

**MALANKARA JACOBITE SYRIAN
SUNDAY SCHOOL ASSOCIATION**



TEXT BOOK CLASS – II

2009



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PREFACE

We are thankful to our Lord Almighty in helping us and guiding us through the work of these Sunday school books. These books are the translations of the “Padamanjari” published by Malankara Jacobite Syrian Sunday School Association.

Children of our community, unable to read and write Malayalam were finding it very difficult to study and understand the faith of our church taught in Malayalam. Even in Kerala, children studying in CBSE and English Medium schools are not able to assimilate Malayalam. Circumstances forced us to have English version for the text books. Now the syllabus has changed that caused the second edition of the text books.

A number of persons contributed to this noble venture. We take this opportunity to thank them all. Let God bless every person who contributed to make these books available to His children. We are happy to submit these books in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ .

We are also grateful to St.Peters Jacobite Syrian Church Baharin who helped us for publishing these text Books in English.

Puthencruz
17.08.2009

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TEXT BOOK FOR CLASS II
(English)

Prepared by :
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MALANKARA JACOBITE SYRIAN SUNDAY SCHOOL ASSOCIATION

Malankara Syrian Sunday School Association was formed in December 27, 1920 at a meeting held at Piravom seminary presided over by St. Paulose Athanasious Metropolitan, known as the "Protector of the True Faith". In 1964 when peace was established in the church M.S.S.A. joined the Sunday School Association of the catholicos faction and continued functioning in the name O.S.S.A.E. But the Catholicos ordained by H.H.the Patriarch in 1964, put forward the claim of a new throne in the church contrary to the true faith and canons of the Church which resulted in the split in the Sunday Association also.

In 1973 a meeting of the Sunday school teachers held in connection with the Patriarchal day decided to reorganize the Sunday Schools which owed allegiance to the Holy Throne of Antioch and All the East. Thus Malankara Jacobite Syrian Sunday school Association was formed in the meeting held at St. Peter's Church, Ernakulam on February 20, 1974. The association byelaw was passed in the meeting held at Baker Memorial School, Kottayam on October 2, 1974. The Association is governed by the byelaws amended and approved by the General Body from time to time and subsequently got registered under the Charitable Societies Act.

H.H. the Patriarch of Antioch and All the East is the Supreme Patron and H.B. the Catholicos is the patron of the Association.

The "Atma Deepam" magazine, an organ of the Association enlightens the souls as the name itself implies. There is an examination wing which controls and conducts the examination from Class I to XII including JSSLC. The JSVBS wing prepares study materials and conducts training camps for teachers for the Vacation Bible School all over India. There is a wing which conducts "Balakalolsavam" at Sunday school, District, Diocese and Association level. Another wing conducts camps for teachers and students. All these wings are functioning from the headquarters. Thus the headquarters at Puthencurz is the nerve centre of various activities of the MJSSA.

M.J.S.S.A. has also started a charity scheme in the name "Mor Baselios Paulose II Catholicos charitable Fund" for the poor and backward.

Plus two course was started for those who passed JSSLC. Syriac language is also taught in Sunday School classes. Several counselling centres are functioning under MJSSA. These were introduced as a Millennium Programme. Spread over in 74 districts there are 600 Sunday Schools, more than 8000 teachers and 60,000 students under MJSSA. No doubt MJSSA has a very important place in the Jacobite Syrian Christian Church in India.

PART I
LESSON 1
PRAYER

I. KAUMA

✠ **In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit, one true God:**

Glory be to Him; and may His grace and mercy be upon us for ever. Amen.

Holy, Holy, Holy, Lord God Almighty, by whose glory, the heaven and earth are filled, Hosanna in the highest.

Blessed is He, who has come, and is to come, in the name of the Lord God; Glory be to Him in the highest.

Holy art Thou, O God!

Holy art Thou, Almighty

Holy art Thou, Immortal

✠ O Thou who was crucified for us, have mercy upon us.

Holy art Thou, O God!

Holy art Thou, Almighty

Holy art Thou, Immortal

✠ O Thou who was crucified for us, have mercy upon us.

Holy art Thou, O God!

Holy art Thou, Almighty

Holy art Thou, Immortal

✠ O Thou who was crucified for us, have mercy upon us.

Lord, have mercy upon us.

Lord, be kind and have mercy upon us.

Lord, accept our prayers and entreaties, have mercy upon us.

Glory be to Thee, O God

Glory be to Thee, O Creator, Glory be to Thee, O Christ, the King, who does pity sinners, Thy servants. Barekmor.

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 debts and sins as we have forgiven our debtors. Lead us not into temptation; but deliver us from the evil. For Thine is the kingdom, the power and the glory, forever and ever. Amen.

Hail Mary, full of grace, our Lord is with thee. Blessed art thou among women, and blessed is the fruit of thy womb, our Lord Jesus Christ. O Holy Virgin Saint Mary, Mother of God, Pray for us sinners, now and at all times, and at the hour of our death.

Malayalam Version

+ Pithaavum puthranum parisuddha roohayum-aaya sathyamulla eka daivathinte thirunaamathil thanikku sthuthi. Nammutemel thante karunayum manogunavum ennekkum undayirikkatte. Amen.

Aakaasavum bhoomiyum thante stuthikal kondu niranjirikkunna balavaanaaya daivam thampuraan parisuddhan, parisuddhan, parisuddhan uyarangalil sthuthi.

Daivamaya karthaavinte thirunamathil vannavanum varuvanirikkunnavanum aayavan vaazhthapettavanaakunnu. Uyarangalil sthuthi.

Daivame nee parisudhanaakunnu.

Balavaane nee parisudhanaakunnu.

Maranamillaathavane nee parisudhanaakunnu

Njangalkuvendi kurisikkapettavane +
njangaludemel karunayuntaakaname.

Daivame nee parisudhanaakunnu.

Balavaane nee parisudhanaakunnu.

Maranamillaathavane nee parisuddhanaakunnu

Njangalkuvendi kurisikkapettavane +
njangaludemel karunayuntaakaname.

Daivame nee parisudhanaakunnu.

Balavaane nee parisudhanaakunnu.

Maranamillaathavane nee parisuddhanaakunnu

Njangalkuvendi kurisikkapettavane +
njangaludemel karunayuntaakaname.

Njangalude karthaave! njangalodu karuna cheyyaname. Njangalude
karthaave! krupayundaayi njangalodu karuna cheyyaname. Njangalude
karthaave! njangalude susrooshayum praarthanakalum kaikkondu
njangalodu karuna cheyyaname.

Daivame ninakku sthuthi. Srushtaave ninakku sthuthi. Paapikalaaya
ninte adiyarodu krupa cheyyunna masiha raajaave ninakku sthuthi.
Baarekmore.

Karthru Prarthana

Swargasthanaaya njangalude pithave, Ninte thirunamam
parisuddhamaakka pedaname, Ninte rajyam varaname, Ninte thiruvishtam
swargathilepole bhoomiyilum aakaname, Njangalkku avasyamaayirikkunna
appam, innum njangalkku tharaname, Njangalude kadakkaarodu njangal
kshamichathupole, Njangalude kadangalum papangalum njangalodu
kshamikkaname, Pareekshayilekku njangale nee pravesippikkaruthe,
Pinneyo dhushtanil ninnum njangale rakshichu kollaname, Enthukondennaal
rajyavum sakthiyum mahathwavum ennekkum, Ninakkullathaakunnu.
Amen.

Krupa niranja Mariyame ninakku samadhanam, Njangalude
karthaavu ninnodu koode, Sthreekalil nee vazhthapettavalakunnu, Ninte
udara phalamaya Njangalude karthaveshu masiha vazhthapettavanakunnu,
Daivamathavaya visudha kanyaka Martha Mariyame, ippozhum, eppozhum
njangalude marana samayathum papikalaya njangalkku vendi apekshichu
kollaname. Amen.

II. When do we make the sign of the Cross

- 1) When hearing the Church bell
- 2) When seeing a Church or the Cross
- 3) While entering a Church
- 4) When saying or hearing the words 'the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit (Holy Trinity).
- 5) When speaking the word Cross (Sleebo) at the time of any prayer.
- 6) When the Bishops bless the congregation using the Cross, at the time of kissing the hand of a Bishop and where it is instructed to make the sign of the Cross during the HOLY Eucharistic services (Qurbano) and prayers.

III. What is the meaning of drawing the sign of the Cross ?

The forehead denotes heaven; the chest earth, the left shoulder sinfulness and the right shoulder the state of the children of God. Our Lord and savior Jesus Christ came down from heaven to earth, taking human form to save us and change us from our sinful state to the state of the children of God by His death on the Cross. When we make the sign of cross we think of our salvation through the death of Christ on the cross.

IV. What is the prayer while entering the Church ?

Everyone entering the Church shall make the sign of the cross and say: "With reverence will I enter Your house, and submit my offering before you My Lord".

PART - 2
LESSON 2
HOLY QURBONO SONGS

- | | |
|--|--|
| 1. Velivinthattil vasikkum
punnyanidhe-parisudha
Venda kashtatha
veenchinthayumadiya reenozhikka
Salkriyakalkku mana:-su-dhia
Sangathi varane njan-gal-kku. | Thou who dwellest in the light
Manslons holy, pure;
Keep us from all hateful thoughts
From all passions vile
Grant us cleanness in our hearts
Deeds of righteousness to do. |
| 2 Bhakthar pukazhchaa bhaajaname!
Ninniludicchorekasuthan
Thrikkaral njangalilalivaan than
Pakkalapekshayanaikkenam
Sthoumen kalos, kurielaison | Thou whose praise the church dotsing.
Intercession for us bring
Unto Him, Thine only Son.
That we may not mercy shun.
Sthoumen kalos, kurielaison |
| 3 Moraneeso kurisum nin
Mathru janathin prarthanayum
Adikaleyum nin kopathin
Vadikaleyum maycheedenam | By Thy cross, O jesus Lord,
By Thy Mother'spraying word,
Take from us and from our path
Punishments and rods of wrath. |
| 4 Parisuddhanmare ningal
Prarhippin karthavodai-
Adikaleyum than kopathin
Vadikaleyum mayicheedan. | Plead for us, ye holy saints,
Pray to Him whose will ye did,
That from anger we be spared
That from scourges we be hid. |
| 5 Sharanathaale nin krupayil
Maranamadanjoru daasare nin
Jeeva swaramathunarthaname
kabareennudyaan atthinaai
Sthoumen kalos, kurielaison. | They who served and died in hope,
Trusting in Thy mercy, Lord,
May Thy living voice them raise
From their graves to paradise
Sthoumen kalos, kurielaison |

PART - III
OLD TESTAMENT
LESSON 3
THE FLOOD
(Genesis 6:13 - 8:22)

Objective: To show that God protects the righteous.

The children of Adam multiplied in number throughout the world. But they also became very evil and wicked. Because the people of that time were so evil, God decided to destroy everything by a great flood. However, God decided to save Noah and his family, since Noah was a righteous man. Noah had three sons: Shem, Ham and Japheth.

God told Noah to build an ark, 300 cubits (450 feet) long, 50 cubits (75 feet) wide and 30 cubits (45 feet) in height using gopher (cypress) wood. God also commanded that the ark should have a window in the side. God said to Noah to go into the ark with his wife, three sons and their wives. He also ordered Noah to take with him seven pairs of every kind of clean animal, and two of every kind of unclean animal - male and female. Noah obeyed the Lord, and loaded the animals and enough food for all of them into the ark.

For forty days and forty nights, there was heavy rain. This rain caused the water level on earth to rise, until all the land was covered with water. The ark began to float on the water. All living beings on earth were destroyed, except for Noah, his family, and the animals in the ark. After 150 days, the level of the water receded steadily. The ark came to rest on the Mountains of Ararat. To see whether the water had gone down, Noah sent out a raven. It flew around looking for a place to sit, but returned to the ark because the water was still very high. The next time Noah sent out a dove, it also returned to the ark. After 7 days, Noah again sent out the dove, but this time it returned with a green olive leaf. This was a sign that the water had dried up from the earth. After seven days, as God commanded, Noah and his family and all creatures came out of the ark. Then Noah built an altar to the Lord and sacrificed burnt offerings. God blessed Noah and his children. Noah's children multiplied and filled the earth. God promised that He would never destroy the earth by flood again. This story shows that God always protects the righteous.

Memory Verse: Look to him, and be radiant; so your faces shall never be ashamed (Psalms 34 : 5)

I. Fill in the blanks

1. The length of the ark was cubits.
2. It was raining continuously for days and nights.

II. Answer the following

1. The name of the mountain on which the ark came to rest?
2. Why did God flood the earth?
3. Whom did God rescue from the flood?
4. How did Noah and his family escape from the flood?
5. What was the size of the ark?
6. What is the moral of this lesson?
7. What promise did God make after the flood?

LESSON 4

HUMAN EFFORT WITHOUT GOD

(Genesis 11:1-20)

Objective: To show that God's help is essential for success.

The children of Noah increased in number in the world. Everyone throughout the world spoke one language at that time. The people came and settled in a plain in Shinar. They decided to build a town with a tower reaching to the sky, which would prevent them from scattering around the earth. They were arrogantly proud of their decision. They decided to build a very tall tower, using baked bricks and clay. They thought very high of themselves and said, "We will soon build a city with a tower that reaches to the Heavens."

They began the work without God's directives. Therefore, God decided to scatter the people all over the earth, and confused their languages. Now they could not understand each other, since everyone spoke different languages. The people were all scattered around the world, before the tower could ever be finished. That is why the site was called Babel – because there the Lord confused the language of the whole world. Without God's support human efforts will be futile.

Memory Verse: Unless the Lord builds the house, those who build it labour in vain.(Psalms 127: 1)

I. Fill in the blanks

1. The children of Noah lived in a plain in the land of
2. The place where the children of Noah began to speak different languages was named

II. Answer the following

1. What did the children of Noah do to prevent themselves from being scattered ?
2. What character of Noah's children is revealed by their decision to build a tower that touches the sky ?
3. How did God scatter the people through out the world ?
4. What is the moral of this lesson ?

LESSON 5

BROTHERLY LOVE OF ABRAHAM

(Genesis : 12, 13 & 14)

Objective: To show the greatness of brotherly love

There was a town called Ur in the land of Chaldea in present-day Iraq. There lived a man named Abram who was faithful to God. His father was Terah. Later Terah and his family moved to Haran. Terah died in Haran.

God called Abram and commanded, "*Go to the place which I am going to show you.*" Abram did not know anything about the place. Abram trusted God. Therefore, Abram, along with his wife Sarai and nephew Lot left everything they owned - their house and land behind and began their journey. In the middle of the journey, they stayed in Bethel for a short time. God revealed himself to Abram and told him that his children would be given that place in the future. Abram then built an altar there and they worshipped God.

Abram and Lot were immensely rich. Their wealth was in the form of cattle. They lived a very rich and comfortable life by raising cattle in a very vast pasture. Some time later, the herdsmen of both men began to argue since

there was not enough space for the cattle owned by both Abram and Lot. Because of this, Abram and Lot decided to separate.

Lot was allowed to select whichever place he wanted. *“If you are to the left I will go to the right. Or else if you are to right I will select the left,”*

Abram suggested. Lot selected the more fertile land in the plain of Jordan. Therefore, Abram lived in the land of Canaan. Lot’s new neighbors, who were plunderers, soon took Lot as a prisoner. Hearing about this, Abram followed these robbers with 318 trained warriors with him. He defeated them and regained the wealth and released Lot and his family.

Because of Abram’s dedication to God, the Lord God entered into a covenant with Abram and blessed him that his progeny will fill the earth. God gave him a new name, Abraham, which means ‘father of many’ (nations). Also, the Lord God blessed Sarai and gave her a new name, Sarah, which means ‘mother of nations’ (and kings).

Remember: Brotherly love is truly great!!.

Memory Verse: Do not be overcome by evil, but overcome evil with good (Romans 12: 21)

I. Fill in the blank

1. The birthplace of Abram was

II. Answer the following

1. What did God command Abram to do?
2. What is the name of the place where Abram stayed in the middle of his journey, which God promised would one day belong to Abram’s children?
3. Why did Abram and Lot decide to live separately?
4. What did Abram say to Lot in the selection of land?
5. Who rescued Lot from the plunderers?
6. What is the moral of this lesson?
7. What are the new names God gave to Abram and Sarai?
8. What is the name of Abram’s Father?

LESSON 6
PROMISED SON, ISAAC
(Genesis 23 & 24)

Objective : Obedience to God and parents shall give blessings in abundance.

You were taught last year how God had saved the life of Isaac, Son of Abraham - father of the faithful. God had also provided a ram to sacrifice as a burnt offering instead of Isaac.

Isaac was born when Abraham was 100 years old and Sarah 90. The promise of God to Abraham that he would have a son through whom a nation would rise materialised through the birth of Isaac. Isaac grew obeying his parents. Sarah lived hundred and twenty seven years, died and buried in cave Machpelah. Abraham became old and it was time for Isaac to get married.

One day Abraham called his head servant Eliazer to find out a suitable bride for his son from the land of his family. Eliazer went to Mesopotamia along with ten of his masters camels, jewellery, beautiful clothings and other precious things. He reached the outskirts of the city in the after noon and made the camels, kneel down outside the city by the well of water. He prayed God to show him a way to proceed and God granted success.

By evening maiden started coming to collect water from the well. Eliazer decided to request them for drinking water. He decided to fix the maiden whom shall reply 'Drink and I will water your camels' as the bride of Isaac. Then came a beautiful lady. He asked to her for drinking water. She replied "Lord Drink and I will water your camels also". He asked her whereabouts and found that she is Rebecca the daughter of Bethel son of Nahar who was the brother of Abraham. Immediately he put the gold ring and bracelets on her.

The maiden ran away to her home and informed what transpired near the well. Her brother Labn met Eliazer and took him home. They discussed and sent Rebekah along with Eliazer to Isaac's home.

By this time Isaac was praying God sitting in an open space. Looking at a distance, he found Eliazer returning with a beautiful lady and took her to his home. Their marriage was solemnised. Dear children, if we surrender everything to God and pray he will bless us in abundance.

Memory Verse: ‘Remember also your creator in the days of your youth’
(Ecclesiastes 12:1)

Answer the following:

- 1) Name the cave where Sarah was buried
- 2) Who was the father of the faithful
- 3) Name the head servant of Abraham
- 4) Name the wife of Isaac
- 5) What was Isaac doing when Rebekah was brought to his home ?

LESSON 7

JACOB AND ESAU

(Genesis 27,31)

Objective: God will greatly bless those who know God and work hard.

Isaac was the promised son of Abraham. Isaac’s wife Rebecca delivered twins. Esau was the elder son and Jacob was the younger. Esau’s body was very hairy, but Jacob’s skin was smooth. Esau was irresponsible. One day when he was hungry, he sold his birth right as the first-born son to Jacob in exchange for a bowl of stew.

Jacob was very shrewd and hard-working. Once Isaac, who was then very old, asked Esau to go hunting and to bring some tastily prepared meat. Isaac said, “Then I will give you my blessing.” However, their mother, Rebecca, wanted Jacob to have this blessing from Isaac, since she loved Jacob more than Esau. Before Esau brought his meat to his father Isaac, Rebecca killed and prepared two lambs for Jacob to give to his father. In order to make Isaac, who was blind due to old age, believe that Jacob was really Esau, Rebecca made Jacob wear Esau’s clothes. She also put animal skin on Jacob’s arms and neck to make his body as hairy as Esau’s. This was done to mislead Isaac, so that he would give his blessing to Jacob instead of Esau.

Pretending to be Esau, Jacob approached his father with the cooked meat. Because of the animal hair on his arms and neck, and because he was wearing Esau’s clothes, Isaac believed that this was his older son, Esau. Thinking that it was the game Esau caught while hunting, Isaac ate the tastily meat and was

very pleased. Therefore, Isaac gave all of his blessings to Jacob. Isaac said that Jacob would be the chief between the two brothers.

After a short while, Esau came back with the game that he had caught. He prepared some tasty food and brought it to his father. Then Isaac and Esau realized that Jacob had cheated Esau by receiving all of Isaac's blessings. This made Esau very angry with Jacob. Because of this, Rebecca sent Jacob to the house of her brother Laban.

Memory Verse: He does not deal with us according to our sins, nor requite us according to our iniquities. (Psalms 103:10)

I. Answer the following

1. Who was the first one among the twins born to Isaac?
2. To whom did Jacob run, in fear of his brother Esau?
3. Why did Esau sell his birthright as the elder brother to Jacob?
4. How did Jacob get the blessings from his father Isaac?

LESSON - 8

JACOB IN NATIVE LAND

(Genesis 32 & 33)

Objective: God will bless and forgive us if we repent our mistakes and repeat.

Jacob stayed at Laban's house, where he took care of Laban's sheep. The sheep increased in number so much that Laban gave his elder daughter Leah and later his younger daughter Rachel, in marriage to Jacob. After 20 years there arose disputes between Laban and Jacob involving properties. God instructed Jacob to return to the land of his father. Laban was not ready to send back Jacob. But Jacob fled to his own land. It is true that he had fear of Esau in his mind for he had cheated him. Anyhow he travelled to his land with his wives, children, men and maid servants and with all his belongings.

One night during his journey to Canaan, an angel of God wrestled with Jacob. They fought until the morning, and then the man was going to leave. However, Jacob said, "I will not let you go until you bless me." God gave him the name Israel, which means, 'the man who struggled with God'. God blessed Jacob. From this time on that place was known as Peniel, which means 'saw God face to face'.

To his surprise, Esau gave Jacob a very warm welcome. Jacob stayed along with his brother Esau in Canaan. Jacob has 12 children who came to be known as chief of tribes of Israel.

It is surprising to note that the word of God to Abraham to make him a nation has come true. It is to be noted that the promise of God shall never be failed.

Memory Verse: Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, is a new creation, the old has passed away, behold, the new has come. (2 Corinthians 5 : 17)

Answer the following:

- 1) Name the place where Jacobs was conferred the name Israel.
- 2) What was the request made by Jacob to the struggled God man ?
- 3) Name of the youngest son of Jacob.
- 4) How are the sons of the Jacob known to the world ?

LESSON 9

THE PROPHET ELIJAH

(1 Kings: 18:20-40)

Objective: To show that God will reveal himself to those who serve God faithfully.

During the reign of King Ahab, both the king and the people of Israel violated the commandments of God by worshipping the idol of Baal. God's wrath fell on them. No rain fell on their land, resulting in crop destruction. There was severe famine. The animals also perished due to severe draught. God asked his prophet Elijah to go to Israel and convince the king and his subjects that the Lord God is their only God.

King Ahab met Elijah. Elijah told Ahab that the famine was due to the idol worship and that the people forgot the true God and abandoned His commandments. Elijah asked Ahab to summon all Israelites and the priests and prophets of Baal to Mount Carmel to test and see whether Baal or the Lord God is the true God. 450 prophets of Baal and several Israelites assembled on

Mount Carmel. The Prophet Elijah asked the people to bring two bulls to offer as sacrifice. One was to be sacrificed by the prophets of Baal, and the other by Elijah the prophet to the Lord God. Whichever sacrifice was burned by fire from heaven would be considered as the sacrifice for true God.

At first, the prophets of Baal placed a bull cut into pieces on the altar on which firewood was well packed. They prayed to Baal from dawn until noon. They cried aloud to Baal, but nothing happened. Later Elijah packed firewood on his altar to the Lord and placed the other bull, cut into pieces, over it. The Prophet then knelt down and prayed to the Lord God, "Please answer me God." Suddenly fire from heaven came down and burned up the sacrifice, the firewood, and even the soil beneath the altar. When all the people saw this they fell prostrate and cried "The Lord is the true God."

We should worship the Lord our God only, as he is the true God. If we pray to Him with faith, God will hear us and answer our prayers.

Memory Verse: The eyes of Lord are toward the righteous, and his ears toward their cry. (Psalms 34 : 15)

I. Fill in the blank

1. At the time of King Ahab the idol of was worshipped.

II. Answer the following

1. What was the name of the mount on which Elijah made the sacrifice to prove that Lord is the true God ?
2. What was the reason for the sufferings of the people during the reign of Ahab ?
3. What did Elijah do to prove that the Lord is the true God ?
4. What did Elijah pray, for the fire to come down from heaven
5. What is the moral of this lesson ?

LESSON 10
SOLOMON THE WISE
(1 Kings 3:3-14)

Objective: To illustrate that God accepts prudent prayers.

There was a king in Israel whose name was Solomon. David, the great king was Solomon's father. Just like King David, Solomon also loved God and lived according to the will of God. He prayed to God every day, and God blessed him.

Israel used to sacrifice on the altar at Gibeon. Solomon came to Gibeon and offered a thousand sacrifices of sweet incense. Seeing his love towards God and his humility, God was very pleased with Solomon.

Lord revealed himself to Solomon while he was sleeping at Gibeon. "Ask for whatever you want, and I will give it to you," God said to Solomon. "I am not able to reign over such a great people, which are too numerous to count. So to judge your people, please give me a heart of wisdom that is capable of discerning good and evil," Solomon prayed. God was pleased at the prayer of Solomon. God gave Solomon wisdom. God also gave him wealth and long life, even though he had not asked for these things. Solomon was very glad that God heard his prayer. Later he was known as Solomon, the wise. We also should be capable of praying wisely before the Lord.

Memory Verse: "The Fear of the Lord is the beginning of knowledge"
(Proverbs 1:7)

I. Answer the following

1. Who was the father of Solomon ?
2. The place where Solomon offered a thousand sacrifices of sweet incense.
3. Why did God bless Solomon ?
4. What did Solomon ask God to grant him ?
5. What sort of prayer should we offer before God ?

PART 4
NEW TESTAMENT
LESSON 11

THE BAPTISM OF JESUS CHRIST

(Mathew 3:13-17, Mark 1:9-11, and Luke 3:21)

Objective: God reveals His Son, Jesus.

John the Baptist, who came as the forerunner of Jesus Christ encouraged people to repent. In the river Jordan, he baptized those who had repented. He advised people to save themselves from the wrath of God.

One day Jesus came to John along with the other people to be baptized. While Jesus was baptized, heaven opened and the Holy Spirit, in the form of a dove, came down upon Jesus. *“You are my Dear Son. I am pleased with you,”* a sound echoed from heaven. At this moment the Father, Son and Holy Spirit - the Holy Trinity - appeared together.

The date that we remember as the day of Baptism of Jesus Christ is January 6. The Church celebrates January 6th as the festival of Denaho. The meaning of Denaho is to “Dawn.”

Memory Verse: “ Submitting yourselves one to another in the fear of God”
(Ephesians 5:21)

I. Fill in the blanks

1. is the forerunner of Jesus Christ.
2. John the Baptist baptized people in the river.....
3. The meaning of the word Denaho is

II. Answer the following

1. What happened when Jesus was being baptized?
2. What was the first occasion when the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit were witnessed together?
3. When does the Holy Church celebrate the baptism of Jesus Christ?

LESSON 12
THE FASTING AND PRAYERS
(Mathew 4:1-11)

Objective: To stress the significance of fasting and prayer.

Jesus was led by the Spirit into the desert, after being baptized by John the Baptist. As a preparation for his public ministry, he fasted for forty days and forty nights continuously. After this, He was very hungry. Satan approached Jesus to tempt him. *“If you are the Son of God, order these stones to become bread,”*

Satan challenged Jesus. *“Man does not live by bread alone, but by every word that comes from the mouth of God,”* Jesus replied.

Later Satan took Jesus to the highest point of the temple in the Holy City. Satan asked Jesus, *“If you are the Son of God, throw yourself down. For it is written: ‘The angels of God will guard you from striking your feet against a stone’.”* Jesus said, *“It is also written that you should not put the Lord your God to the test”.*

In these two attempts to tempt Jesus, Satan was defeated. Then Satan took Jesus to the top of a mountain. Satan showed Jesus all of the kingdoms of the world and their splendor. Satan told Jesus that if Jesus knelt down and worshipped him, he would give all of these to Jesus. Jesus said to Satan, *“Satan, go away from me. For it is written: ‘Worship the Lord your God, and serve Him only.’”* Suddenly the devil left him. The angels of God came and attended to him.

Thus Jesus Christ had victory over Satan through fasting and prayer. By sincere fasting and prayer, we also can win over the temptations of this world.

Memory Verse: “ This kind can come forth by nothing, But by prayer and fasting” (St.Mark 9: 29)

I. Fill in the blanks

1. Jesus fasted for
2. While fasting, Jesus stayed in the

II. Answer the following

1. What happened after Jesus finished fasting in the desert?
2. What was the first attempt of Satan to tempt Jesus? What was the reply of Jesus?
3. What was the second temptation? How did Jesus overcome it?
4. What was the third trial to tempt Jesus? How did Jesus win against Satan?
5. What is the moral behind this lesson?

LESSON 13

WEDDING IN CANA

(St. John:2:1-11)

Objective: To learn that Jesus is the Lord of all things.

Jesus grew up with His mother, Mary and his foster father, Joseph in Nazareth. As he grew up, he was strengthened by God's blessings. Children who obey their parents will get God's blessings and long life as promised in the fifth commandment.

When Jesus was thirty-years-old, He began his public ministry. As He traveled through Galilee, Jesus taught about the kingdom of God, and about repentance. Jesus had many followers. Among these followers Jesus chose twelve people whom He called Apostles, which means, "People who were sent"

Cana is a small town in Galilee. Cana is near Nazareth. Once there was a wedding in Cana. Mary and Jesus were invited to the wedding. Mary came early to help prepare for the occasion because Mary was related to that family. Jesus and His disciples arrived at the time of the wedding. While the feast was in progress, they ran out of wine. In wedding feasts of Cana, it was customary to serve wine to the guests. The host would not have expected wine to run out. The feast would be ruined if wine could not be served. It would be such a disgrace for the host. Mary realized that they needed help. She recognized that her Son was the only one who could help them at that time. She knew He was the Son of God. She had the freedom to ask Him. She told Him, "They have no wine." Jesus replied, "What does your concern have to do with me? My hour has not yet come."

Mary understood that He was not denying her request. She knew well

what her Son would do. Among the people there, Mary was the only one who believed that He was the Son of God. Without any doubts in her mind, she told the servants in the house, “Whatever He says to you, do it.”

Jesus did not refuse His mother’s request. Even though His time had not arrived, He fulfilled His mother’s request. There were six huge stone jars in the house. Jesus told the servants, “*Fill the jars with water.*” He then said to them, “*Draw some out now and take it to the master of the feast.*”

Only if the master of the feast is satisfied that the wine tastes good can it be served at the feast. When he tasted what the servants brought him, he was amazed. How good it tasted. He called the bridegroom aside and said to him, “*Every man sets out the best wine at the beginning, and when the guests have well drunk, they set out other wine that isn’t as good. But you have kept the best wine until now.*”

When the servants and Jesus’ disciples realized that the water had turned into wine, they were very surprised. The disciples began to believe in His divinity. Jesus performed the first miracle fulfilling His mother’s request. The Savior of the world is a caring son too. The skies, the earth, and all the powers there in are under His control. This is what the first miracle of Jesus teaches us.

Memory verse: The Father loves the Son, and has given all things into His hand.” (St. John 3:35).

I. Choose the correct answer

1. Name the village in which Jesus performed his first miracle?
a) Galilee b) Cana c) Samaria
2. What was happening at Cana?
a) Festival b) Concert c) Wedding
3. Who arrived early?
a) Jesus b) Disciples c) Mary, mother of Jesus
4. What happened as the feast was in progress?
a) The best man did not show up. b) Ran out of wine c) Rained

II. Answer the following

1. What did Mary tell Jesus?
2. “Whatever He says to you, do it” Who said this? To whom?
3. “Fill the water pots with water.” Who said this? To whom?
4. “You have kept the best wine until now.” Who said this? To whom?
5. What was the source of this good wine?

LESSON 14

JESUS HEALS THE SICK

(Mathew 15:22-28, Luke 5:18-26, Luke 17:11-19)

Objective: To show that Jesus is capable of curing our illnesses.

Jesus was born and brought up in this world preaching and proclaiming the gospel. He made people conscious of salvation. He gave authority to his Apostles to proclaim the good news throughout the world. He also cured the sick, and gave peace and consolation to the people who were living in misery and suffering.

One day a paralyzed man was brought to Jesus by four of his friends. Seeing their faith Jesus said, “Your sins are forgiven”. Jesus then ordered him, “take your bedding and walk home.” The man was totally cured and he took his mat and went home.

One day a Canaanite woman approached Jesus. Crying out she told Jesus that her daughter was possessed by an evil spirit. Jesus had mercy on her. “Since you have great faith, your daughter is cured,” Jesus said. From that minute onwards, her daughter was healed.

Memory Verse: “It is better to trust in the Lord than to put confidence in Man”
(Psalm 118:8)

II. Answer the following

1. What is the commendment of Jesus to the paralyzed man ?
2. What Jesus said to the Canaanite woman ?

LESSON 15

THE GOOD SAMARITAN

(Luke 10:30-37)

Objective: To understand who a true friend is.

One day a Jewish man was travelling alone from Jerusalem to Jericho and fell into the hands of robbers. They beat him, robbed him and went away, leaving him half dead. He was severely injured. Blood flowed from his wounds. The robbers took all the money he had and the clothes he was wearing. This poor man was then left lying by the side of the road.

After some time a Jewish priest walked through that road. Seeing this helpless injured man, the priest went away without helping him. Later on, a Levite came by on the road. The Levites were people who did services in the Jewish Synagogues. He also saw the injured man and his bleeding wounds. Without caring to help, the Levite ignored the man and proceeded to his destination. Later a Samaritan came through the road. The Jewish people considered Samaritans as outcasts, and had little to do with them. However, the Samaritan got down from his donkey, and felt sorry for the injured man.

He examined the injured man, washed his wounds and applied oil to the wounds. He then bandaged the wounds, and took the injured man on his donkey to the nearest inn. The next day, the Samaritan gave two silver coins to the innkeeper to make necessary arrangements for the injured man to rest at the inn. He promised the inn-keeper that he would pay any additional expense that may have been incurred when he returned.

Among the priest, the Levite, and the Samaritan, only the Samaritan had compassion on the injured man. Only the Samaritan helped the man in danger, even though he was not even a member of his community. He alone showed the love of God. God expects this love from all of us. We should show compassion for and help those who are in need.

Memory Verse: “ He that dwelleth in love dwelleth in God, and God in him”
I John 4:16

I. Fill in the blanks

1. The traveler was going from to.....
2. Levites are people who do..... in the Jewish temple.

II. Answer the following

1. What happened to the traveler in the middle of his travel?
2. What did the priest do after seeing the injured man?
3. What did the Levite do for the injured man?
4. Who helped the injured man?
5. What did the Samaritan do for the injured man?
6. What is the moral behind this lesson?

LESSON 16

OUR LOVING FATHER

(St.Luke 15: 11-32)

Objective: To learn that God is our loving Father.

God is our Father. He loves us. Jesus is the Son of God, who came down from heaven to save us from our sins. When we sin, God grieves; when we renounce sin and return to God, He rejoices. When we confess our sins and ask for forgiveness, God pardons and happily receive us. Jesus taught us about God's forgiveness through the parable of the prodigal son.

Once a certain rich man had two sons. The younger one asked his father his share of the property. So the man divided the property between his two sons. The younger son sold his part of the property and left home with the money. He surely thought that he could have an easy life, without his father to control him. He went to a place far away. There he made a lot of friends. He wasted his money by recklessly spending it. When he ran out of all his money, his friends left him. This shows us that we have to be careful when we choose our friends. Then a severe famine hit that country and he was left without anything. He waned without food. He could not bear his hunger. He went to work for a farmer. The farmer sent him to take care of the pigs. He worked there for food. But he was still hungry. He wished he could eat the bean pods that the pigs ate. But he was not even allowed to eat that.

Then he thought of his home and his father, all the sins he had committed and then he repented. He said, "In my father's house servants have enough to eat and to spare, while I starve here. I will go back to my father and say, "Father, I have sinned against heaven and against you. I am not longer worthy to be called your son; treat me as one of your servants". This is true repentance. He got up and went back to his father.

His father saw him from far away. The father was waiting for his son's return for a long time. His heart was filled with compassion. He ran towards his son and threw his arms around him and kissed him. The son wept and said, "Father, I have sinned against heaven and against you. I am no longer worthy to be called your son."

But the father called his servants and told them, "Bring the best robe and put on him. Put a ring on his finger and shoes on his feet. Then go and get the fattened calf and kill it. Let us eat and be merry, because my son was dead, but now he is alive; he was lost and now he has been found." And so the celebration began.

In the meantime the elder son was out in the field. On his way back, when he came near the house, he heard the music and dancing. He called one of the servants and asked him what was going on. When he found out the news he was so angry that he would not go into the house. So his father came out and requested him to come in. The elder son answered his father, "All these years I have served you and I never disobeyed you. You never gave me anything to celebrate with my friends. But your younger son wasted all your property, and when he came back home you killed the fattened calf for him."

The father replied, "My son you are always here with me and all my property is yours. But your brother was dead, but now he is alive; he was lost and now he has been found. So we have to celebrate and be happy."

When a person sins, he is dead to God. But when he repents and comes back to God, he lives again. God, the Father gladly receives him and angels in the heaven rejoice over him.

Memory Verse : " In the same way, I tell you, the angels of God rejoice over one sinner who repents" (St. Luke 15:10)

I. Choose the correct answer

1. What did the younger son demand from his father ?
 - a) To send him to school
 - b) To give his share of the property
 - c) To send him for a vacation
2. What did the younger son do with his share of property ?
 - a) Sold that
 - b) Rented that
 - c) Improved that
3. What did the younger son's friends do when he was out of money ?
 - a) Supported him
 - b) Left him
 - c) Send him home
4. What did the younger son do when he couldn't bear hunger ?
 - a) worked in a store
 - b) Went home
 - c) Worked for a farmer

II Answer the following.

1. How did the Younger son end up in such a sorry state ?
2. What did the younger son do when he repented ?
3. What did the father do when he saw his younger son far away ?
4. What did the younger son tell his father when he returned ?
5. How did the father welcome his son back ?
6. Who got angry and stayed out side the home ? Why ?
7. What did the father tell his elder son ?

PART 5
HOLY FAITH OF THE CHURCH
LESSON 17

TRUE FAITH OF THE HOLY CHURCH

1. Who is God?
God is the creator and protector of all. God loves man. God acts as the guardian and companion of man.
2. What do you mean by one God in trinity?
The Father, Son, and Holy Spirit make up the Holy Trinity. One God is the fellowship of the Trinity that is the same God.
3. Who is Jesus Christ?
Jesus Christ is the only begotten Son of God, incarnated as man for the salvation of the human race. Jesus Christ is perfect God and perfect man.
4. What is the meaning of the name Jesus the Messiah?
Jesus means “savior” and Messiah means “the Anointed One.”
5. What is the purpose of the incarnation of the Holy Son?
The Holy Son, Jesus Christ incarnated for the redemption and salvation of humanity.
6. What is Jesus Christ doing now?
Now Jesus Christ is sitting at the right hand side of the Holy Father and intercedes for us.
7. Will Messiah come again to this world?
Yes. He will come again in great glory to gather all those who live according to the will of God.
8. How did Jesus Christ redeem us?
Jesus Christ redeemed us by His passion, crucifixion, death, and resurrection.

9. Why does the Church insist facing to the east while praying?

In the second coming Jesus, the Sun of Justice will come from the east. Therefore, we pray facing to the east to watch and wait for his arrival.

10. Who are the ordained clergy in the church?

Metropolitans, Priests and Deacons are the ordained clergy in the Church.

11. Meaning of,

Kuriaelaieson - God have mercy upon us

Ameen. - That is the truth.

Baraekmor - God bless us

PART 6

LESSON 18

HISTORY OF THE CHURCH

1. What is the name of our Church?

The Holy Syrian Orthodox Church. (Jacobite Syrian Christian Church)

2. Who is our Diocesan Metropolitan?

(Teach the name of the concerned Diocesan Metropolitan)

3. Where were the followers of Christ called Christians first?

Antioch.

