

**MALANKARA JACOBITE SYRIAN
SUNDAY SCHOOL ASSOCIATION**



TEXT BOOK CLASS – IV

2009



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PREFACE

We are thankful to our Lord Almighty in helping 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. Special mention has to be made for the valuable contribution made by Mr.O.A.Kurien, Mr.M.J. Mathen I.R.S. (Rtd.) Mr.Varghese and Prof.V. S.Baby. 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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- * God is our Creator
- * God is our Father
- * God loves us
- * Bow before God
- * Love God
- * Jesus is our Saviour
- * Jesus was born for us
- * Jesus died for us
- * Jesus loves us
- * Live with Jesus



TEXT BOOK FOR CLASS IV
(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 Athanasios Metroplition, 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 catholicose faction and continued functioning in the name O.S.S.A.E. But the Catholicose 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 School 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 Catholicose 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 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 640 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 call upon you, Lord; hear me! Give heed to my words and answer me.

Let my prayer be like incense in your sight, my uplifted hands be like an evening sacrifice. Lord, set a guard at my mouth, a sentry at the door of my lips, that my heart may not turn to evil (matter) and indulge in the deeds of wickedness.

Let me not sit at the table of the wicked. Let the righteous man teach me, let him reprove me, but the Oil of the wicked shall not anoint my head, my prayer is against their evil deeds When their judges are thrown down in stony places, they shall hear my words; for they are sweet.

Their bones are scattered at the mouth of the grave like the plow that breaks the earth. I lift up my eyes to you, Lord. I put my trust in you, do not leave my soul destitute.

Keep me away from the hands of the proud who have laid snares for me. Let the wicked fall into their own traps, while I go unharmed.

While my soul was in agony, I cried unto the Lord with my voice; with all my voice I made supplication. I poured out my affliction before Him, I told Him all my troubles,. When my spirit was overwhelmed within me, then You know my path.

They have hidden snares for me in the way I have to walk. I looked to the right, but there was no one who knew me; no one cared for my soul. I cried unto You, O Lord ! I said, You are my refuge and my portion in the land of the living.

Attend to my supplication; for I am in distress. Deliver me from my persecutors, for they are stronger than me. Lead me forth from prison that I may praise your name. The righteous shall wait for me because You will answer me.

Your word is a lamp to my feet and alight for my path. I have sworn and have determined to keep Your holy decrees. I am made to be low, Lord. Give me life - according to Your word. Lord, be pleased with the words of my lips and teach me Your decrees.

My life is always in Your hands, I do not forget Your laws. the wicked have set traps for me, but I have not strayed from your commands. I treasure up Your testimonies. Truly they are the joy of my heart. Incline my heart to keep Your commands, in truth, for ever.

Praise the Lord, all you nations. Praise Him, all you people. Great is His goodness for us. Truly, the Lord's goodness is for ever

To you belongs the praise, O God. Barekmore.

KARTHAVE! NINNE NJAN VILICHUVALLO, ENNODU UTHARAMARULI CHEYYANAME. ENTE VACHANANGALE SOOKSHICHUKETTU KAICKOLLUKAYUM CHEYYANAME.

ENTE PRARTHANA NITE MUMBAKE DOOPAM POLEYUM, ENTE KAIKALIL NINNULLA KAZHCHA SANDYAYUDE VAZHIPADU POLEYUM ERIKKUMARAKANAME. ENTE HRUDAYAM DUSHKARYATHINU CHAAYUKAYUM, NJAN ANNAYA KRIYAKAL PRAVARTHIKKATHEYUM ERICKATHAKKA VANNAM ENTE VAIKKU KAVALKARANNEYUM ENTE ADHARANGALKKU KAVALKKARANNEYUM NIYAMIKENAME.

DUSHTAMANUSHYARODUKOODENJAN CHERUMARAKARUTHE. NEETHIMAN ENNE PADIPIKAYUM SHASIKAYUM CHEYATTE. DHUSTANMARUDE ENNA ENTE THALAKKU KOZHUPPAKATHE ERIKKATTE. ENTHENNAL ENTE PRARTHANA AVARUDE DOSHAM NIMITHAM AKUNNU. AVARUDE VUDHIKARTHAKAL PAARAYAL THADAYAPETTU. ENTE VACHANANGAL IMPAMULLATHU ENNAVAR KELKATTE.

BHOOMIYE PILARKKUNNA KOZHUVUPOLE SAVAKKUXHIYUDE VAIKKARIKE AVARUDE ASTHIKAL CHITHARAPETTU. KARTHAVE! NJAN ENTE KANNUKALE NINTE ADUKKALEKKU UYARTHI, NINNIL SHARANAPETTU, ENTE ATMAVINE THALLIKALAYARUTHE.

ENIKYAYI KENIKAL MARACHU VACHITULLA PRIHASIKALUDE KAIYIL NINNU ENNE KAATHUKOLLENAME. NJAN KADANNU POKUMBOL ANNYAYAKAR AVARUDE KENIKALIL ORUMICHU VEEZHATTE.

ENTE SHABDATHAL NJAN KARTHAVINE VILICHU. ENTE SHABDATHAL NJAN KARTHAVINNODU PRARTHICHU. AVANTE MUMBAKE NJAN ENTE SANKADAM BHODHIPICHU, AVANTE MUMBAKE NJAN ENTE NJERUKAM ARIYIKUKAYUM CHEYTHU. ENTE ATMAVU VISHADHICHIRIKKUMBOL NEE ENTE OODUVAZHICALARIYUNNUVALLO.

ENTE NADAPUKALUDE VAZHIYILAVAR ENNIKYAYI KENIKAL MARACHU VECHU. NJAN VALATHOTTU NOKKI; ENNE ARIYUNNAVAN ILLENNU NJAN KANDU, SANKETHA STHALAM ENIKKILLATHE YAYI. ENTE DEHIKKUVENDY PAKARAM CHODHIKKU NNAVANUMILLA. KARTHAVE! NJAN NINTE ADUKKAL NILAVILICHU, KARTHAVE ! GEEVICHIRIKKUNNAVARUDE DESATHU ENTE ASRAYAVUM ENTE OHARIYUM NEEYAKUNNU ENNU NJAN PARANJU.

NJAN ETTAVUM ELIMAPPETTIRIKKUNNATHUKONDU ENTE APEKSHAYE SUKSHICHUKELKANAME. ENNE PEEDIPIKUNNAVAR ENNEKKAL BALAVANMAR AYATHUKONDU AVARILNINNU ENNE REKSHIKKANAME. NJAN NINTE NAMATHE STHOSTHRAM CHEYYUVANAYITTU ENTE PRANANE KARAGRAHATHIL NINNU PURAPEDUVIKKENAME. NEE ENIKU UPAKARAM CHEYUMBOL, NINTE NEETHIMANMAR ENNE PRATHEEKSHICHIRIKKUM.

NINTE VACHANAM ENTE KALUKALKU VILAKKUM, ENTE OODUVAZHICALKU PRAKASAVUMAKUNNU. NINTE NEETHIYULLA VIDHIKAL ACHARIPPANAYITTU NJAN ANAYITTU NISCHAYICHU. NJAN ETTAVUM KSHEENICHU. KARTHAVE! NINTE VACHANA PRAKARAM ENNE JEEVIPPIKANAME. KARTHAVE! ENTE VAAYILE VACHANANGALIL NEE ISHTAPEDANAME, NINTE NYANGALIL NINNU ENNE PADIPIKKENAME.

ENTE DEHI ELLAIPOZHUM NINTE KAIKALIL IRIKUNNU. NINTE VEDHAPRAMANAM NJAN MARANILLA, PAPIKAL ENIKAYI KENIKAL VACHU. NJAN NINTE KALPANAKALIL NINNUM MARIPPOYILLA. NJAN NINTE SAKSHIYE ENNEKUM AVAKASAMAI SWEEKARICHU. ENTHENNAL ATHU ENTE HRUDAYATHINTE ANANDAM AKUNNU. NINTE KALPANAKAL ENNEKUM SATHYATHODE NIVARTHIPPANAYITTU NJAN ENTE HRUDYAM THIRICHU.

SAKALA JATHIKALUME KARTHAVINE STHUTHIPEEN, SAKALA JANANGALUME AVANE STHUTHIPEEN. ENTHENNAL AVANTE KRUPA NAMMUDEMEL BELAPETTIRIKUNNU; AVAN SATHYAMAYITTU ENNEKUM KARTHAVAKUNNU.

DHEIVAME! STHUTHI NINAKKU YOGYAMAKUNNU - BAREKMOR.

PART II
OLD TESTAMENT
LESSON 2
JUDGES

(Deuteronomy 30: 15-20; Judges and 1 Samuel 1 to 7)

Objective: To learn that God protects those who turn towards Him and punishes those who disobey His laws.

In modern times, judges are appointed to hear complaints in courts and to ensure that justice is done. However, judges of the Old Testament times did not sit in courts. Most of them were warriors and they were rulers as well. The period of the Judges was the 11th and 12th centuries BC. Othniel to Samuel, there were 15 judges. Among them 14 were males. The 15th was a oliver prophetess 'Deborah' (Judges 4.4)

Joshua was the leader of Israel to enter Canaan and he guided the people. After Joshua, prominent elders led Israel with the guidance of God. Gradually, Israel forgot their God. They entered into matrimonial relationships with the pagans and slipped into their ways of idol worship and other evil practices. Consequently, God gave the Israelites up to their enemies. When Israel repented, God raised judges from the people. Let us learn about these judges. God chose Eli, a priest to judge Israel. Eli was a pious and God fearing man. Eli's sons, Hophni and Phinehas were disobedient, arrogant and led a wicked and sinful life. Eli was at fault for not restraining them and grew them properly in discipline. There was a different person among the judges. He was Samuel who was a judge, a priest and a prophet at a time. He received the gift of prophecy and bless in abundance from God since he lead a pure and spiritual life. God appeared to him at him sleep (1 Samuel 3: 3-10) in his childhood. It is surprising that both his son Joel and Abiah were corrupt and irresponsible. Later Samuel anointed Saul and David as Kings.

Moral : God is guiding us. While we are experiencing the grace of God we shall not fall in sin.

Memory Verse: Be hold, the Lord's hand is shortend, that it cannot save, or his ear dull, that it cannot hear (Isaiah. 59:1)

During that time, the Philistines attacked Israel. Israel was defeated and the ark of God was captured. The two sons of Eli were killed. When Eli heard all of this, he fell down. His neck was broken and he died. (1 Samuel 4:14-18)

Questions:

1. Name of the following
 - a) The first judge
 - b) Son of Eli
 - c) Son of Samuel
 - d) Woman judge
 - e) Leader of Israel who lead to Canan
 - f) Judge whoanointed King Saul & David.
2. What are the common causes for which god raised judges from time to time ?
3. Why were the last day of Eli and Samuel sad for them ?

LESSON 3

SAMSON, THE GREAT VALOR

Judges Chapter -13-16

Objective: To learn that God shall leave those who forget him and disobey his laws.

Amongst the judges, Samson is noteworthy, for many reasons. After Abdon, Israel again sinned against their God and the Philistines conquered them and made them slaves.

In those days, a man named Manoah, A Danite, lived with his wife. They were very sad that they had no children. In answer to their fervent prayer, God sent an angel to Manoah's wife and told her that she would bear a son and he would deliver Israel from Philistines. After a few days, Manoah himself received the same message. A child was born to Manoah according to God's word, and he named him Samson.

The young Samson decided to marry a Philistine girl with the consent of his parents. While he was going to the girl's home, he killed with his bare hands a young lion that attacked him (Judges 14:5,6). As planned, the engagement of the marriage was conducted. As he was going with his parents

for the marriage, he saw a beehive in the skeleton of a lion. He took some honey from it, gave some to his parents and they all ate it. They reached the girl's home and conducted the marriage ceremony.

At the bride's residence, Samson told a riddle to the 30 young men who were the bridegroom's companions in the marriage. The riddle was 'Out of the eater, something to eat; out of the strong, something sweet'. These men were not able to answer his riddle. They coaxed his wife to get the answer to the riddle. When the young men answered him, Samson was obliged to give each of them a pair of garments. Samson went out, killed 30 young philistines, and gave the garments to the bridegroom's companions (Judges 14:11-19) Samson returned home, but did not take his wife along. Though the young men got their garments, they were furious at the incident.

After some days, Samson went to his wife's house. He was shocked at the news that her father had given her to somebody else as wife. Her father thought that Samson was not happy with her and that he would not accept her again. This made Samson extremely angry. To avenge his shame, Samson got hold of 300 foxes, tied the tails of two each, and put a fire band in the midst of the tails. He then let the foxes loose. The foxes went into the crops of the Philistines and burnt up their vineyards and olives. The angry Philistines killed Samson's wife and her father who were the cause of all this ruin.

Now Samson's anger grew further at this. He beat up and slaughtered many Philistines. The tired Samson hid in a cave in Etam. The Philistines raided Israel searching for Samson. To appease the Philistines, the Israelites bound Samson with cords and handed him over. They chained and put him in a prison. The Spirit of God came upon him, all his bindings were broken, and he came out of the prison. He found a jaw bone of a donkey and with it killed 1000 Philistines. He was very thirsty and cried out to the Lord for water. He cast away the jaw bone out of his hand. The place where the jaw bone fell is called Ramath-lehi. God opened up a spring from the hole where the jaw bone fell. Water came out, Samson drank out of it, and revived his spirit. (Judges 15:9-20)

For about twenty years, Israel lived in peace. In the meanwhile, Samson loved a girl named Delilah. She was an evil-minded Philistine girl. The Philistines were waiting for a chance to kill Samson. They wanted to know the secret of his unusual power. The Philistine leaders gave a large amount of money

to Delilah. Samson gave several false clues about his great strength to Delilah. After her prolonged nagging, Samson had to disclose his secret. The secret of his strength was in his hair. No razor had ever been used on his head, as he had been a Nazarite unto God from his mother's womb. (Judges 16:17) Delilah informed the Philistines that his power was in his hair. She cut his hair while he was sleeping. Then she informed the Philistines, they fell upon him, and seized him. They pierced his eyes and made him blind. In his bondage, he prayed to God for a chance to take revenge on the Philistines. Gradually, his hair grew out.

The Philistines gathered to offer a great sacrifice to their god Dagon. They brought out Samson to the temple of Dagon to entertain them. He was bound to a pillar that supported the temple. The temple complex, where Samson was bound, was very large, having big halls and other facilities. A huge crowd gathered in the temple for their festival. Samson prayed to God with a heavy heart and shook the main pillar of the temple. The whole complex fell down. Most of the people who were gathered there for the festival were under the building and they all died, including Samson. Thus, he killed many more when he died than while he lived. Furthermore, the enemies of Israel had a pitiable end and the Israelites gained freedom. Samson is famous for his valor as a judge in Israel. But his end was very pathetic.

The following were the other judges.

1) Othniel 2) Ehud 3) Shamgar 4) Gideon 5) Abimelech 6) Tola 7) Jair 8) Jephthah 9) Ibsan 10) Elon 11) Abdon.

Memory Verse: Obey the Lord and serve Him faithfully with all your heart. Remember the great things he has done for you (1 Sam.12:24)

Questions:

1. Name the following
 - a) Father of Samson
 - b) The judge who was killed by a deceitful woman
 - c) The philistine girl samson loved
2. What was the riddle Samson told ?

LESSON 4

SAUL, THE FIRST KING OF ISRAEL (BC 1050 –1017)

1 Samuel chapter 9 onwards

Objective: Know the Lord and His will and be prepared to live submitting ourselves fully to the will of God.

The people were unhappy with the two sons of Samuel as judges. They requested Samuel to appoint a king to lead them. Samuel prayed to God. God told Samuel to tell Israelites 'the manner of the king who will reign over them'. God chose Saul, the son of Kish, a rich man from the tribe of Benjamin as the first king of Israel.

One day, some donkeys of Kish were missing. Many of his servants went in search of them in different directions. His father also sent Saul to search for them. His servants told Saul about Samuel, and Saul met Samuel. God had told Samuel about Saul. Samuel was impressed with Saul, who was handsome, very tall and courageous. The prophet told Saul that the missing donkeys were found. He asked him to stay with him for a few days.

Samuel called the people of Israel to an assembly. In this assembly of people, they took lot to see who would become the king. The lot fell to Saul and he was made king over Israel. Samuel anointed him as king of Israel. Saul became king when he was 30 years old. Samuel wrote the duties and obligations of a king in a book and gave them to Saul.

Saul raised an army of 330,000 men and conquered the Philistines. The enmity between the Israel and the Philistines increased, and the Philistines prepared for another war. Samuel had told Saul to wait until he offers a sacrifice to the Lord on the seventh day. On the seventh day Samuel did not turn up at the appointed time, Saul became impatient and offered the sacrifice himself. Just as he finished, Samuel came and told Saul what he did was foolish. Saul was not authorised to offer sacrifice to God. According to the commandment of God, only priests are authorised to perform sacrifices. Because Saul had disobeyed the commandment of the Lord, his kingdom would be taken away from his family. However, Israel won the war. The displeasure of Samuel towards Saul continued.

Another thing Samuel had instructed Saul to do was to destroy the

Amalekites completely, including women, children, and animals because they had attacked Israel on their way from Egypt. Saul conquered the Amalekites, but did not do as Samuel told him. He took the best of the sheep and cattle for sacrifice. Samuel was displeased at this.

Samuel told Saul that to obey the Lord is better than burnt offerings and sacrifices. “To obey is better than sacrifices, and to listen to Him is better than the fat of rams” (1Sam. 15:22). Samuel then ordered Saul to kill Agag, the king of Amalekites, and Saul killed him in the presence of Samuel. Samuel returned to Ramah very sad at the disobedience of Saul. Saul returned to his palace at Gibeah. They did not meet each other thereafter.

Saul subdued surrounding tribes such as the Amalekites, Philistines, Moabites, Ammonites, Edomites, etc. Saul recruited the brave and courageous men to his army. Saul had to fight the Philistines again. As the anger of the Lord came upon him, his might began to wither. In the war at Gilboa, the three sons of Saul were killed, and Saul committed suicide. Saul had a sad end for disobeying the Lord.

Memory Verse: To obey is better than sacrifices and to listen is better than the fat of rams. 1 Sam 15:22

Questions:

1. To which tribe did Saul belong ?
2. Which king did Saul Kill?
3. How did Saul become king?
4. What is the moral that you learn from this lesson?

LESSON 5

THE SHEPHERD BOY ELEVATED TO THE THRONE

(BC 1017 -0977)

1 Samuel 16 to 31; 2 Samuel 1 to 24 Chapters

Objective: To learn that God will take care of those who trust and depend on Him.

Samuel was very sad after he departed from Saul. He was anxious about the future of Israel. Then he received a message from God that he need not be sad about Saul who was rejected by God from the kingship. God then asked him to go to Bethlehem with the oil for anointment. God had found one of the sons of Jesse to be the next King of Israel (1 Sam 16:17).

Samuel reached the house of Jesse. Jesse called his seven sons from the eldest onwards before Samuel. However, none of them proved to be the one chosen by God. At last, the eighth son David, who had been looking after the sheep, was also called in. The prophet saw that the Spirit of the Lord was present in him. Immediately, Samuel poured the oil on his head and anointed him. David was very God fearing, handsome, and an expert in playing harp.

Saul was afflicted by an evil spirit. When he heard music from a harp, he got some comfort. So David was brought in to play harp before Saul quite often. Gradually, David became a regular resident in the palace. Saul was very pleased with David. He did not know that David was the anointed one.

In those days, a champion of the Philistine army named Goliath, a giant, challenged the Israelites in one to one combat. He went on abusing Israel for about forty days. Nobody dared to fight with him.

King Saul made a declaration that whosoever fought with Goliath and killed him, the king would give him his daughter in marriage. Still nobody came forward. On hearing Goliath abuse his god, the young David was enraged. He told the king that he would fight Goliath. The king could not believe him. David said his God would make him strong.

David got the consent and blessings of the king to fight Goliath. David went to Goliath with his sling and five small round stones. On seeing this

shepherd boy, Goliath mocked him. David took a stone from his bag and using his sling, hit Goliath on his forehead and he fell down. Immediately, David cut off Goliath's head using his own sword. Thus, David killed the Philistine champion.

Saul was very pleased with David. He got more freedom at the palace. All the people praised him, and David got a high position in Israel. According to his declaration, Saul was obliged to give his daughter to David in marriage. He did not do it, but gave her to another man. When Saul and David returned celebrating their victory over the Philistines, women from all cities of Israel sang that Saul killed thousands and David killed ten thousands. The king became jealous on hearing this, and sought ways to destroy David.

Then Saul told David that he would give him his daughter Michelle, if he killed a hundred Philistines. Saul believed that David would be killed in this attempt. David always depended on his God. He went out, and killed two hundred Philistines instead of one hundred. This time Saul could not find an excuse. So he gave his daughter Michelle to David. A shepherd boy became the son-in-law of the king. All the people loved David, but Saul could not bear his popularity, and wanted to kill him.

David went to Samuel the prophet, his respected well-wisher and guide. He told him everything that Saul did to him. Then David and Michelle went to Natioth and stayed there.

Saul wanted to kill David. So he sent an army unit to Natioth. The Spirit of God came upon them, and they forgot the purpose for which they came. Saul sent another unit in vain and again another unit. The same thing happened to them again. Saul was really startled by these events.

Jonathan, son of Saul, did not like the treacherous ways of his father. He became a friend of David. In fact, secretly, Jonathan had been informing David the treacherous intentions of his father.

One day David was very hungry. Abimelech was the priest at Nob. He and his friends went to the priest Abimelech and requested him food. There was no food except the holy bread that was not given to anyone but priests. David took the holy bread with the consent of the priest, ate it himself, and gave it to his friends. They also took the sword of Goliath with them, which was kept there. In the meantime Saul died.

After the death of Saul, David shifted his residence to Hebron. The tribe of Judah first accepted David as king. In about seven and a half years, all the other tribes of Israel also accepted him as king. David conquered the city of Jerusalem and built his capital there.

David ruled Israel for about forty years. Peace came only at the end of his reign. He united all the tribes of Israel as one nation. David brought the Ark of the covenant of the Lord to Jerusalem, and set it in a special tent. David wanted to build a temple for the Lord. However, God did not allow him to do it.

Memory Verse: “God is our refuge and strength; who is always ready to help in times of trouble.” Psalms - 46:1.

Questions:

1. Name of the following:-
 - a) Father of David ?
 - b) Who anointed David ?
 - c) David’s wife ?
 - d) The place where David built his capital.
2. When did David get more freedom at the palace of Saul?
3. “God will make me strong”- When did David say this?
4. How did David get his wife?
5. How did David get the sword of Goliath?
6. When did David shift his residence to Hebron?
7. What were the two very important things David did?

LESSON 6

RULE OF SOLOMON - THE WISE

I Kings: 1-12 chapters

Objective: Man may often think that all his ways are straight. However, the way shown by the Lord, who weighs the hearts of all men, will only be right.

David the king became old. He had been praying to God to show him a successor. Adonijah, one of the sons of David tried to make himself king with the help of Joab, the army chief, and Abiathar, the priest. On hearing this, Nathan the prophet told Bathsheba, mother of Solomon, to inform the king what was happening. On command from David, Nathan and Zadok, the priest, took Solomon on the mule used only by David, to Gihon, followed by a great multitude of people and anointed him as king. They blew the trumpet and declared that Solomon was the king of Israel. Adonijah became scared and withdrew from the scene.

David knew that his end was near. He advised Solomon everything concerning governance of the people. In the Levite tribe (selected tribe of priests), there were more than 38,000 people. They were divided into different groups as singers in the house of the Lord, helpers, judges, and rulers, as required. Priests were appointed to serve in weekly turns. Necessary rules concerning all these were written.

Solomon raised a huge army, and conquered all the enemies that remained. Israel had peace all over. He married the daughter of Pharaoh, the king of Egypt, and earned his goodwill.

Once Solomon made an offering of 1,000 burnt offerings to the Lord at the altar in Gibeon. The Lord was pleased with Solomon. He appeared to Solomon and asked him to pray for any boon. However, Solomon very humbly requested the Lord to give him the wisdom to distinguish between good and bad, so that he might rule Israel properly. God was very pleased at this and gave him a wise and noble heart that no man had before him. In addition to that, riches and honor in abundance were given. (1King 3:5-15)

The blessed Solomon offered more sacrifices at the tabernacle, and gave big feasts to everyone around him.

These were the important people with Solomon in his reign: Jehosaphath was the Minister, Benaiah was Chief of Army, Zadok and Abiathar, were the priests, Azariah, son of Nathan, was chief of officers, Zabud son of Nathan, was the principal officer and the king's friend, Ahishas was the chief housekeeper, and Adoniram was chief of laborers. Solomon had a mighty army with powerful weapons.

Solomon the wise ruled for forty years, and Israel prospered under him. He lived for sixty years. Solomon lived in great grandeur. He had to raise taxes on his people for the expenses. As he had many wives from gentiles, he was compelled to worship their gods. This resulted in the anger of the Lord.

Even though he was a very wise man, because of his negligence, he lived against the will of God. He did not serve the Lord with the same devotion as his father. Consequently, the anger of the Lord came upon him and upon Israel. The Lord informed him that his country will be divided and a portion would be given to his servant and later, it happened.

Memory Verse: The blessing of the Lord makes one rich, and He adds no sorrow with it. Proverbs 10:22

Questions:

I. Answer in one word.

1. Which son of David tried to usurp power from David?
2. The place where Solomon was anointed king?
3. What was the name of Solomon's mother?
4. Chief Minister of Solomon ?
5. Chief housekeeper of Solomon ?

II. Short answer

1. Explain the part played by Nathan to make Solomon the king.
2. What was the boon Solomon asked from the Lord?
3. Towards the end of his life, what did David do for Solomon?
4. How did Solomon get a wise heart?
5. What are the reasons for the downfall of Solomon?

LESSON 7

THE DIVISION OF THE KINGDOM

1 Kings 12

Objective: Whatever be the gains, they will endure only if we live according to the will of God.

Solomon reigned in great grandeur. To meet the expences, he had to raise the taxes on the people. He sold 20 cities to the king of Hiram for money. Under the influence of his many wives from the gentiles, he also had to succumb to idol worship. This caused the anger of the Lord to come upon him and Israel. The Lord informed him that the kingdom would be taken away from him, and would be given to his servant, as he had not kept the Lord's covenants and statutes. However, a tribe was given to his son for the sake of David, and for the sake of Jerusalem, which the Lord had chosen. (1 King. 11:11-13)

Solomon came to know that his servant Jeroboam would get the kingship. Solomon tried to kill him, but Jeroboam fled to Egypt. Solomon's son, Rehoboam, succeeded him to the throne of Israel. The people requested him to reduce the taxes, which Solomon had imposed. Rehoboam did not heed to the request of the people. He, in fact, tried to increase them further. As a result of this, he lost the support of the people. Only the tribes of Judah and Benjamin supported the king.

Other tribes called Jeroboam from Egypt, and made him their king. Thus, the kingdom was divided. Jeroboam built his capital at Shechem, and led the country from there, and Rehoboam from Jerusalem.

Memory Verse: "Obey my voice, and I will be your God and you shall be my people." Jeremiah 7:23

Questions:

1. Describe the last days of Solomon's life.
2. Why did Jeroboam flee to Egypt?
3. Why did the majority of people reject Rehoboam?
4. What were the reasons for dividing Israel into two nations?

LESSON 8

ELIJAH AND AHAB

1 Kings 17 to 20

Objective: Obey and follow those who have received the grace of the Lord and the power of His Spirit.

Ahab was the son of Omri, the king of Israel. His reign was full of idol worship, other abominable acts, and was not acceptable to the Lord. Ahab reigned for 22 years. In those days, there were prophets who knew the will of the Lord, and who could foresee things that were to happen in future. Many of the evil rulers persecuted, and killed some of them.

Ahab also desired to kill those prophets who questioned his evil deeds. However, he did not possess the capability to do so. His wife Jezebel, daughter of the King of Zidon, was a dare devil. She killed many of the prophets with the help of the army. Obadiah, one of the governor's in the house of Ahab, was perturbed. He hid 100 prophets in two groups in the caves, and fed them secretly.

During those days, the Lord chose Elijah the Tishbite, and inhabitant of Gilead. (1 King 17:1) He was hiding near a brook at Cherith. The ravens brought him bread and meat in the morning and evening. He drank water from the brook. After a while, the brook also dried up, as there had been no rain.

Later, the word of God came to Elijah to go to Zarephath and stay there with a widow. Due to the draught, there was scarcity of food. As Elijah entered the village, he saw the woman collecting twigs. He asked the woman for some water, and as she went to fetch it, he asked for a little bread as well. The woman told Elijah that she had some flour in a barrel, and some oil in a cruse. With that she was going to make bread for herself and her son and then die. Elijah told her to bring some bread for him first, and then make the bread for herself and her son. Elijah told her that the flour and oil would not end until the Lord sent rain upon the earth. The widow went and did according to the request of Elijah. The flour and oil lasted until the famine was over, according to the word of Lord spoken through Elijah. Elijah lived there for several days.

Elijah then went to meet Ahab. They agreed to call all of Israel to Mount Carmel to make sacrifices - one to Baal by Ahab's priests, and another to the

Lord God by Elijah. Nothing happened to the offering to Baal. No god came to consume it. When Elijah made the sacrifice, fire of the Lord descended from heaven, and consumed the sacrifice. When the people saw it, they fell on their faces and said, “The Lord, He is the God; the Lord, He is God.” Also, there was a downpour of rain. The baked land received water to grow plants in plenty. The famine disappeared, and the people believed in the Lord God.

When Jezebel heard all of this, she became determined to kill Elijah. Elijah fled to Mount Horeb. The Lord said to Elijah to go to Damascus, anoint Hazael as the king over Syria, Jehu as the king over Israel, and anoint Elisa as the prophet to succeed Elijah. (1 King 19:15-16)

The Vineyard of Naboth: (1 Kings: 21: 1-17) Naboth, the Jazreelite, had a vineyard near the palace of Ahab. Ahab told Naboth to sell him his vineyard so that Ahab could make it a garden of herbs. Naboth insisted that he would not part with the inheritance of his fathers. Ahab felt very unhappy, and was dejected at this. Then Jezebel, his wife the venomous woman, pacified Ahab.

Jezebel sent letters to the chiefs of the city under the seal of Ahab, proclaiming a fast and set Naboth on high place among the people. As planned earlier, two people came and witnessed that Naboth blasphemed against God and the king. Punishment for blasphemy against the king was stoning to death. So, Naboth was taken outside the city and was stoned to death. Jezebel kept her word and Ahab got the vineyard of Naboth.

When this happened as commanded by the Lord, Elijah met Ahab and told him, “In the place where dogs licked the blood of Naboth, shall dogs lick your blood, and the dogs shall eat Jezebel by the walls of Jezreel.” (1 King 21:18-29) In the war with the Syrians, Ahab was fatally wounded, his blood spread in his chariot, and dogs licked it.

After 14 years, Jehu killed Jehoram, son of Ahab, and he entered the palace. On his command, the eunuchs threw down Jezebel from the tower, and dogs ate her flesh. Thus the prophesy of Elijah was fulfilled. Elijah, the faithful servant of the Lord, was taken to heaven alive in a chariot of fire driven by horses of fire in a whirlwind. Elijah reached God’s presence as representative of the living. Elisa, the successor to Elijah, witnessed this. (2 Kings 2:11)

Memory Verse: “Whoever commits sin is breaking the Law; for sin is the transgression of law” (1John 3:4).

Questions:

1. Name the following:
 - a) Father of Ahab.
 - b) Woman who caused death of many prophets.
 - c) Man who kept prophets in caves and sustained them.
 - d) Mountain to which Elijah fled.
2. How did Elijah prove to Ahab that the true God is the Lord God?
3. How could the widow of Zarephath sustain Elijah many days?
4. How did Ahab get the vineyard of Naboth?
5. Why is Elijah called the representative of the living?

PART III
NEW TESTAMENT
LESSON 9

JESUS AND THE WOMAN OF SAMARIYA

St.John 4:5-42

Objective: To learn that conversion of one will cause repentance and salvation of many.

Jesus and his disciples reached near Sychar, a city in Samaria. Jesus was weary after the long journey, and He sat near a well. His disciples went to the city to buy food.

It was noontime. A Samaritan woman came there to draw water. The tired Jesus asked her for some water to drink. Jews considered Samaritans untouchables. So she asked him, being a Jew, how could he ask her for water, as she is a Samaritan woman. Jesus replied to her, that had she known who was asking for water, she would have asked him for the living water. The woman reminded him that the well was very deep, and Jesus had no way of drawing water.

Jesus again told her that whosoever drank that water would thirst again. However, whosoever drinks of the water that He shall give, never thirsts. The woman requested him for such water so that she might not thirst again, and might not have to come again to draw water.

Then Jesus asked her to fetch her husband. The woman said that she had no husband. Jesus replied to her that what she said was right. She had five husbands, whereas, the present man was not her husband. The woman was startled, addressed Jesus as 'Master', and told Jesus her forefathers worshipped at that mountain, but Jews say that the place for prayer is Jerusalem. Jesus advised her that worshipping was to be neither at that mountain, nor at Jerusalem. God is Spirit. Those who worship Him, must worship Him in spirit and truth.

The woman told Jesus that she was aware that Christ was to come, and when he would come, he would tell all things. Jesus told her that He was the Messiah.

By this time, his disciples reached there with food. The woman left her

vessel there, and ran to the city. She told everyone to come and see a man who might be the Messiah. People from that city came and saw Jesus, and heard him. They were convinced that He was the Christ, and believed in Him. Thus through the conversion of one Samaritan woman, many were converted and believed in Christ.

Memory Verse: “My meat is to do the will of him that sent me, and to finish his work.” John 4:34

Questions:

1. Why did the Samaritan woman hesitate to give water to Jesus ?
2. “He, who drinks the water I give, will not thirst again.” What is the hidden meaning of this sentence ?
3. What was the belief of Samaritans about the coming of Messiah ?
4. What did the Samaritan woman tell the people of the city ?
5. What did the people of the city do when they heard the woman ?

LESSON 10

JESUS AND THE WOMAN WHO SINNED

Luke 7:36-50

Objective: To understand that those who attain redemption from sin through true repentance gets real mental peace and salvation.

One day, a prominent Pharisee, Simon, invited Jesus to his house for a dinner. When Jesus came to his house, Simon did not receive him with the customary warmth. He did not receive him with the customary kiss. He did not give water to wash his feet, nor oil to anoint his head. Possibly, Simon considered Jesus an ordinary man.

A sinful woman of that city came to know that Jesus was in Simon’s house. Though the people hated her, she was preparing for a change. She knew that Jesus could forgive her many sins. So, she reached Simon’s house with an alabaster bottle of ointment.

When she saw Jesus, she went to him and sat at his feet. She washed his feet with her tears, wiped them with her hair, and anointed his feet with the ointment. When Simon observed what that woman was doing, he said to himself that Jesus is not a prophet at all. If so, he would have known what kind of a woman is touching him.

On knowing his thoughts, Jesus asked him, “Simon, I have something to say to you. There was a man who had two debtors; one owed him five hundred pence and the other fifty. When they could not pay, the creditor mercifully forgave them both. Tell me, therefore, which of them will love him most?” Simon answered without hesitation that the one to whom most was forgiven, would love him most.

Jesus told him that what he said was right. Turning to the woman, Jesus said to Simon, “See this woman. I entered your house, and you gave me no water for my feet, but she has washed my feet with tears, and wiped them with her hair. You gave me no kiss, but this woman, since the time I came in, has not ceased to kiss my feet. You did not anoint my head with oil, but this woman has anointed my feet with ointment. Therefore, I say unto you, her sins, which are many, are forgiven; for she loved much.” Simon could not say anything.

Jesus said to the woman, “Your sins are forgiven. Your faith has saved you; go in peace.” The woman went away in peace and happiness.

Memory Verse: Therefore, you repent and be converted so that your sins may be blotted out.” Acts: 3:19

Questions:

1. What was the customary way of receiving guests at the time of Christ?
2. What sort of indifference did Simon show to Christ?
3. What did the sinner woman do, on seeing Christ?
4. What did Jesus say to the woman?
5. Write in a paragraph:
 - a) The character of Simon
 - b) Forgiveness of the sins of the sinner woman
 - c) The moral of this story.

LESSON 11

CONVERSION OF ZACCHAEUS

St. Luke 19:1-12

Objective: To learn that if one so desires, he can repent at any time and that Christ is the protector of our home.

Jerico, a city situated at the western side of river Jordan, was a business center. Government appointed tax collectors to levy tax on goods according to the market value of the goods brought to the market. Zacchaeus was one of the leaders of the tax collectors. Often, they levied more tax on goods, and they kept the excess amount collected. The common people hated tax collectors. They did not like to mingle with them, nor did they like to sit down to eat with them.

Zacchaeus had heard of Christ, and he longed to see Jesus. One day Zacchaeus heard that Jesus was passing through the city. He came to the road to see him. Zacchaeus was short in height, and it was difficult for him to see Jesus. So, he ran ahead and climbed up a sycamore tree so that he could see Jesus in the crowd.

When Jesus reached the tree, he looked up and said, "Zacchaeus, come down quickly for today I must abide at your house." Zacchaeus was surprised, hastily came down, and led Jesus to his house. He received him most reverently. Many of the people were not happy, as Jesus had gone to the house of a publican as guest.

In the meantime, Zacchaeus thought to himself, what sort of a man he was and what he would be. Real repentance had taken place in his heart. He stood before Jesus, and announced that he would give half of his wealth to the poor. He would restore fourfold if he had taken anything unjustly. It was his new decision.

On knowing the change in Zacchaeus, Jesus said, "This day salvation has come to this house, for so much as he also is a son of Abraham. For the Son of man has come to seek and save that which was lost." (St.Luke 19:9-10). Zacchaeus repented, and received Jesus as his savior. He got real peace in his life. This is the Evangelione that is read by priests when blessing a house.

Memory Verse: He heals the broken hearted, and binds up their wounds.

Psalms 147:3

Questions:

1. Write reasons-
 - a) People disliked the tax collectors.
 - b) To see Jesus, Zacchaeus climbed up on a tree
 - c) People were unhappy when Jesus went to the house of Zacchaeus.
 - d) Zacchaeus announced that he would give half of his wealth to the poor
 - e) Jesus said, "Today salvation came to this house."
- II. Write an essay on the character of Zacchaeus before seeing Jesus and after.

LESSON 12

THE CARDINAL COMMANDMENT

St. Mathew 22:34-40; St. Mark 12:28-34; St. Luke 10:25-29

Objective: To understand the most important commandment of the Law.

Dear Children, it was usual to see a great multitude of people following Jesus wherever he went. They followed him to see the miracles, sick people to get well and to get food to eat. Both Sadducees and Pharisees were always with him. Their motive was to find fault with Jesus in his words and deeds.

The Pharisees came together and one of them, a teacher of Law, tried to trap him with a question. "Teacher," he asked, "which is the greatest commandment in the Law ?

Jesus answered, "Love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your soul and with all your mind.' This is the greatest and the most important commandment. The second most important commandment is lie it. 'Love your neighbour as you love yourself.' The whole Law of Moses and the teachings of

the prophets depend on these two commandments.” The Pharisee was completely satisfied and went on his way. Afterwards nobody dared to ask him any question.

Moral: Let us love the living God with all our heart, soul and mind and love our neighbour (one who needs help) as we love ourselves.

Memory Verse : “Meanwhile these three remain, faith, hope and love; and the greatest of these is love. 1 Cor. 13:13.

Questions:

1. Why did Sadducees and Pharisees always follow Jesus ?
2. ‘The whole Law of Moses and teachings of prophets depend on these two commandments. Which are they ?
3. Quote the verses containing the above commandments.

LESSON 13

THE GRATEFUL LEPER

St. Luke 17:11-19

Objective: We should be grateful of God for the blessings we receive.

Dear Children, have you seen a leper. He has no sense of touch. There will be many raw sores on the body. Some would have lost limbs, especially fingers. It is a dreaded disease. In olden times, lepers were sent out of their homes and they are considered abominable. There was no treatment for this disease. So they suffered hell until death. These days, there is treatment for this and special hospital facilities for the lepers.

Once Jesus was going to Jerusalem along the border between Samaria and Galilee. He was going into a village when he was met by ten lepers. They stood at a distance and shouted, “Jesus! Master! Have pity on us!”

Jesus saw them and said to them, “Go and let the priests examine you,” It was the rule among the Jews that if at any time a leper get well, he has to go to a priest was to certify that he was clean. Then only he could enter the temple and mingle with others. As told by Jesus, these ten lepers went to the priest. On their way they became clean. When one of them saw that he was healed, he

came back praising God in a loud voice. He threw himself on the ground at Jesus' feet and thanked him. He was a Samaritan. Jesus said, "They were ten who were healed; where are the other nine? Why is this foreigner the only one who came back to give thanks to God?" And Jesus said to him, "Get up and go; your faith has made you well."

Moral: Dear Children, we receive blessing every day from God. Let us be grateful as the leper who came back to thank Jesus.

Memory Verse : "Praise the Lord, my soul, and do not forget how kind he is."
Psalms 103:2

Questions:

1. Explain the context: "Jesus! Master! Have pity on us!"
2. What was the rule among Jews about a leper who gets well ?
3. Explain the context: "Get up and go; your faith has made you well."

LESSON 14

HOSANNA

St.Mathew 21:1-11; St.Luke 19:29-44; St.Mark 11:1-10; St.John 12:12-19

Objective: To learn that Jesus is the Prince who was born for the salvation of the world and humility is the foundation of greatness.

Jesus continued in his ministry without revealing that He is the Messiah to come. Jesus allowed the procession to Jerusalem on Palm Sunday, possibly to reveal to the people that He is the Son of Man with royal powers.

At the last stage of his public service, five days before Passover as Jesus was traveling from Jericho to Jerusalem when they were near the Mount of Olives, he told two of his disciples, "Go to the village over against you; at the entrance you will find a colt tied, on whom no man has sat, bring the colt here. If any man asks you why you untie the colt, tell him that the Lord has need of it." (St.Mathew 21:2-3).

They brought the colt to him, and they cast their garments upon the colt. Jesus sat on it, and started his journey to Jerusalem. The multitudes that went

before, and that followed, cried, saying, “Hosanna to the Son of David: Blessed is he that cometh in the name of the Lord; Hosanna in the highest.” They spread their clothes on the road, cut branches of trees, and strewed them on the way. They took tender palm leaves and held them high as they went, and made that procession worthy for a king.

The prophesy as revealed in Zechariah 9:9 was thus fulfilled. The leaders of the Jews did not like this procession. They came to Jesus, and wanted him to tell the multitude to keep quiet. Then Jesus said, “I tell you that if these people hold their peace, the stones would immediately cry out.” (St.Luke 19:40).

He continued on his journey. From the top of the mountain, he saw Jerusalem and wept over it, remembering the terrible days ahead. “The days shall come upon thee, that thine enemies shall cast a trench about thee, and compass thee round, and keep thee in on every side” (St.Luke 19:41-44). Nobody else would have noticed it, but when Jesus reached the temple, he got down and went into it. As it was late evening, they all dispersed and Jesus went to Bethany. (St.Mark 11:11).

Next day he went to the temple again. It was the Passover festival season. Many vendors were selling goods in the temple. Jesus sent all of them out of the temple. He said, “It is written that my house shall be called the house of prayer of all nations, but you have made it a den of thieves.”(St.Mark 11:15-17).

The scribes and chief priests who were getting a share of business in the temple were furious at it. They kept their anger in their minds. As all the people were with Jesus, they could not do any thing. (St.Mark 11:18)

Memory Verse: “My house shall be called the house of prayer of all nations. You have made it a den of thieves.” (St.Mark 11:17)

Questions:

1. When did Jesus go to Jerusalem in a procession ?
2. Why did Jesus allow the procession when he went to Jerusalem ?
3. Why did Jesus choose an ass as his conveyance ?
4. What irritated the leaders of Jews in the procession ? What did they want of Jesus ?

5. What was the reply Jesus gave them ?
6. Why did Jesus shed tears on seeing Jerusalem ?
7. Why were the scribes and chief priests furious at Jesus for casting out the vendors from the temple ?

LESSON 15

A MODEL OF HUMBLENESS

St.Mathew 26:17-29; St.Mark 14:12-25; St.Luke 22:7-38; St.John 13:4-20.

Objective: Jesus came into the world not to be served, but to serve and to show the world the need to serve and love one another.

The three main festivals of the Jews are (1) Passover (the festival of the unleavened bread) (2) Pentecost. (7th Sabbath after Passover also known as festival of harvest) (3) Festival of Tabernacle. After their royal procession to Jerusalem, the disciples asked Jesus where to prepare the Passover feast. Jesus called two of his disciples (Peter and John) and told, “You go into the city and there you shall meet a man bearing a pitcher of water: follow him. Wherever he shall go in, you tell the good man of the house, the Master says, where is the guest chamber, where I shall eat the Passover with my disciples? He will show you a large upper room furnished and prepared: there make the feast ready for us.’

They went and prepared Passover feast as told by Jesus. In the evening, Jesus and his disciples went there. They all sat down to eat. Jesus knew it was his last supper. Jesus took the bread, gave thanks, and broke it, and gave it to them, saying, “This is my body which is given for you” (St.Luke 22:19). Like wise also the cup after supper, saying, “This cup is the new testament in my blood, which is shed for you” (St.Luke 22:20). They took the bread and wine. He commanded them to observe this in remembrance of Him. Thus, the Holy Qurbana was established in the upper room at Jerusalem.

After the supper, Jesus rose up. He removed his upper garment, took a towel, and girded himself with it. He took some water in a vessel, and began to wash the feet of his disciples. In those days, it was slaves who washed the feet of the guests. Nevertheless, Jesus washed their feet as a symbol of humility,

and as a mark of mutual love and service.

Peter objected to Jesus washing his feet. Then Jesus told Peter, if his feet were not washed by him, Peter would not have any share with him. Then Peter requested not only his feet, but his hands and head also be washed. Jesus told him, those who had taken bath are clean and they need wash their feet only. He washed their feet, and wiped them with the towel.

Jesus continued, "If your Lord and Master has washed your feet; you also ought to wash one another's feet. The servant is not greater than his lord; neither he that is sent greater than he that sent him." He told them many more things, and finished the supper. Judas Iscariot left the place immediately after the supper.

Jesus went with his disciples over the brook Cedron, to the garden Gethsemane. (Only John has explained about the washing of feet of the disciples).

Memory Verse: "Belittle yourself before the Lord; and He will extol you."
James 4:10

Questions:

1. What are the important festivals of the Jews?
2. Who established the Holy Qurbana? When? How?
3. What is the hidden meaning in the washing of feet?
4. Humility and love - How did Jesus express these qualities?

PART IV
TRUE FAITH
LESSON 16
PRAYER

Objective : To make the children understand why we pray and how to pray.

Let us learn when to pray; what should be contents of prayer and how to pray.

The disciples of Jesus requested him to teach them how to pray, as John the Baptist taught his disciples. Jesus said to them, “When you pray, say this: ‘Our Father in heaven: May your holy name be honoured; May your kingdom come; May you will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us today the food we need. Forgive us the wrongs we have done, as we forgive that others have doe to us. Do not bring us to hard testing, but keep us safe from the Evil One. For yours is the kingdom, and the power and the glory for ever, Amen.’”

The prayer which Jesus taught is known as the Lord’s Prayer. All the prayers in our church follow this model.

Why do we pray ?

God is worthy of praise and so the angels praise God continually. We the human beings must also praise God. We are weak and the development of our body and mind is in the gracious hands of our God. Salvation of our soul and development of our body are gracious gifts from our God. We should also thank our God with praise and adoration for the blessings we have received. Prayer contains three parts - adoration; petition and praise. In the Lord’s Prayer these three are included. Prayer is communion with God.

How to pray ?

1. Submit your prayer to God’s will.
2. Never pray for selfish gain. Pray for success of truth, justice and goodness.
3. Pray for the glory of God and for other’s well-being; never for others ruin and calamity.
4. Pray with faith and devotion.

Times for Prayer:

It is not specified that one should pray at a particular time. The Lord has told us to pray continually so that we may not fall into temptation.

The Holy Church stipulates that we should pray seven times a day. In Old Testament times and even at the time of Jesus, a day is reckoned from evening to next day evening. In our Church also the same tradition is followed.

Specified times for prayer are Evening, Bed-time, Midnight, morning, Third Hour (9 a.m.), Noon and Ninth Hour (3 p.m.). It is not always practical to pray at the above hours. So our Church has abridged them to Morning and Evening prayers. At Lent time one has to pray at Noon also. Morning prayer includes Midnight, Morning, 3rd Hour and Noon prayers and Evening prayer 9th Hour, Evening and Bedtime prayers.

How to pray ?

1. Stand facing east; keep the hands folded on chest and with devotion bowing the head.
2. Kneel down at appropriate times.
3. At specified times, draw the sign of cross.

From apostolic times onwards, our Church follows this method of prayer.

Questions:

Fill up the blanks.

1. All the prayers in our Church follow the model of.....Prayer.
2. A prayer should contain these three parts.....
3. Prayer is with God.
4. Our Church stipulates that we should pray times a day.
5. A day is reckoned from to next day
6. In the Evening prayer.....prayers are included.
7. In the Morning Prayer,prayers are included.

LESSON 17

THE SUNDAY OBSERVATION

Objective: To learn the importance of Sunday and how to observe the day.

Dear children, you all know that all of us shall participate in the Holy Mass on all sundays. Let us examine the speciality of Sunday.

God the almighty completed creation in six days and remained free on the seventh day (Genesis 2:2) Jews believed that since the weekdays commence from Sunday to Saturday, the day on which God rested was Saturday. Hence they observed Saturday as 'Sabbath' and worshiped God avoiding all other engagements.

But we have specific reasons to observe Sunday. The resurrection of our Lord from the tomb and the victory over death was on the first day of the week. The apostles gathered together after the resurrection on Sunday to pray and Jesus appeared before their assembly. This does not mean that Jesus did not appear any other day. But the apostolic community gathered together on Sundays. The day of Pentecost in which the church received the gift of the Holy Spirit and the church started Gospel work was on a Sunday. Sabbath means the seventh day." six days to work and the seventh day is the Sabbath of the Lord". As the apostles and the church fathers observed, the church celebrates Sunday as the Sabbath and the day of the Lord. Sunday is the day of joy. In Revelations 1:10 St. John mentions this day as 'the day of the Lord'.

In the early church from the period of apostles, believers sat together and celebrated Holy Mass on Sunday. In AD 313, through the 'Edict of Milan' Emperor Constantine declared Sunday a holiday. Hence we are celebrating Sunday as a Holyday participating in the Holy Mass, studying Holy Bible, meditating, leave from all sorted work.

Questions:

1. When was the Edict of Milan ?
2. Who declared Sunday, a holiday ?
3. Tell an important event that took place on Sunday calculated with Jesus Christ?

LESSON 18
THE APOSTLES

St.Mathew 4:18-22; St.Mark 1:18-20; St.Luke 5:1-11; St.John 1:35-51

Objective: To understand the need to submit ourselves to become disciples of Jesus.

Jesus took twelve disciples on different occasions. These disciples or apostles, were interested with the task of propagating the living gospel to the whole world. Among them St.Peter, St. James, St. John was with Jesus in important occasions. So we are studying about them.

1. St. Peter

Andrew brought his brother Simon to Jesus. When Jesus saw Simon, He said, "Simon, son of Jonah, I name you Cephas". Cephas, means Peter/Rock. Simon thus came to be known as Peter. Peter was a fisherman, and Jesus made him a "fisherman of people". 3000 people were attracted to Jesus Christ on the day of Pentecost while listening to his sermon. He is known as the leader of the disciples. Administration of the church was entrusted to St. Peter (Simon). In the matrimonial hymn we sing "Veedin - bharanam Shee-mo-ne Suvishe-Sham Yohan-naane". He established Holy Thrones at Antioch, and at Rome. The Throne of Antioch was established in AD 37. He led the Synod (Council) at Jerusalem in AD 51. He presided on the meeting in which Mathias was elected. He was crucified in AD 67 by the order of Nero, the Roman emperor. Upon his request, Peter was crucified head down, so that he could kiss the feet of his Lord Jesus. St. Peter wrote two epistles. It is believed that St.Mark the Evangelist wrote his Gospel with the help of St. Peter. The Holy Patriarchs of the Universal Syrian Orthodox Church are the successors to the throne established by St. Peter at Antioch. The Holy memory of St. Peter is celebrated on June 29.

2. St. James (James the Elder)

He is one of the sons of Sebedee of Bethsaida. His mother was Salomi. St.John is the other son of Sebedee. It is believed that one of the women who saw the resurrected Christ first, was the mother of James. He was one of the

three who often moved closely with Jesus. St. John, his brother, and St. Peter, the leader of the Apostles, were the other two. St. James is the one who wanted to destroy Samaria by fire from heaven. He is also the one who requested Jesus to allow him to sit on his right hand and St. John his brother to sit on his left hand in His glory. King Herod (also called Agrippa) sentenced St. James to death. History reveals that the person who took him to execution, repented. So he was also executed. The first Martyr among the Apostles is St. James (A.D.44). An angel of the Lord smote Agrippa who sentenced St. James to death. His Holy memory is celebrated on May 1.

3. **St. John**

He was also a disciple of John the Baptist. St. John met Jesus along with St. Andrew. He was the other son of Sebedee. It is believed that Jesus loved him most. On the cross, Jesus entrusted his mother to John. He lived up to 90 years and had a natural death.

Questions:

1. Write the names:
 - a) They only disciple who had a natural death.
 - b) Who was the first martyr among the Apostles ?
2. Write Short Notes on:
 - a) St. James, the elder
 - b) St. Peter

PART V
CHURCH HISTORY

LESSON 19

CHURCH OF EARLY YEARS

Objective: The members of the church who seek salvation by faith in the church should know the church and its history. The study of church history is essential for this knowledge

The Throne of Antioch

The followers of Jesus Christ came to be known as Christians at Antioch. Eusebius, a Church Father wrote that St. Peter went to Antioch for the proclamation of the Gospel, and founded the Throne of Antioch and built churches there.

Due to the efforts of St. Peter and his fellow workers the Christians rose in number. St. Peter conducted his missionary journeys to Sor, Sidon, Caesarea, Galatia and neighboring places. In A.D. 60 he appointed Evodios and Ignatius as his successors. Hence the Throne of Antioch was founded with the apostolic succession of St. Peter. St. Peter was crucified in A.D. 67 at Rome by the order of the emperor Nero, and became a martyr for His Lord and Jesus Christ. The Church celebrates the foundation day of the Throne of Antioch on 22nd of February.

Questions :

1. When was the throne of Antioch founded ? By whom ?
2. Which id the day of foundation of the throne of Antioch ?
3. The Throne of Anthioch was founded with the of St.Peter.

LESSON 20

EDICT OF MILAN

(A.D. 305 - 337)

Objective: The Holy Church is based on a strong orthodox true faith and whatever forces that are fighting against it cannot harm it.

The persecutions that were faced by the church till the end of the third century came to an end with the ascendance of Emperor Constantine. He ascended the throne in A.D.305. He was born in A.D.280 as the son of the Roman Emperor Constantious. He was well trained from early childhood in armory and administration. His mother Helene's support helped him a lot.

Even though he ascended the throne in A.D.306, after the death of his father, it took him till AD 312 to defeat his opponents to start his proper rule. When he was preparing for his war against Maksenthius he took the sign of cross as his flag mark as he saw it in the sky. He relied on the cross of Jesus Christ and was victorious in the war. This victory gave him more faith and piety in Christ.

The Emperor Constantine entrusted to his mother herself the duty to search for the cross of Jesus Christ in Jerusalem. She found the Cross of Jesus and the crosses of the thieves. The cross of Jesus Christ was identified and it was exalted. From that time onwards the importance and veneration of cross gained vogue in the Church.

The memory of the finding of the Holy cross is celebrated by the church on September 14th as the feast of the Holy Cross. The devoted Emperor issued an enactment in his Empire declaring freedom of religion to save the church from any further persecutions. This famous enactment of A.D.313 is known in history as the 'Edict of Milan'. By this Edict of Milan, Constantine came to be known as 'Emperor Constantine the Great'. He released all the Christians in prison and returned all the assets confiscated to its owners. He reestablished churches and declared Sunday as public holiday.

Initially he did many of these acts as political tricks but towards the end of his life he became a true believer and he opted for white robes of gospel purity in preference to his royal red robes. He departed from this world in A.D.337 and is still regarded as 'great'.

Questions:

1. Note the years of:-
 - a. Birth of Constantine
 - b. Enthronement of Constantine
 - c. Establishment of the proper rule by Constantine
 - d. Edict of Milan
 - e. Death of Constantine
2. The reason for Constantine's veneration of Cross ?
3. How did Constantine express his adoration of Cross ?
4. What did the Emperor do to give freedom of religion and to end persecution in the Empire ?
5. What is the special benefits that the Christians gained during the time of Emperor Constantine.
6. Why is Constantine called the 'great Emperor' ?

LESSON 21

CHRISTIANITY IN INDIA

It is an undisputed fact that upon the commandment of Lord Jesus Christ to 'Go in to all the world and preach the gospel to the whole creation' (Mark 16:15). St. Thomas came to India and preached the gospel of Jesus Christ. In A.D. 52 St. Thomas landed at a place called Kodungalloor in Kerala. On his arrival he proclaimed the gospel of God, and performed many miracles to those who doubted his being a servant of God.

It is believed that St. Thomas founded seven and a half churches in Kerala. They are 1) Kodungalloor, 2) Paloor, 3) Kottakkavu, 4) Gokkamangalam, 5) Kurekkeni (Kollam), 6) Chayal (Nilakkal), 7) Niranom. About the half church, two names are mentioned by different group of people. They are Malayattoor and Thiruvithamkottu. St. Thomas ordained priests (elders) from four Brahmin families and entrusted them with the evangelization. Those families are 1) Kalli, 2) Kaliyankal, 3) Shankarapuri 4) Pakalomattam.

St. Thomas sojourned to China and Malacca for proclaiming the word of God. On his return while passing through Coramandal coast (east coast – Madras- Chennai) he was attacked by spears and attained martyrdom at a place called Kalamina (Mylapore), and was entombed at the same place. It is indicated in certain historical documents that in A.D. 396 his mortal remains was taken to Edessa and placed in the church which was dedicated to his name. The Holy Church celebrates his memorial feast on the 3rd of July. His memorial feast is also celebrated in some places between December 18-21, believed to be the days between his piercing with a spear (18) and his death (21).

LESSON 22

ST. IGNATIUS

Objective: Sufferings are inevitable for the faithful

Our Lord held a child in his hands to exemplify humility and purity of heart to His disciples (St.Mat. 18:1-6). This child later became the Patriarch of Antioch and came to be known as St. Ignatius Noorono, as indicated in the writings of the Holy Church Fathers. St. Ignatius, a disciple of St. Peter and St. John, was the third Patriarch of Antioch. The saint, who lived a pious life in prayer and fasting, was jailed and exiled for the sake of the true faith.

In a vision this Holy Father witnessed the fiery angels alternately praising God in two batches. Modeling this, St. Ignatius instituted such an order in the Church of Antioch.

While passing through Antioch on his way to invade Persia, the Emperor Trojan heard about this Holy Father and forced him to desert his faith. Seeing his unwillingness to obey his order, the enraged emperor ordered Ignatius to be thrown into the lions' den. When the soldiers approached him to chain him, the saint kissed the shackle and uttered: 'as the grain of wheat is crushed in the mill to form fine flour to be used to prepare sacrificial bread for the Lord, I am eager to be crushed by the teeth of lion and be offered as a sacrifice to my

Lord'. Even on his way to martyrdom he kept on preaching the gospel of the Lord to the faithful. His writings are included in the New Testament apocrypha section. The Greek word 'apocrypha' means hidden. One of the clear subjects in his writings is that the members of the Church are obligated to obey and respect bishops, priests, and deacons. By the order of the emperor, St. Ignatius was martyred in Rome in AD 107.

I. Answer the following

1. What does Church tradition say about St. Ignatius ?
2. What order did St. Ignatius institute in the Church of Antioch ? What incident is considered as the basis for that ?
3. What was his fate after being forced by the emperor Trojan to abandon Christianity ?
4. What is the clear theme in many of his writings ?

LESSON 23

MARTYRS

We have learned that the first persecution of the church had from the Roman Empire was Nero the Roman Emperor. After this the second persecution was faced during the reign of Emperor Domitian and the third during the time of Emperor Trajan. The martyrdom of St. Stephen, St. Ignatius, St. Clement, etc. and the deportation of St. John were in this period. Persecution continued and many martyrs sacrificed their lives during that time.

The important persecution that happened later was the tenth one under the Emperor Diocletian (A.D. 284-305). The famous Martyrs of that time were St. George, St. Kuriakos and the forty martyrs of Sebastea.

1. St. George

St. George was born at Lybia in Palestine and he became commander, the post which his father held, in the army of Diocletian. The miraculous deeds that he performed with the strength of God and the brave efforts for the true Christian faith influenced Alexandria the Queen and her daughter and they were converted to Christianity. But the Emperor who was immersed in evil matters

and Idol worship disliked this. St.George became a famous Christian leader. In A.D. 303 St.George was killed by the Emperor who disliked the fame that St.George achieved as a Christian leader. Thus George, a military Commander came to be known as St.George. (Gee Varghese is the Syriac form of the name George and 'Sahada' or 'Sohdo' is the Syriac word for 'martyr')

2. St. Kuriakose

St.Kuriakose was born in Ikkonya in a royal family. His father was a commander in the army and his mother was Juliette. His father died when he was three years old and then he was brought up in reverence and knowledge of God by his mother who was a believer in Christ. Many of his adversaries bowed under his miraculous knowledge, nevertheless, the hard hearted commander of the army showed no favor to him and he executed the miracle doer St.Kuriakose and his mother. Thus the child Kuriakose came to be known as the martyr St.Kuriakose. This was in the year A.D.304.

Thus during this period of the time the innocent blood of the martyrs became the seed of faith in the church.

3. Forty Martyrs of Sebasthya

The forty Martyrs were Christian soldiers in Sebasthya. The ruler of that place declared that all should attend the pagan sacrifice. Otherwise they will have to face very cruel persecutions. However the above forty were not prepared to attend the pagan worship.

The ruler was infuriated at the act of the forty martyrs. He ordered to dip them up to their face in a pond with icy cold water in winter. Fire place and warm food were arranged on the shore for those who were willing to forsake their faith and obey the commands of the ruler.

One among them forsook the faith and came out of the icy water to save his life, but fell dead before nearing the safe place.

One among the pagan soldiers, who was witnessing this miraculous scene, saw crowns descending down to the heads of these martyrs. He immediately confessed faith and went down to the water to receive martyrdom. The forty crowns descended from heaven rested on the heads of these martyrs, who proclaimed their faith in the Lord.

Questions:

1. Who were reigning when the church faced major persecutions ?
2. Who was the Queen converted by St.George ?
3. Who was the mother of St.Kuriakose ?
4. Who was the martyr of the year A.D.304 ?
5. Who were the Roman Emperors who persecuted the Church ?
6. Narrate the life and deeds of:
 - a. St.Kuriakose
 - b. St.George
7. What was the order given by the ruler of Sebasthya?
8. What was the punishment given to the martyrs who disobeyed the order of the ruler?
9. What is the lesson that you get from this incident on the infidels of faith?
10. What is the testimony in this lesson on the true confession of faith ?
11. What is the spiritual truth of this lesson ?

Part VI

LESSON 24

HOLY QURBONO SONGS

1

In oblations and In pray'rs
Mention we our blest forebears.
Taught they us the truth to see,
Children of our God to be.
Christ's atonement be their stay
In God's realm of endless day;
With the righteous and the just
Praising God in perfect trust.
Moriyo Rahemelainoovadarain.

1

THIRU SUTHARAYI VARUVAAN NAMME
AVAR ULLAPOL PADIPPICHA
THATHANMARE QURBANAYIL ORKE-
NAM IRAKKAYILUM
AZHIVILLATHORU MOKSHATHIL
NAYAVANMAR AMALANMARO -
DORUMICH ASHWASAM AVARKARULATTE DHEIVA SUTHAN. MORIYO

2

See the royal daughter stand, Hale Vu-Hale
Glorious queen at-thy right hand
Thy father's folk and home leave thou Hale ... Vu-Hale
The King desires thy - beauty now Barakmor

2

NINNAL STHUTHIYODE RAJAMAKAL HALE... VU-HALE...
NIN VALAMAY RAJABHAMINIYUM
NINNAZHAKARACHAN MOHIPAN . HALE ...VU-HALE
NIN JANAMORKKAYEKA PITHRU GRIHAVUM BAREKMOR

3

Peace the bright archangel brought,
Hailing mary fair
favoured is thy blessed lot
Thou the Shalt bear, Barakmor

3

MANNAMAKALKKAI SLOMMO
VANNEKI DHOOTHAVARAN
NINNODUKOODEN NATHAN
NINNIL THANNUDHAYAMATHUM
 BARAKMOR

4

Like a Ship did Mary bear
Laud and honour be-
Him, the captain and the Lord
God of all the world Moriyo

4

AKHILAJAGHAL PATHIYE NAYAKA
NAYETTY GHOZHICHANG-
ATHI BHAHUMANICHU MARIYAM
VALUTHAM PADAVAY THAN..... MORIYORAHM

5

Lord, have mer cy upon us,
Lord, be kind and have mercy
Answer Lord and have mercy;
Praise to thee, on us be grace - Haleluyyah

5

NATHA KRUPA CHEYYANAMALIVAL
KRUPA CHEYYANAMUTHARAMARULY
KRUPACHEYYANAME, NINAKKU STHUTHY
KRUPA NGALIL UNDAKATTE HALELUYYAH

6

Glory to be God onhigh;
To His Mother honour be,
To the martyrs crowns of praise,
Grace and mercy to the dead -

Haleluyyah

6

STHUTHI DAIVATHINUYARATHIL
THAN MATHAVINUNNATTHIYUM
MAHIMA MUDI SAHADENMARKKUM
MRUTHARIL KARUNAYU MUNDAKA HALELUYYAH

7

By thy mother's plea,
And of all thy Saints,
Lord, absolve our sins
And with us, Our dead.

7

MATHAVU YACHIKKUM PARISUDHANMARUM
NATHA PUNNIYAM NALKINGUM MARICHORKKUM

ഭാഗം 7

സുറിയാനി അക്ഷരങ്ങളും പുള്ളികളും

സുറിയാനി ഭാഷക്ക് 22 അക്ഷരങ്ങളും 5 ഉച്ചാരണ പുള്ളികളും ഉണ്ട്. പുള്ളികൾ അക്ഷരത്തോട് ചേർക്കുമ്പോൾ ഓരോ അക്ഷരത്തിന്റെയും മൂലമായ ഉച്ചാരണവും ചേർക്കുന്ന പുള്ളിയുടെ ഉച്ചാരണവും കൂടിച്ചേർന്ന ഉച്ചാരണം ലഭിക്കുന്നു. പുള്ളികൾക്ക് ഹൃസ്വവും ദീർഘവുമായ ഉച്ചാരണങ്ങളുണ്ട്.

<u>അക്ഷരങ്ങൾ</u>		<u>മൂലമായ ഉച്ചാരണം</u>
ഓലാഫ്	ܐ	(അ്)
ബേസ്	ܒ	(ബ്)
ഗോമാൽ	ܘ	(ഗ്)
ദോലാദ്	ܓ	(ദ്)
ഹെ	ܕ	(ഹ്)
വാവ്	ܘܘ	(വ്)
സായ്	ܝܝ	(സ്)

ഹേസ്	3	(ഹ്)
തേസ്	7	(ത്)
യൂദ്	1	(യ്)
ഖോഫ്	9	(ഖ്)
ലോമാദ്	1	(ല്)
മീം	9	(മ്)
നൂൻ	7	(ന്)
സെമ്ഖാസ്	9	(സ്)
എ	1	(എ്)
ഫെ	9	(ഫ്)
സോദെ	3	(സ്)
കോഫ്	9	(ക്)
റീശ്	9	(ര്)
ശീൻ	1	(ശ്)
താവ്	2	(ത്, സ്)




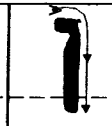




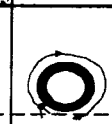











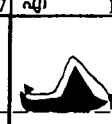
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അക്ഷരങ്ങളും പുള്ളികളും ഭംഗിയായി എഴുതി പഠി
യ്ക്കുക. അക്ഷരങ്ങളോട് പുള്ളികൾ ചേർത്ത് എ
ഴുതി ഉച്ചാരണം മനസ്സിലാക്കുക.

ഉദാ: - ബ - ബ്യാ - ബ്വൈ
 - ബി - ബ്യു

ഇതുപോലെ മറ്റ് എല്ലാ അക്ഷരങ്ങൾക്കും പുള്ളി
കൾ ചേർക്കാം.

സുറിയാനി അക്ഷരങ്ങൾ എഴുതുന്ന വിധം

					
		ദോലദ് 4	ഗോമൽ 3	ഖേസ് 2	ഖാലാഫ് 1
					
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