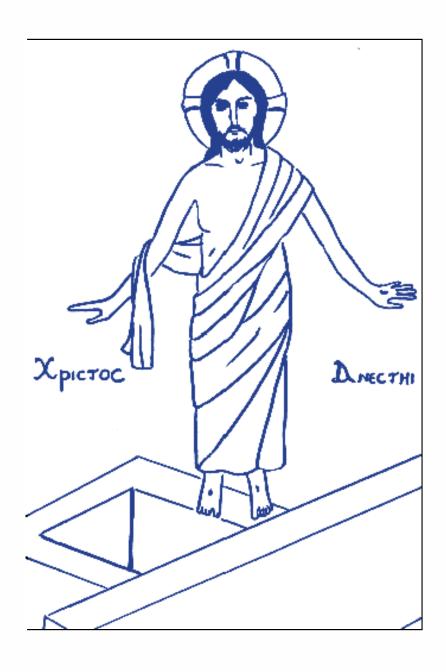
- When the Resurrection happened, the Mary's were very scared, but the angels told them not to be afraid. The Mary's were very happy to talk to the angels.
- Mary Magdalene and the other Mary later met Our Lord Jesus and He told them to go and tell the rest of the disciples that He was alive.
- Jesus is God so He rose again. The disciples were very happy to hear the good news. The soldiers and those people who crucified Him were afraid and angry.

WHAT DO WE LEARN FROM THIS LESSON?

- 1. Sometimes things look bad at the beginning but afterwards they become good. For example, when someone loses something he likes, he feels sad until he finds it and then he feels happy. Jesus' disciples and friends were sad when Jesus died on the cross. Then they became very happy because He rose again.
- 2. Let us learn: "Khristos Anesti" means, "Christ is risen"; "Alithos Anesti" means "Truly He is risen". We must greet each other with these words at Easter time. "Khristos Anesti ... Alithos Anesti" are Greek words.



Fourth Sunday







Coptic Orthodox Church



Fourth Sunday

SONGS 🎜

GENTLE JESUS RISEN LORD

"For as often as you eat this bread and drink this cup, you proclaim the lord's death till He comes." (1Cor 11:26)

Gentle Jesus risen we come to your table With our hearts so full of joy we come to your table

REFRAIN

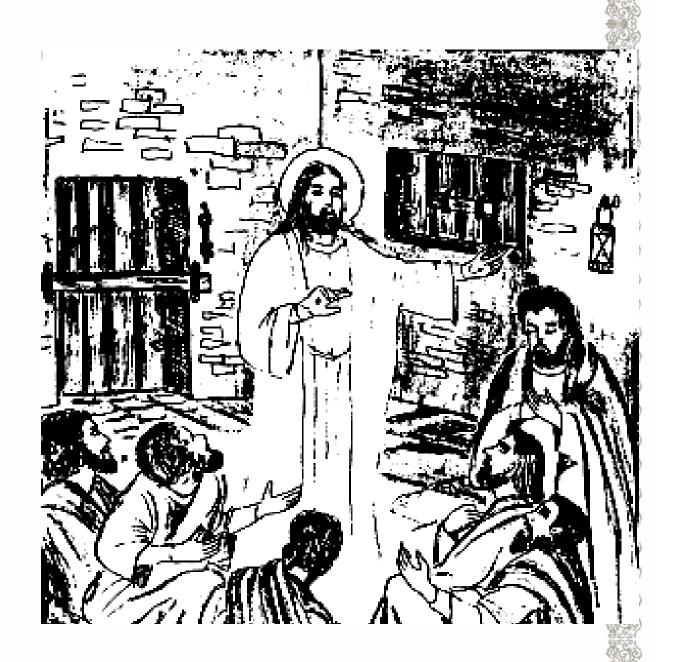
We come, we come we come to your table
Bringing gifts of all we are we come to your table
Gifts of life and love and joy we come to your table

In your body we find life we come to your table Life you gave for us to share we come to your table

In your body we are one we come to your table
One with You and one another we come to your table

RECITATION CURRICULUM:
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THE END OF THIS BOOK.

Coptic Orthodox Church



First Sunday



MAY FIRST SUNDAY

JESUS WITH HIS DISCIPLES IN THE UPPER ROOM

Please read John 20:19-29, and tell the story with emphasis on the points below.

VIDEO: https://youtu.be/8pzYDDNKJbE

PURPOSE OF THE LESSON

To learn that when our beloved Jesus went to His disciples in the Upper Room, He changed their sadness to happiness. This happens to us now every time we meet the Lord Jesus Christ in our prayers.

MEMORY VERSE

"Jesus came and stood in the midst, and said to them, 'Peace be with you.'" John 20:19

PLEASE EMPHASIZE

- Please review the previous lesson entitled "The Lord Jesus Rose Again and the Stone of the Tomb was rolled."
- The Lord Jesus Christ showed Himself to His disciples after His Resurrection several times and talked to them.



Coptic Orthodox Church

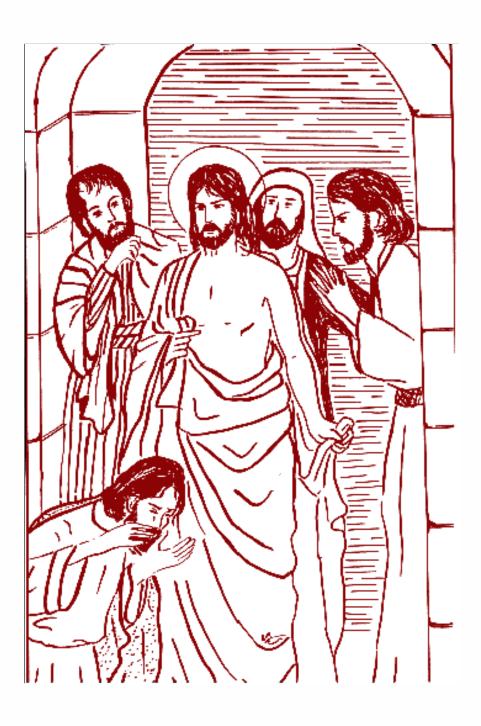
- The disciples were in the Upper Room (their church) and they were afraid of the Jews and were sad because they lost Jesus. Jesus entered the Upper Room while the doors were completely shut.
 - Can you enter a room when the doors and the windows are closed? Nobody can. But Jesus Who is God did that.
- When He entered the room, the first thing He said was "Peace be with you." So, He gave His peace to the disciples. He changed their fear into complete inner peace.
- When we live with Jesus, He changes our fears into happiness and peace.
- Jesus appeared once more to His disciples when Thomas was with them. Jesus showed Thomas the scars of the nails in His hands. Thomas became a believer after that. This teaches us that Jesus cares for every one of us. If we miss a chance to pray or meet Him, He still tries and knocks on our doors; if we open for Him, He will come in and make us true believers.
- Where was Judas Iscariot?

 He was not with the disciples. He went and killed himself after he led the Jews to the place of Jesus.
- Is Jesus alive now? Yes, He is.

WHAT DO WE LEARN FROM THIS LESSON?

- 1. As sons and daughters of Jesus, we must always be happy because Jesus can turn our sadness into happiness.
- 2. As the disciples of the Lord were committed to the church and waited in the Upper Room (which was their church) we must also go to church regularly and be committed to our church.

First Sunday





Coptic Orthodox Church

SONGS ..

GENTLE JESUS RISEN LORD

"For as often as you eat this bread and drink this cup, you proclaim the lord's death till He comes." (1Cor 11:26)

Gentle Jesus risen we come to your table With our hearts so full of joy we come to your table

<u>REFRAIN</u>

We come, we come
Bringing gifts of all we are
Gifts of life and love and joy
we come to your table
we come to your table

In your body we find life we come to your table Life you gave for us to share we come to your table

In your body we are one we come to your table
One with You and one another we come to your table

RECITATION CURRICULUM: PLEASE LOOK AT THE RECITATION CURRICULUM AT THE END OF THIS BOOK.



First Sunday



For the success
Of this Sunday
School Program
the teacher should
refer to the
HOLY BIBLE
In his/her preparation
of the lessons and in
teaching the children
in the class







Second Sunday



MAY SECOND SUNDAY

THE DOVE

Please take the attached material and show it to the children and describe it to them as you go along.

PURPOSE OF THE LESSON

To learn that the dove is very peaceful and modest. This is the reason why the dove is mentioned several times in the Holy Bible.

PLEASE EMPHASIZE

- The dove represents peace. It returned to Noah holding a branch of olive leaf, as a sign that the flood had subsided and plants had started to grow.
- A dove appeared on the head of St. Joseph's rod. The priests realized that God chose him to keep St. Mary at his home.
- In our hymns in church we say that's. Mary is the beautiful dove".
- When St. Mary appeared on the dome of her church in Zaitoun, Egypt, some white doves appeared with her flying in the dark sky.
- When Jesus was baptized, the Holy Spirit descended on Him in the form of a dove.
- The dove is peaceful and quiet. Can we be nice like a dove? Yes, we can, with God's help.





Coptic Orthodox Church

WHAT DO WE LEARN FROM THIS LESSON?

- 1. Can we imitate the dove in being quiet, happy, peaceful and modest? Yes, we can, with God's help.
- 2. As God takes care of the dove and satisfies all her needs, He of course satisfies all our needs. So we must not worry about anything.



Second Sunday







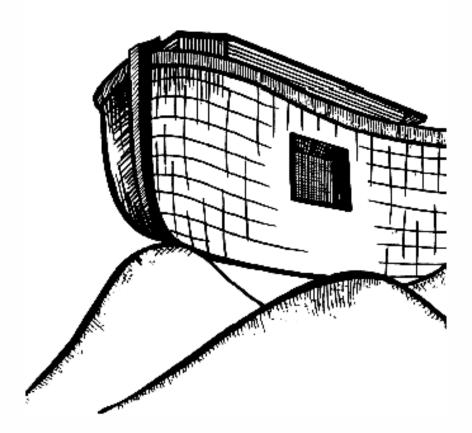
THE DOVE



Second Sunday

The dove refers to peace, for it is returned to Noah holding a branch of olive leaf, as a Sign that flood had been stopped and plants grown.







Coptic Orthodox Church

A dove appeared on the head of St. Joseph's rod. The priests realised that God chose him to keep St. Mary at his home.



Second Sunday

St. Mary the Virgin is the beautiful doye!





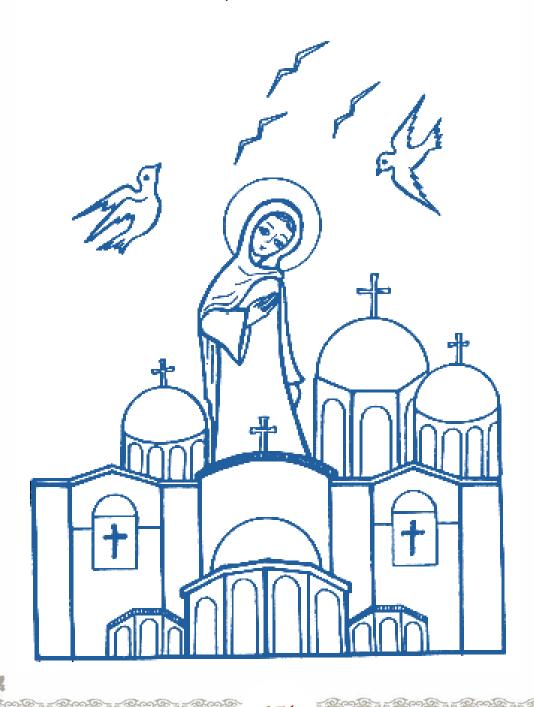
Coptic Orthodox Church

Early christians carved doves on growes as a Sign of Purity of the departed Souls.



Second Sunday

White doves appeared on the domes of St. Mary's Church at Zeitoun, Cairo





Coptic Orthodox Church

On Jesus Baptism, the Holy Spirit appeared like a dove



Second Sunday

SONGS ...

GENTLE JESUS RISEN LORD

"For as often as you eat this bread and drink this cup, you proclaim the lord's death till He comes." (1Cor 11:26)

Gentle Jesus risen we come to your table With our hearts so full of joy we come to your table

<u>REFRAIN</u>

We come, we come we come to your table
Bringing gifts of all we are we come to your table
Gifts of life and love and joy we come to your table

In your body we find life we come to your table Life you gave for us to share we come to your table

In your body we are one we come to your table
One with You and one another we come to your table

RECITATION CURRICULUM: PLEASE LOOK AT THE RECITATION CURRICULUM AT THE END OF THIS BOOK.



Coptic Orthodox Church



Third Sunday



MAY THIRD SUNDAY

ST. PISHOI

Please take the attached material to show the children and describe it to them, as you go along.

PURPOSE OF THE LESSON

To study the life of St. Pishoi and learn from it. Why do we call St. Pishoi "the beloved of Our Good Savior"?

PLEASE EMPHASIZE

- The angel pointed at the small child Pishoi, asking his mother to let him serve God.
- The young man Pishoi became a disciple of the monk Pimoi.
- While St. Pishoi was praying at night, an angel appeared and told him that he must leave Abbot John to live as a Hermit.
- St. Pishoi read the Bible eagerly, especially the book of Jeremiah. The prophet Jeremiah used to appear and comfort him.
- St. Pishoi used to tie his hair with a rope hanging from the ceiling of his cell so that he would not fall asleep while praying.
- St. Pishoi grew up and became an old man and he guided his disciples.
- St. Pishoi encouraged his monks to work.



Coptic Orthodox Church

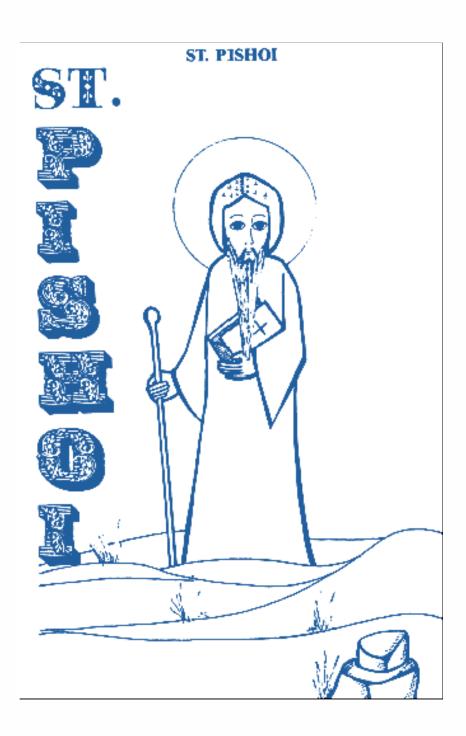
- An angel asked St. Pishoi not to accept a rich man's money to protect the monks from loving money or worldly things.
- St. Pishoi washed Jesus' feet when He appeared to him as a stranger.
- St. Pishoi carried Jesus who appeared to him as an old man. The monks refused to carry Him.
- St. Pishoi went to the mountain of Ansena in Upper Egypt. There, he became a friend of St. Paul-El-Tamouhy.

WHAT DO WE LEARN FROM ST. PISHOI'S LIFE?

- 1. St. Pishoi loved God more than anything else so he left the whole world to be alone with God.
- 2. Because he loved Jesus so much, Jesus appeared to him twice. Let us love God as St. Pishoi did.
- 3. St. Pishoi enjoyed praying to God. We also must realize that it is lovely to be with God in our prayers. Prayer is an enjoyment, not a duty.

June

First Sunday





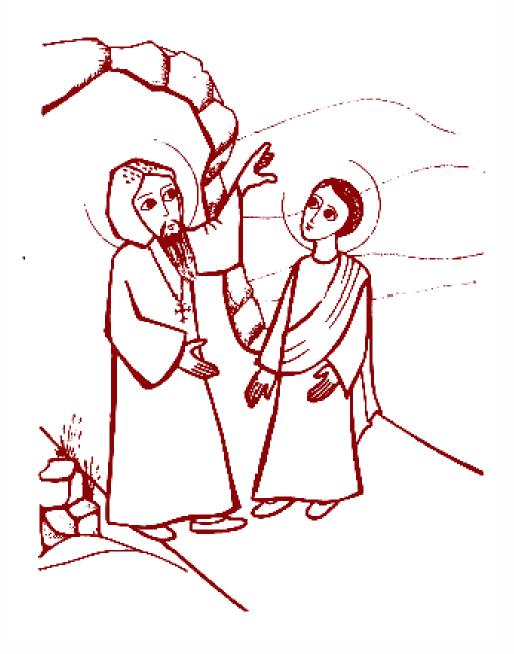
The angel mentioned to the smallest child, Pishoi



June

First Sunday

The young man, Pishoi became a disciple of the monk Pimoi.





Coptic Orthodox Church

While St. Pishoi was praying all night an angel appeared and told him that he must leave Abbot John to live as a Hermit.



June

First Sunday

St. Pishoi read the Bible eagerly, especially the Book of Jeremiah. The prophet Jeremiah used to appear and comfort him.





Coptic Orthodox Church

St. Pishoi used to tie his hair with a rope hanged from the roof of his cell, so that he would not sleep while praying.



First Sunday

St. Pishoi guided his disciples.





Coptic Orthodox Church

St. Pishoi encouraged one of his monks to work.



June

First Sunday

An angel asked St. Pishoi not to accept the rich man's money to protect the monks from avarice.





Coptic Orthodox Church

St. Pishol washed Jesus' feet, who appeared to him as a strange man.



First Sunday

St. Pishoi held Jesus, who appeared as an old man. The monks refused to hold Him.



Coptic Orthodox Church

St. Pishoi went to the mountain of Ansena at Upper Egypt. There, he became a friend of St. Paul-El-Tamouhy.



June

First Sunday

SONGS ...

GOD IS DWELLING IN MY HEART

"For our heart shall rejoice in Him because we have trusted in His holy name."
(Ps 33:21)

<u>REFRAIN</u>

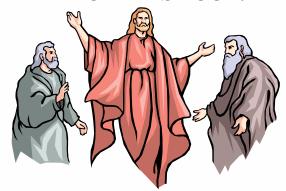
God is dwelling in my heart He and I are one All His joy He gives to me through Christ his Son.

And with Jesus in my heart what have I to fear? For He is the Son of God in my heart, He is near.

Christians who are baptized have you ever realized
The great mystery God dwells in you and me.

This joy God gave to you share it then with others too Show them that God is love lift their hearts above.

RECITATION CURRICULUM: PLEASE LOOK AT THE RECITATION CURRICULUM AT THE END OF THIS BOOK.



Coptic Orthodox Church





FOURTH SUNDAY

WHY NOT HIT BACK?

Please read Matthew 5:38-42 and the attached material entitled "Why Not Hit Back? and emphasize the points below.

VIDEO: https://youtu.be/rHgDSC6ODOE

PURPOSE OF THE LESSON

Do not hit back, but pray for the people who hit you. Also, stay away from the people who hit.

MEMORY VERSE

"But whoever slaps you on your right cheek, turn the other to him also" Matthew 5:39

PLEASE EMPHASIZE

- Tell the story of Charles and Ann as mentioned in the attached notes. Ask the children what they would have done.
- If someone is hitting you at school, tell him "God forgive you!" and then go and tell the teacher so that he/she would teach him not to hit other kids. In this way, you have forgiven him and you also have taught him a lesson about being good. If my sister or brother pushes me at home or would like to take my toy, I should not hit or push back. I should forgive and go and tell my parents so that my sister or brother would not do it again and God would be pleased with him or her.



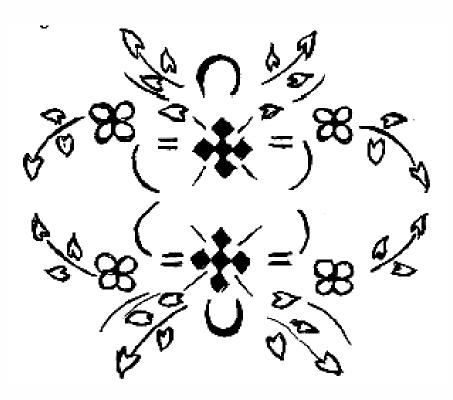


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- If we do not hit back and pray for the person who hits, God will love us more because we listen to His commandments. Also, God is going to protect us from anyone who would like to hurt us.
- David did not hit back when Saul wanted to kill him. Tell them the story of David and Saul briefly. (For the teacher: please read 1 Samuel 26:1-12).

WHAT DO WE LEARN FROM THIS LESSON?

- Jesus did not hit back to teach us to not hit back. We must forgive people.
- We must choose our friends from among the people who do not hit or fight.



Fourth Sunday





Coptic Orthodox Church

SONGS .

GOD IS DWELLING IN MY HEART

"For our heart shall rejoice in Him because we have trusted in His holy name."
(Ps 33:21)

REFRAIN

God is dwelling in my heart All His joy He gives to me He and I are one through Christ his Son.

And with Jesus in my heart For He is the Son of God

what have I to fear? in my heart, He is near.

Christians who are baptized The great mystery

have you ever realized God dwells in you and me.

This joy God gave to you Show them that God is love share it then with others too lift their hearts above.

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Fourth Sunday

WHY NOT HIT BACK?

"Charles, why did you push Ann?" his mother asked him sadly.

"Cause she pushed me first", said Charles, thinking he had a right to do the same.

"What do you think Jesus would have done, Charles, if He had been pushed?" his mother asked him.

"He would have...I don't know what He would have done", Charles answered.

"I know what He said about hitting back," his mother told him. "Get your Bible, Charles, and read Matthew 5, verse 39."

Charles brought his Bible to her, and together they found the verse: "If anyone slaps you on your right cheek, turn the other to him also."

"Would Jesus have said, 'You may push me again?'," asked Charles.

"That's what it sounds like to me", said his mother. "At least He would not have pushed back."

Does this mean that God's children must let people push them and hit them? No. Everyone has a right to protect themselves.

Jesus meant that it is better to be hurt than to hurt somebody. He wants us to love even those who hurt us. And He would rather let someone hurt us a second time than see us getting angry and hitting back.

Jesus let people hurt Him and even kill Him to save them from their sins. He saved us too. When Jesus is in our hearts, we can keep from hitting and hurting others even when they push us.

LET US TALK ABOUT THIS:

What wrong did Ann do?

What did Charles think he had a right to do?

What do you think Jesus probably would do if someone pushes Him?

What did Jesus say about hitting back?

Why should we be willing to forgive people who hurt us?

How can we become willing to do so?

Coptic Orthodox Church



First Sunday



JUNE FIRST SUNDAY

THE ASCENSION FEAST TWO MEN STOOD BY THEM IN WHITE ROBES

Please read Acts 1:1-2, 6-11. Also read the attached material entitled "Notes on the Ascension of Jesus", and tell the story with emphasis on the points below.

VIDEO: https://youtu.be/PLx2q1fjbSA

PURPOSE OF THE LESSON

To learn that the angels came at the time of Jesus' ascension as they came at His birth and His resurrection. Let us be Christ-like so that the angels may be with us.

MEMORY VERSE

"Two men stood by them in white apparel" Acts 1:10

PLEASE EMPHASIZE

- Jesus ascended to Heaven **forty days** after His resurrection. Before ascending, He appeared on various occasions to His disciples and His friends.
- Let us emphasize the role of the angels here:
 - **Before** Jesus was born, an angel came to St. Mary to tell her the good news.



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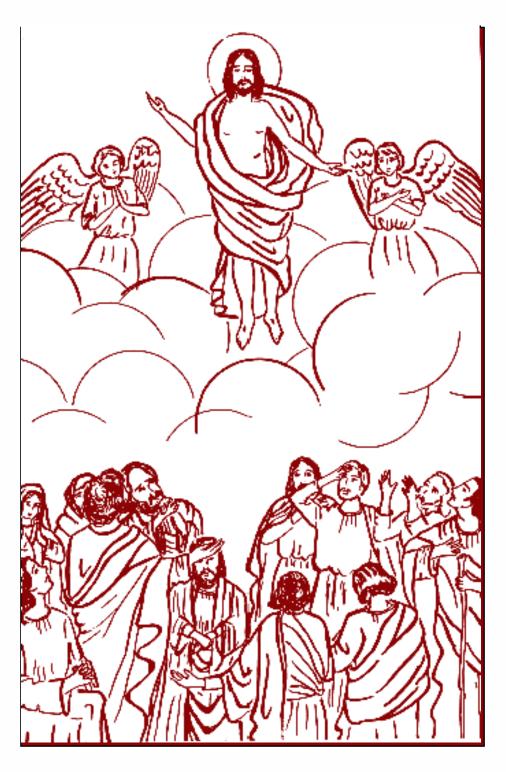
- **After** Jesus was born, an angel came to the shepherds and the wise men.
- † When Jesus fasted for forty days and forty nights, the angels came to serve Him.
- † When Jesus rose from the dead, Archangel Michael came to proclaim the good news.
- † When Jesus ascended to heaven, two angels came to tell the disciples that, just as Jesus ascended to heaven in front of them, He would come back.
- Jesus is God. He is the only One who went to Heaven by Himself.
- The disciples were astonished when they saw Jesus ascending to Heaven. If we jump up, we must fall to the ground but Jesus was able to go up with His Body without falling.
- Jesus will come again from Heaven in great glory as the two angels said to the disciples "This Jesus, who was taken up from you into heaven will come in the same way as you saw Him go into heaven." Who will be with Jesus when He comes from Heaven? The angels of course.

WHAT DO WE LEARN FROM THIS LESSON?

- 1. The angels bring good news to us. They are also sent from God to serve us.
- 2. If we behave as good Christians, the angels will be with us as they were with the Lord Jesus. We will feel their presence with us when we pray, sing, play or even when we get sick.

June

First Sunday





Coptic Orthodox Church

SONGS ...

GOD IS DWELLING IN MY HEART

"For our heart shall rejoice in Him because we have trusted in His holy name." (Ps 33:21)

REFRAIN

God is dwelling in my heart He and I are one All His joy He gives to me through Christ his Son.

And with Jesus in my heart what have I to fear? For He is the Son of God in my heart, He is near.

Christians who are baptized have you ever realized
The great mystery God dwells in you and me.

This joy God gave to you share it then with others too Show them that God is love lift their hearts above.

RECITATION CURRICULUM: PLEASE LOOK AT THE RECITATION CURRICULUM AT THE END OF THIS BOOK.



First Sunday

NOTES ON THE ASCENSION OF JESUS

- There is no prophet or saint who died, arose from the dead and ascended to heaven except the Lord Jesus Christ, the Son of God.
- The ascension of Jesus after His resurrection is proof of His Divinity.
- When Jesus talked to Nicodemus He told him "No man has ascended to heaven but He who came down from heaven, that is, the Son of Man who is in heaven' (John 3:13).
 - So the Lord Jesus, when He was speaking with Nicodemus, was in heaven at the same instant.
- But Jesus ascended with our flesh, which He took from the Virgin Mary, that is the same flesh we have. Hence, Jesus blessed our bodies and opened the gate of heaven for us.
- "And raised us up together, and made us sit together in the heavenly places in Christ Jesus" (Ephesians 2:6).
- He ascended into heaven so that we realize that our true place is in heaven. We should be thinking about heaven and should not let the things of the world control our lives.
- We can remember the ascension in the following:
 - † Every time we pray the Lord's Prayer and say "Our Father who art in heaven' we realize that Jesus meant that praying is standing in heaven.
 - † During the Divine Liturgy, when we stand in the altar, we are considered as if we are standing in heaven.
 - † Every time we neglect the world and concentrate on Jesus we ascend to heaven.



Coptic Orthodox Church



Second Sunday



JUNE SECOND SUNDAY

PENTECOST THE COMING OF THE HOLY SPIRIT

Please read Acts 2:1-12. Also read the attached material entitled "Pentecost: The Descent of the Holy Spirit", and tell the story with emphasis on the points below.

VIDEO: https://youtu.be/1J895V2b0d8

PURPOSE OF THE LESSON

To learn that the Holy Spirit filled the disciples on the 50th day of the Lord's resurrection. (Pentecost in Greek means 50.) We too have the Holy Spirit in us. He will work in us if we love one another and are united together.

MEMORY VERSE

"When the Day of Pentecost had fully come, they were all with one accord in one place" Acts 2:1

PLEASE EMPHASIZE

Jesus ascended to heaven forty days after the Resurrection. Ten days after His ascension to Heaven, Jesus sent the Holy Spirit (The Spirit of God) to His disciples.



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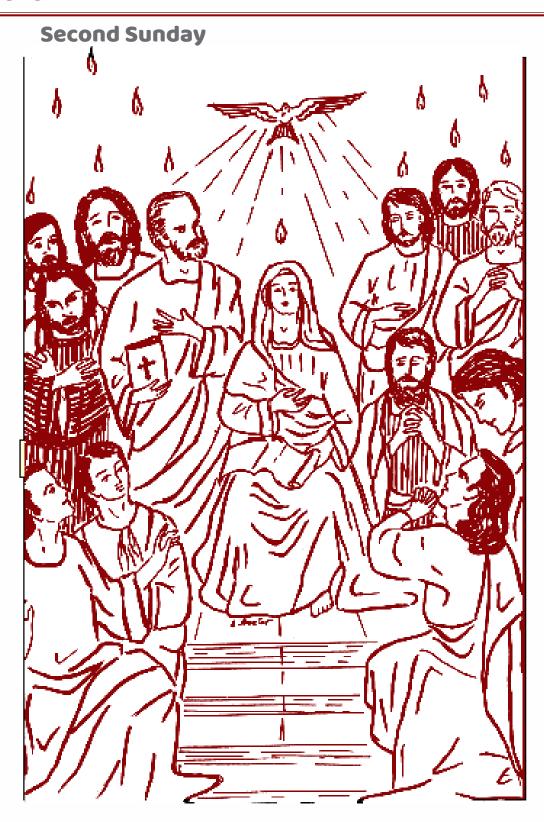
- The disciples were with St. Mary, the mother of God together in the Upper Room waiting for the promise of Jesus. Jesus had told them to stay in Jerusalem until He sent them the Holy Spirit.
- Describe to them what the disciples **heard** and **saw** when the Holy Spirit came. They **heard** a sound coming from heaven like the rush of a mighty wind and they **saw** tongues, as of fire distributing and resting on each of them.
- They were all filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak with other tongues, as the Spirit gave them utterance" (Acts 2:4).
- When the disciples were praying **together** in full love to each other and to God, they were ready to accept the Holy Spirit and the gifts of the Holy Spirit. So, we have to love one another to enjoy the gifts of the Holy Spirit.
- Do we have the Holy Spirit inside us? Yes, we do. After we were baptized, we also received the Holy Spirit when Abouna prayed for us and blew air in our faces right after we were baptized; He also anointed us with the Holy Chrism (Myroun).

"You are the altars of God and the Spirit of God is inside you."

WHAT DO WE LEARN FROM THIS LESSON?

- 1. When we were baptized and chrismated, we received the Holy Spirit inside us.
- 2. We must live together in love inside our homes so that the Holy Spirit will work in us and give us His gifts.

June







SONGS .

WHEN THE SPIRIT OF THE LORD

"If we live in the Spirit, let us also walk in the Spirit." (Gal 5:25)

REFRAIN

When the Spirit of the Lord moves in my heart

I will love as Jesus loves

I will pray as David prayed

I will preach as Peter preached

I will serve as St. Paul served

RECITATION CURRICULUM: PLEASE LOOK AT THE RECITATION CURRICULUM AT THE END OF THIS BOOK.



June

Second Sunday

PENTECOST The Descent of the Holy Spirit

In the Old Testament, Pentecost was the feast which occurred fifty days after the Passover. As the Passover feast commemorates the exodus of the Israelites from the slavery of Egypt, so Pentecost celebrates God's gift of the Ten Commandments to Moses on Mount Sinai. In the New Testament as well, the Pentecostal feast is fulfilled and made new by the coming of the new law, the descent of the Holy Spirit upon the Disciples of Christ.

The apostles received "the power from high" and they began to preach and bear witness to Jesus as the risen Christ, the King and the Lord. This moment has traditionally been called the Birthday of the Church.

It must be noted that the feast of Pentecost is not simply the celebration of an event which took place centuries ago; it is the celebration of what must happen and does happen to us in the Church **today.** We all have died and risen with the Messiah king and we all received the Holy Spirit. We are the "Temple of the Holy Spirit". God's Spirit dwells in us. We, by our own membership in the Church, have received "the seal of the gift of the Holy Spirit" in the sacrament of Chrismation.

Blessed art Thou, O Christ our God, who has revealed His wisdom in the fishermen by sending down upon them the Holy Spirit; through them Thou didst draw the world into the net. O Lover of Man, glory be to Thee.



Coptic Orthodox Church



Third Sunday



JUNE THIRD SUNDAY

JOSEPH AND HIS BROTHERS (I)

Please read Genesis 37, 39 and 41, and emphasize the points below.

VIDEO: https://youtu.be/HYKDZyV9UK0

PURPOSE OF THE LESSON

To learn that Joseph obeyed his parents and loved his brothers. God was with him and protected him.

MEMORY VERSE

"'Come, I will send you to them'. So he said to him 'Here I am'" Genesis 37:13

PLEASE EMPHASIZE

- Jacob had 12 sons, but his favorite son was Joseph. Joseph was born when Jacob was a very old man. Jacob had a beautiful long-sleeved coat with many colours made for Joseph. So, Joseph's brothers hated him.
- Joseph always obeyed his father and loved his brothers too. For this reason, God loved him and gave him good dreams.
- Describe one of the two dreams. Maybe the one about the sun and moon and eleven stars which all bowed to Joseph.



Coptic Orthodox Church

- Once when the older brothers went to feed their father's flock, Jacob called Joseph and asked him to go and see how his brothers were doing. Joseph obeyed.
- When Joseph found them, they decided to kill him. They dropped him in a well. Then, they saw merchants heading towards Egypt. They pulled Joseph out of the well and sold him for twenty pieces of gold.
- Then they lied to their father saying that they found Joseph's coat with blood on it in the desert. This meant that an animal killed him in the desert. Their father was extremely sad.

Joseph in Egypt:

- † The Lord was with Joseph. Joseph worked at the palace of the high commander of Egypt and he was in charge of everything. He was honest, so all the people liked him.
- † The commander's wife was bad. She told her husband that Joseph was doing bad things. The high commander put Joseph in prison.
- † Because Joseph was good and did not do anything bad, God helped him and he left the prison and went to the palace where he became the second man in the country after Pharaoh.

WHAT DO WE LEARN FROM THIS LESSON?

- 1. If we love and obey our parents, God will help us and we will be successful in everything we do.
- 2. If we are honest, God will help us and turn the bad things into good things.

June

Third Sunday





Coptic Orthodox Church

SONGS .

O BE CAREFUL LITTLE EYES

"The lamp of the body is the eye. If therefore your eye is good, your whole body will be full of light." (Matthew 6:22)

O be careful little eyes what you see (2) For the Father up above is looking down in love So be careful little eyes what you see.

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Third Sunday



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Fourth Sunday



JUNE FOURTH SUNDAY

JOSEPH AND HIS BROTHERS (II)

Please read Genesis 42, 44 and 46, and emphasize the points below.

VIDEO: https://youtu.be/ndETu4bzwAY

PURPOSE OF THE LESSON

To learn that Joseph showed his love to his brothers. So, the Lord was with Joseph and he was a successful man.

MEMORY VERSE

"So Joseph's ten brothers went down to buy grain in Egypt" Genesis 42:3

PLEASE EMPHASIZE

- There was a famine (meaning there was no food to eat) in all the cities, except in Egypt where Joseph was in charge of the country's produce.
- The sons of Jacob set out for Egypt, all except Benjamin, the youngest. When they arrived, they bowed down before Joseph and asked for grain. He recognized them, but they did not recognize him.
- Joseph filled their sacks with food and did not take any money but, asked them to bring their youngest brother Benjamin next time.



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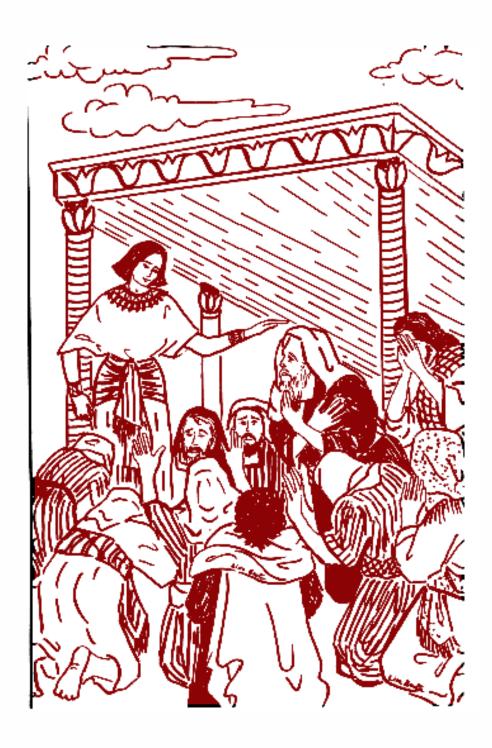
- When all the food was gone, Jacob allowed them to take Benjamin and go to Egypt. They went to Egypt and Joseph made a great feast for them. When they were ready to go back to their land, Joseph filled their sacks with grain, but he secretly ordered that his own silver cup be hidden in Benjamin's sack.
- Joseph declared to his brothers that he was their brother Joseph. He kissed them and gave them food, money and peace.
- Joseph said to his brothers, "Go to my father, Jacob, and tell him that your son, Joseph, is lord of all of Egypt, and that he is to come with all his children and grandchildren to settle near me".
- When Jacob heard the story, he said, "I will go and see him before I die" (Genesis 45:28).

WHAT DO WE LEARN FROM THIS LESSON?

- 1. Joseph loved his brothers, and even after they betrayed and sold him, he forgave them and saved them from starvation.
- 2. God was with Joseph and he was a successful man.
- 3. As God helped Joseph, He can help us. But we have to be nice and love everyone as Joseph did.

June

Fourth Sunday





Coptic Orthodox Church

SONGS ...

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Fourth Sunday

NOTES



Coptic Orthodox Church



First Sunday



JULY FIRST SUNDAY

THE LORD JESUS FEEDS THE CROWD FOR THE SECOND TIME

Please read Mark 6:36-44, (Jesus feeds 5,000+ people) and Mark 8:5-9(Jesus feeds 4,000+ people) and tell the story with emphasis on the points below.

VIDEOS: (5000+) https://youtu.be/YPBcdvKWjWs (4000+)

PURPOSE OF THE LESSON

To show that Jesus cares for hungry people. We too, must be kind to hungry people.

MEMORY VERSE

"I have compassion on the multitude "Mark 8:2

PLEASE EMPHASIZE

Jesus fed the multitude twice from a very small amount of bread and fish.

The first time:

Jesus taught the people lessons for their souls and their lives. But after that He also taught them, and us, a lesson: we must be kind to the hungry. He took the five loaves and the two fish. Jesus looked up to Heaven and blessed and broke the loaves and the fish, and gave them to the disciples to set before the people. They all ate and were satisfied. The leftovers were twelve



Coptic Orthodox Church

baskets full of broken pieces of bread and fish. More than five thousand people were fed.

The second time:

The great multitudes were with Jesus for three days. Jesus said, "I have compassion on the multitude" He wanted to feed them before they went home. The disciples had seven loaves. Jesus took the seven loaves and having given thanks; He broke them and gave them to His disciples to set before the people. They also had a few small fish, and having blessed them, He commanded that these also should be set before them. And they ate, and were satisfied and they took up the broken pieces, which were left over, seven baskets full. And they were over 4,000 people.

- We should learn from Jesus how to care for the hungry people. We must collect money for them. You should ask Mom and Dad to give you money to give to the hungry people.
- We must also learn that the small things we have with the blessings of Jesus will cover all our needs and even more.
- Jesus' disciples forgot the two miracles that Jesus did to feed the multitude. One time they entered the ship with Jesus and they had only one loaf and they forgot to bring food. They were thinking of that but Jesus said to them, "when I broke the five loaves for the five thousand, how many baskets full of fragments did you take up? They said to Him, "Twelve". Also when I broke the seven for the four thousand, how many large baskets full of fragments did you take up?" And they said, "Seven". So He said to them, "How is it you do not understand?" (Mark 8:19-21).

WHAT DO WE LEARN FROM THIS LESSON?

- 1. Jesus was so kind. We must learn from Him to be kind to each other. We must collect money for the hungry and the poor people.
- 2. When we eat we should only take what is sufficient for us in our plates. We have to avoid throwing out food just as the disciples collected all the leftovers.
- 3. How many people do you normally feed with five loaves or even seven? Not many, certainly not thousands!

July

First Sunday

- 4. How many little fish do you think you would need to feed (and fill) thousands of people? A few thousand!
- 5. Did Jesus have that much? No. But He could take the little and turn it to more than enough because He is God, and when He blesses something, it always satisfies our needs and more.



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First Sunday

SONGS .

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July

First Sunday





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JULY SECOND SUNDAY

THE APOSTLES FEAST: THE MAN AT THE BEAUTIFUL GATE

Please read Acts 31:4-21, and tell the story emphasizing the points below.

VIDEO: https://youtu.be/AT7cnOkGcBQ or https://youtu.be/JNfe I7OMJg

PURPOSE OF THE LESSON

To show the authority given to the apostles to perform miracles. As God gave the apostles heavenly powers, He can give us heavenly powers too.

MEMORY VERSE

"So he, leaping up, stood and walked and entered the temple"
Acts 3:8

PLEASE EMPHASIZE

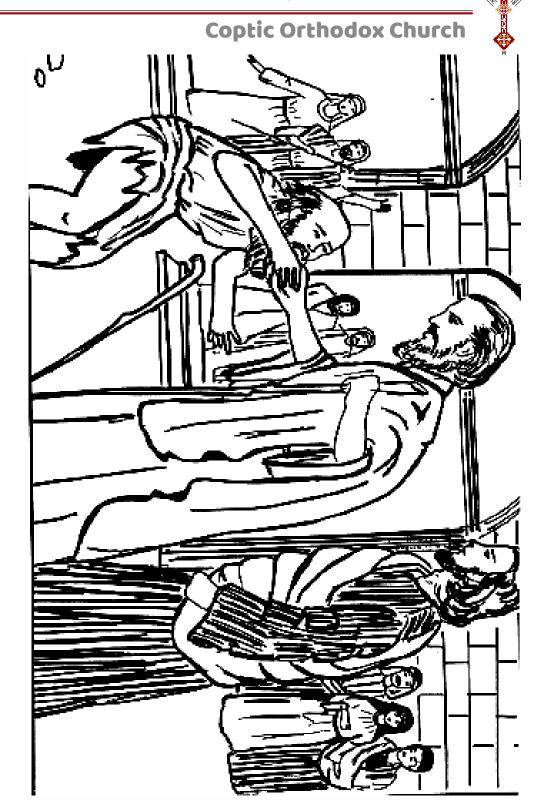
- The Lord Jesus had twelve disciples. Their names are mentioned in Mark 3:14-19. These twelve disciples became apostles. There were also seventy apostles appointed by our Lord Jesus.
- On the day of Pentecost, the apostles were filled with the Holy Spirit. The Holy Spirit gave them power to perform miracles.
- Describe the miracle that St. Peter did at the gate of the temple:

Second Sunday

- † One day Peter and John were going to the temple to pray. As they were walking along, a crippled man was carried past them. Each day his friends would leave him beside the temple entrance called the "The Gate of the Beautiful" and he would beg there.
- † When this man saw Peter and John, he asked them for charity too. "Look at us," said Peter and John. The man looked and hoped he would get some money.
- † Peter said, "Silver and gold I do not have, but what I do have I give you: In the name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth, rise up and walk."
- † Then Peter helped the man stand up. At once his feet and ankles became strong. He began to walk and to jump and to praise God, and he followed Peter and John right into the temple.
- Every year on July 12thwe celebrate the apostles Feast. We remember those people who taught us about Jesus. The apostles had faith in God and they loved Him and His people.
- God gave the apostles power to heal the sick. Describe the happiness of the crippled man. He never walked in his life. Now he is jumping.
- Peter and John did not have money. They had something more powerful than money: the power of God.

WHAT DO WE LEARN FROM THIS LESSON?

- 1. The Holy Spirit gave the apostles power to perform miracles. In our lives, if the Holy Spirit inside us is active, He can give us strength, joy and peace.
- 2. We have to follow our Lord Jesus as the apostles did.



Second Sunday

SONGS .

PETER AND JAMES AND JOHN

"Follow Me, and I will make you fishers of men." (Mat4:19)

Peter and James and John and the fishermen (3) Out in the deep blue sea.

They went fishing; they caught nothing (3) Out in the deep blue sea.

Then came Jesus walking on the water (3) Out in the deep blue sea.

Then the boat was filled with fish (3) Out in the deep blue sea.

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July

Second Sunday





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JULY THIRD SUNDAY

A NEW LIFE FOR SAUL

Please read Acts 9:1-22, and tell the story with emphasis on the points below.

VIDEO: https://youtu.be/wixt2viNEwU

PURPOSE OF THE LESSON

To learn that Saul became a good Christian and his name became Paul. A true meeting with the Lord Jesus Christ can change a person's life.

MEMORY VERSE

"If anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation"
2 Corinthians 5:17

PLEASE EMPHASIZE

- At first, describe the old life of Saul before he met Jesus. He hated Christians and wanted to beat them and put them in prison.
- **♦** Saul Face to Face with Jesus:
 - † Saul was going to Damascus to jail to kill the Christians there. While he was traveling, a bright light appeared. It was brighter than the sun. Saul fell to the ground. A voice said, "Why are you persecuting me?"

Third Sunday

- † Saul was afraid. He asked, "Who are You, Lord?" The Lord said, "I am Jesus, whom you are persecuting." Now, Saul knew that Jesus was not dead. He was alive. Saul asked, "Lord, what do you want me to do?" The voice said, "Arise and go into the city, and you will be told what you must do".
- † Saul stood up. The bright light was gone, but he could not see. He was blind. The men who were with him led him to Damascus.

4 Ananias healed Saul and baptized him:

Describe what happened between Ananias and Saul. Saul could see again. Acts 9:17-19.

† Saul became a different man. He loved Jesus and obeyed Him. He wanted to tell everyone about Jesus. His life changed and so did his name (to Paul).

WHAT DO WE LEARN FROM THIS LESSON?

- 1. When we listen to Jesus' words in the Bible, our lives change and we become full of love for Jesus, just as Saul did when he heard Jesus on the road to Damascus.
- 2. The Lord Jesus came to the world to give us a new life. The new life will be filled with good behavior, peace and love for all people.



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Third Sunday

SONGS 🎜

PETER AND JAMES AND JOHN

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July

Third Sunday





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JULY FOURTH SUNDAY

GOD HEARS OUR PRAYERS (I) GOD HEARS HANNAH'S PRAYERS

Please read 1 Samuel 1:1-20, and tell the story with emphasis on the points below.

VIDEO: https://youtu.be/h2K3-cnfDPc

PURPOSE OF THE LESSON

To learn that God hears our prayers (first lesson of two lessons).

MEMORY VERSE

"Evening and morning and at noon, I will pray, and cry aloud, and He shall hear my voice" Psalm 55:17

PLEASE EMPHASIZE

- El-Kanah had two wives: Hannah and Peninnah.
- Peninnah had children, but Hannah had none.
- El-Kanah loved Hannah, but Peninnah used to provoke her and insult her because she had no children.

July

Fourth Sunday

- Eli the priest saw Hannah crying to God (1 Samuel 1:12-13), to give her a son. He thought that she was drunk. Hannah told him that she was not drunk but that she was praying to God to give her a son.
- A year later, God gave Hannah a son. She gave him the name, Samuel. She was happy and thankful to God. She gave Samuel to God by sending him to the temple to serve there for life, as she has promised God.

WHAT DO WE LEARN FROM THIS LESSON?

- 1. When we need something, we have to ask God to give it to us. We must keep praying for it. One day, God will give us what we ask for, but we must pray from our hearts as Hannah did and we should be patient too.
- 2. God loves us and He gives us only the things that are good and beneficial to us. Sometimes we ask for something without knowing that it is harmful for us. In this case, God will not give it to us because He loves us. So, when we pray for something and do not get it, it means that it is not good for us.
- 3. When we have a toy or something good that others do not have, we must not provoke or insult them.

Coptic Orthodox Church





Fourth Sunday

SONGS .

A WISE MAN BUILT HIS HOUSE

"Therefore whoever hears these sayings of mine, and does them, I will liken him to a wise man who built his house on the rock." (Mat 7:24)

A wise man built his house upon the rock (3) And the rain came tumbling down. The rain came down and floods went up (3) And the house on the rock stood firm.

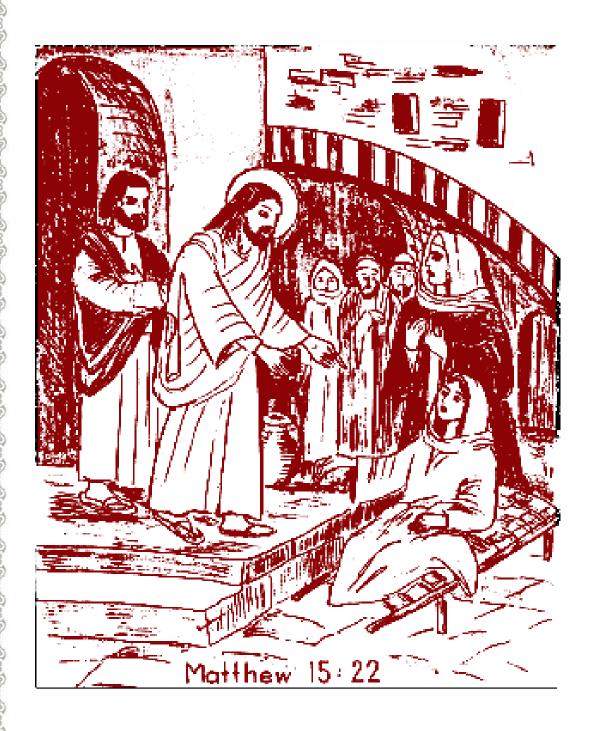
A foolish man built his house upon the sand (3) And the rain came tumbling down. The rain came down and floods went up (3) And the house on the sand went down.

So build your house on the Lord Jesus Christ (3) And the blessings will come upon you. As the blessing come down the prayers go up (3) And the house in the Lord stands firm.

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Fifth Sunday



JULY FIFTH SUNDAY

GOD HEARS OUR PRAYERS (II) THE CRYING OF THE CANAANITE WOMAN

Please read Matthew 15:21-28, and tell the story with emphasis on the points below.

VIDEO: https://youtu.be/nEW-kVjHlFY

PURPOSE OF THE LESSON

To further appreciate that God hears our prayers (second lesson of two.)

MEMORY VERSE

"Have mercy on me, O Lord, Son of David" Matthew 15:22

PLEASE EMPHASIZE

- Describe how the Canaanite woman was miserable because her daughter was sick (severely possessed).
- Jesus did not answer her at first. She kept crying loudly. Then Jesus knew that she had faith and He wanted to reveal that faith to all people. So He told His disciples "I was not sent except to the lost sheep of the house of Israel" Then He said, "It is not good to take the children's bread and throw it to the little dogs." She answered, "True, Lord, yet even the little dogs eat the crumbs which fall from their master's table." Then Jesus answered and said



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to her "O, woman, great is your faith! Let it be to you as you desire." And her daughter was healed instantly.

- The Canaanite woman did three things:
 - † She cried out to Him saying, "Have mercy on me, O Lord, Son of David." This teaches us that when we pray we must ask for the mercy of God. In our church we sing "Lord have mercy" several times.
 - † She came and worshipped Him saying, "Lord, help me!" This teaches us that when we pray we must give due respect to God.
 - † Then she stepped on her pride and put herself down to the level of dogs eating from the leftovers of their masters' table. This teaches us that when we pray we must feel humble and needy.

WHAT DO WE LEARN FROM THIS LESSON?

- 1. The Lord loves us and He is merciful to us. We must pray and tell Him all our needs.
- 2. When we pray to the Lord we must ask for His mercy, ask Him in full respect and ask Him in a humble way.

Fourth Sunday

SONGS .

A WISE MAN BUILT HIS HOUSE

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AUGUST FIRST SUNDAY

RAHAB AND THE SPIES

Please read Joshua 2, and tell the story with emphasis on the points below.

VIDEO: https://youtu.be/tWkbq50tH5A

PURPOSE OF THE LESSON

To learn that God leads His people and uses various ways to help them. We must not question God in the way He handles things.

MEMORY VERSE

Rahab said, "For the Lord your God, He is God in heaven above and on earth beneath" Joshua 2:11

PLEASE EMPHASIZE

- God promised Joshua that He would be with him as He was with Moses. **Remember**: Joshua came after Moses to lead the people of God. God told Joshua not to be afraid of anyone.
- Joshua had some enemies. Enemies are people who would like to hurt others. His enemies did not believe in God. God promised Joshua that He would help him to defeat them and take their land for the people who believed in God. The name of the town was Jericho.

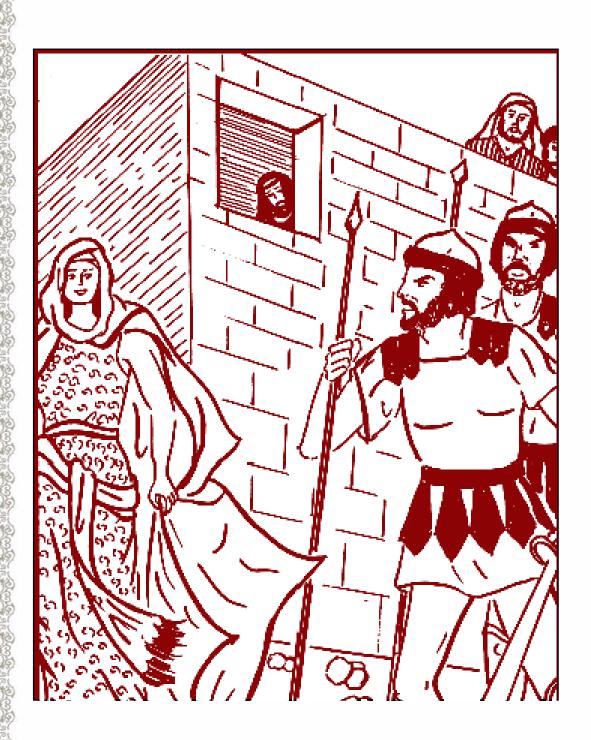
First Sunday

- Joshua sent two spies to Jericho. Do you know what a spy is? A spy is a person who goes secretly to find out something without anyone seeing them.
- When the two men entered Jericho, they could have gone to any place. But God led them to the house of a bad lady. It was God's plan for them to enter this lady's house because God knew that she would help them. Her name was Rahab.
- When the king of Jericho sent messengers to Rahab to release the two men, she hid them up on the roof. Rahab lied to the messengers. That was bad. But God uses anything even if it is bad, to help His people. She lied, but the important part was that God used her to help the two men. Does this mean we should lie? Definitely not.
- After she had hidden and saved them she asked them to be kind to her and her family when they come with Joshua to take Jericho.
- Rahab knew that the Lord of Joshua, and his people, was the real God. She also knew that since God was going to help them, they would definitely win. This was why she helped them.
- Why didn't God use another way to help the spies instead of Rahab? God is entitled to use any method He likes to achieve His goal. It is up to Him. We must not question why God did it this way and not the other way.

WHAT DO WE LEARN FROM THIS LESSON?

- 1. God led the two men to Rahab. God leads His people.
- 2. God uses any method He likes and we must not question that.

Coptic Orthodox Church



Fourth Sunday

SONGS ...

Mary and Martha

"But one thing is needed, and Mary has chosen that good part, which will not be taken away from her." (Lk10:42)

Jesus entered a house of Mary and Martha

Martha to the little or rushed to five him something to

Martha to the kitchen rushed to fix him something to eat

Mary stayed in the ground kneeling at Jesus' feet
Opening her heart and ear in Him she found peace

Martha was quite upset at Mary she threw a fit
And she started complaining that Mary was not caring

Jesus praised Mary what she did was really neat
But He was not really pleased with Martha's great big Feast

When Jesus is anywhere talking and preaching We should always be right there listening and learning

Also when we go to church with Jesus we all meet We should always be quite everybody in his seat

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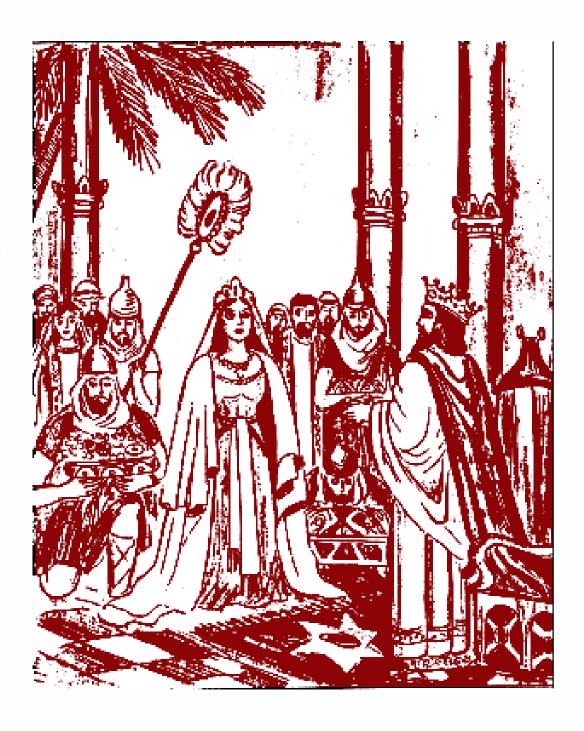


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Fourth Sunday





Coptic Orthodox Church



AUGUST SECOND SUNDAY

KING SOLOMON AND THE QUEEN OF SHEBA

Please read 1 Kings 10:1-14, and tell the story with emphasis on the points below.

VIDEO: https://youtu.be/HVxxzmFehlk

PURPOSE OF THE LESSON

To learn that God gave Solomon wisdom that was used to glorify God's name. We also should ask God to give us wisdom.

MEMORY VERSE

"Now all the earth sought the presence of Solomon to hear his wisdom, which God had put in his heart" 1 Kings 10:24

PLEASE EMPHASIZE

- When God asked Solomon to choose the one thing he wanted to have most from God, Solomon chose wisdom. What does wisdom mean? It means good thinking and good judgment. What would you ask God to give you if you had the chance?
- The Queen of Sheba had many questions for which she had no answer. She heard about Solomon and his wisdom. She took a long journey to go to Solomon and ask him those questions. When she came, she brought with her gold in large quantities, very expensive spices and precious stones.

Second Sunday

- When she arrived, she asked Solomon all her questions and he answered her. She was satisfied.
- When the Queen of Sheba saw the way Solomon organized his house, his food, his council and his servants she was very pleased. She now could see with her own eyes the wisdom that God gave Solomon in everything he did.
- The Queen of Sheba glorified God's name because He was the source of all what Solomon had.
- How did Solomon use the gifts from the Queen of Sheba? He used them in building the temple of God (the temple of God was similar to the church, i.e., place for worship and prayers).
- Also Solomon gave her gifts on her way back home.

WHAT DO WE LEARN FROM THIS LESSON?

- 1. God gave Solomon wisdom that was also a source of wealth so that all the people on earth came to hear his wisdom and gave him gifts.
- 2. Solomon used these gifts to build the house of God.
- 3. Solomon gave gifts to the people who gave him gifts. When someone gives me a gift, I must also find an occasion and give him/her a gift.
- 4. In our prayers we should ask for those precious things; for example, proper growth, proper thinking and wisdom.

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Second Sunday

SONGS ...

Mary and Martha

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AUGUST THIRD SUNDAY

THE LOVE OF OUR LORD JESUS TO THE VIRGIN MARY

Please read John 19:25-27, and tell the story with emphasis on the points below.

VIDEO: https://youtu.be/7plJa qnVug

PURPOSE OF THE LESSON

To show the love that our Lord Jesus has for His mother the Virgin Mary and also the love of the apostles for her. We also must love and respect our mothers, as the Lord Jesus loved His mother.

MEMORY VERSE

"He said to His mother, 'Woman, behold, your son!'" John 19:26

PLEASE EMPHASIZE

- The great love of our Lord Jesus to the Virgin Mary is clear in the following:
 - † She was chosen to be His mother.

Third Sunday

- † The Lord Jesus obeyed His mother. Please tell the story of Jesus in the temple away from His parents who were looking for Him. When they found Him, He obeyed and followed them.
- Do we obey our parents?
 - † In the wedding of Cana of Galilee, when the guests finished all the wine, St. Mary asked Jesus to help them out and provide wine for them. Because He loved His mother, He obeyed her and answered her request by turning the water into wine.
 - † On the cross, Jesus showed His deep love to His mother by asking His disciple John to have her in his house.
 - † When the Virgin Mary passed away, our beloved Jesus came with His angels and took her holy soul. Also the angels carried her body to heaven.
- St. Mary also had great love for her Son Jesus, Who is the Son of God.
- The disciples of Jesus loved the Virgin Mary. As mentioned in Acts 1:12-14, St. Mary was with the disciples in the Upper Room and were praying together. She also spent the rest of her life in the house of John, the beloved disciple, and they always prayed together.
- In our church, we love the Virgin Mary, and in our prayers, we always ask her to pray for us. There are so many miracles performed by the Virgin Mary.

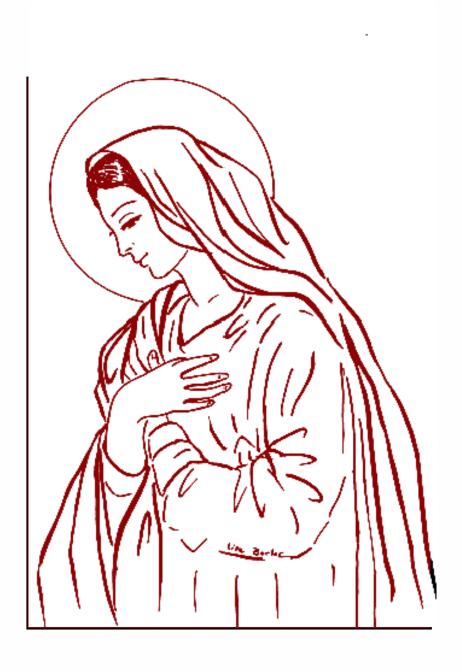
WHAT DO WE LEARN FROM THIS LESSON?

- 1. As Jesus asked His beloved disciple John to look after St. Mary as his mother, our Lord is also implying that she is the Mother of us all.
- 2. As the Lord Jesus loved His mother, took care of her and obeyed her, we must also do the same with our mothers.





Coptic Orthodox Church



Third Sunday

SONGS 🎜

Mary and Martha

"But one thing is needed, and Mary has chosen that good part, which will not be taken away from her." (Lk10:42)

Jesus entered a house of Mary and Martha

Martha to the kitchen rushed to fix him something to eat

Mary stayed in the ground kneeling at Jesus' feet
Opening her heart and ear in Him she found peace

Martha was quite upset at Mary she threw a fit
And she started complaining that Mary was not caring

Jesus praised Mary what she did was really neat But He was not really pleased with Martha's great big Feast

When Jesus is anywhere talking and preaching We should always be right there listening and learning

Also when we go to church with Jesus we all meet We should always be quite everybody in his seat

RECITATION CURRICULUM: PLEASE LOOK AT THE RECITATION CURRICULUM AT THE END OF THIS BOOK.



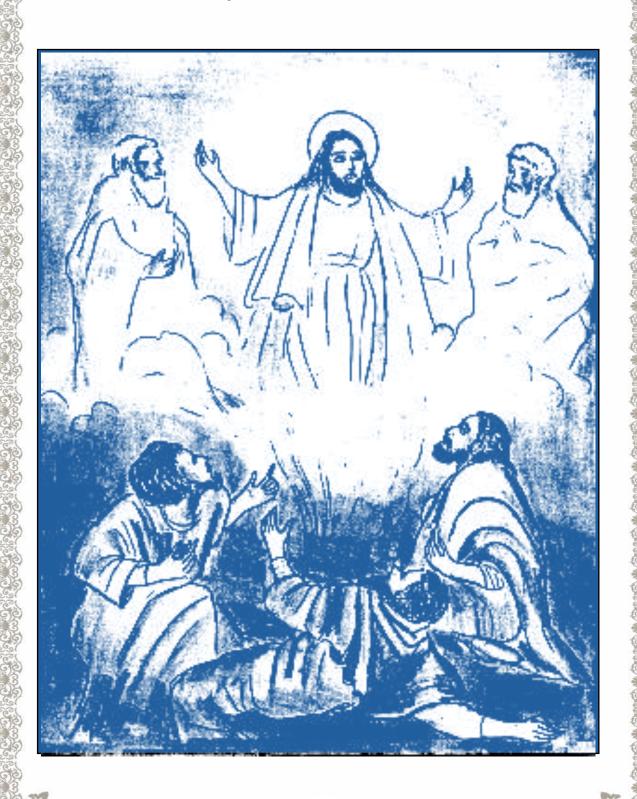


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For the success
Of this Sunday
School Program
the teacher should
refer to the
HOLY BIBLE
In his/her preparation
of the lessons and in
teaching the children
in the class

Third Sunday





Coptic Orthodox Church



AUGUST FOURTH SUNDAY

THE FEAST OF THE TRANSFIGURATION: A GENERAL DESCRIPTION

Please read Mark 9:1-10, and tell the story with emphasis on the points below.

VIDEO: https://youtu.be/D302i8nPnGs

PURPOSE OF THE LESSON

To learn that Our Lord Jesus is the Son of God as declared by Heaven. So, it is very good for us to listen and obey all the teachings of our Lord Jesus Christ.

MEMORY VERSE

"This is my beloved So Hear Him"
Mark 9:7

PLEASE EMPHASIZE

- Please tell the story of Jesus when He took three of His disciples up the mountain. What happened?
- Jesus took Peter, James and John up the mountain, and Jesus was praying. All of a sudden, His garment became intensely white. Moses and Elijah came and started to talk with Him.
- The three disciples were very afraid. They were also very happy to see the very white garment and the radiant Body of Christ. They wanted to stay on

Third Sunday

the mountain, so St. Peter said, "Rabbi, it is good for us to be here". St. Peter asked for a cover. Then a cloud overshadowed them.

- A voice came from heaven saying, "This is my beloved Son Hear Him."
- "Hear Him"; this is the command from Heaven to us to listen to all what Jesus told us to do.
- When Moses and Elijah went away, the three disciples saw Jesus only.
- When they went down the mountain, Jesus asked them not to tell anyone about what they saw until after His resurrection from the dead.
- The disciples asked, "What is the resurrection from the dead?" Do we remember what happened when Jesus rose from the dead after three days? Let us review that event.

WHAT DO WE LEARN FROM THIS LESSON?

The Lord Jesus is the Son of God by the declaration of heaven several times. When Jesus was baptized, a voice from heaven came saying, "You are my beloved Son, in whom I am well pleased", (Mark1:11). Also in the lesson today, we hear the same voice from heaven was saying the same thing "This is my beloved Son. Hear Him", (Mark9:7).





SONGS 🎜

King of Kings

"And His name will be called...Prince of Peace." (Isa 9:6)

King of kings and Lord of Lords Glory, Alleluia.

Jesus, Prince of Peace Glory, Alleluia.

Recitation Curriculum: PLEASE LOOK AT THE RECITATION CURRICULUM AT THE END OF THIS BOOK.

Recitation

RECITATION



IN ADDITION TO ALL THE MEMORY VERSES AND SONGS IN THE LESSONS, PLEASE TEACH THE FOLLOWING RECITATION ITEMS THROUGHOUT THE YEAR:

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Recitation 1

IN THE NAME

In the name of the Father, and the Son, and the Holy Spirit, one God. Amen.

Recitation 2

THE LORD'S PRAYER

Our Father who art in Heaven, Hallowed be Thy Name. Thy Kingdom come. Thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from the evil one, through Christ Jesus our Lord. For Thine is the Kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.

(It can be done over a few lessons)

Recitation 3

Lord Jesus have mercy on me.

Recitation 4

Have mercy on me O Lord according to Thy great mercy.

Recitation 5

I thank you Lord Jesus.

Recitation 6

Truly we believe in One God.

Recitation 7

Hail to Mary mother of God



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MAJOR REFERENCES

(With permission)

- (1) Books by the Thrice-Blessed Pope Shenouda III of blessed memory up to March 2011.
- (2) El-Keraza Magazine, head publisher: the Thrice-Blessed Pope Shenouda III of blessed memory, all issues up to March 2011.
- (3) Books by His Holiness Pope Tawadros II, up to the present time.
- (4) El-Keraza Magazine, head publisher: His Holiness Pope Tawadros II, up to the present time.
- (5) Recorded Sermons by His Grace Bishop Rowiss up to March 2011.
- (6) Books by His Grace Bishop Moussa up to the present time.
- (7) All books by Mr. Kamal Habib (Late Bishop Biman Bishop of Mallawi)
- (8) Books by His Grace the Late Bishop Youanis, Bishop of El-Gharbia.
- (9) Books by Late Father Bishop Kamel of St. George Coptic Church, Alexandria, Egypt.
- (10) All issues of "Sout El-Rabi" magazine, St. George Church, Alexandria, Egypt.
- (11) Books by Father Tadros Y. Malaty, St. George Coptic Church, Alexandria, Egypt, up to the present time.
- (12) "Bahgat El-Aiad" by Yassa Mansour, 1970.
- (13) "The Seven Church Sacraments" by St. Habib Girgis the Archdeacon, 1968.
- (14) All Colouring books, Father Tadros Y. Malaty, St. George Coptic Church, Alexandria, Egypt.

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