

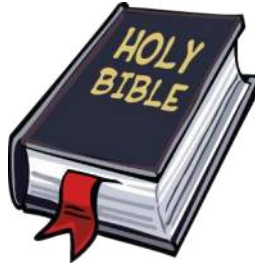
SUNDAY SCHOOL GRADUATION EXAM

PART I: Short Answer

THE BIBLE

Where would you find these books? Write **O** for Old Testament or **N** for New Testament.

1. _____ Exodus
2. _____ Luke
3. _____ Isaiah
4. _____ Matthew
5. _____ Psalms
6. _____ I Corinthians
7. _____ James
8. _____ 1 & 2 Kings



9. In what language were the Old Testament books primarily written? _____

10. In what language were the New Testament books primarily written? _____

11. Which of the following books records a history of the early Christian Church?

_____ Acts _____ Hebrews _____ Romans

12-13. Which of the following books are writings of prophets? (2 answers)

_____ Peter _____ Jeremiah _____ Timothy _____ Isaiah

14. The beautiful book of prayers called the Psalms, and the wise sayings in the book of Proverbs are part of what major division of Old Testament writing? _____

15. Which statement best describes how the Bible came to be?

_____ a. God dictated the Bible word for word and gave it to the disciples for their missionary work.

_____ b. The apostles wrote the four gospels. The letters came into the canon later.

_____ c. Jesus read from the gospels as He taught. They were eventually accepted as the New Testament.

_____ d. Books and letters circulating for many years were accepted by the world Church, through the guidance of the Holy Spirit.

True or False? Write **T** for true and **F** for false.



The Bible...

16. _____ should be read often and prayerfully by all Christians.
17. _____ is the foundation of our Divine Liturgy (Soorp Badarak).
18. _____ is the most important element of Holy Tradition.
19. _____ needs to be understood literally, every word.
20. _____ is best understood in the fullness of the Church, through whose divinely-inspired wisdom the Biblical canon came to be.
21. _____ can't be read without a dictionary and concordance close at hand.

PRAYER

True or False? Write **T** for true and **F** for false.

1. _____ It would be a good spiritual habit to make a list of things you ask God for and see when and if they are answered.
2. _____ Prayer is about talking with and listening to God.
3. _____ Intercession in prayer means that God forgives your sins.
4. _____ Jesus was too busy teaching and healing to pray, but he taught its importance at every opportunity.

Provide the missing word(s) in the following:

5-8. St. Nersess Shnorhali was a great 12th century Catholicos known for many accomplishments, including beautiful hymns and prayers. *Jesus, wisdom of the Father* is one of the 24 prayer stanzas from *I Confess with Faith*. It begins, "O Jesus, Wisdom of the Father, grant me _____ that I may always _____, _____, and _____ that which is good in your sight."

9. _____ was the 10th century monk who wrote a prayer book that Armenians loved so much they considered it to have healing powers.

10. The greatest collection of prayers in the Bible appears in the Old Testament and is called the Book of _____.

11. Hayr Mer literally means _____.

THE FEASTS

To which Church feast do these quotes refer? Look up the first four in your Bible.

1. _____ Acts 2:6
2. _____ John 20:1
3. _____ Mark 9:3
4. _____ Luke 2:7
5. _____ “Blessed and sanctified be these clusters of grapes and all the fruits of this year with the sign of the Holy Cross and with this Holy Gospel.” Mashdotz

6-9. Which of the following are associated with Great Lent? (4 answers)

- _____ Ash Wednesday
- _____ Poon Paregentan
- _____ The Sunday of the Prodigal Son
- _____ 50 days
- _____ Fasting
- _____ Closed curtain during Badarak

10. The Armenian Church calendar is organized around its most important feast day which is

- _____ Christmas
- _____ Easter
- _____ Armenian New Year
- _____ Pentecost

THE SACRAMENTS

To which sacrament do these Bible passages refer? Look up 2 and 4.

1. _____ “They are no longer two, but one flesh. Therefore what God has joined together, let no one separate.” Matthew 19:6
2. _____ John 3:3
3. _____ “Are any among you sick? They should call for the elders of the church and have them pray over them, anointing them with oil in the name of the Lord.” James 5:14
4. _____ Matthew 26:26-27
5. _____ “If you forgive anyone’s sins, their sins are forgiven; if you do not forgive them, they are not forgiven.” John 20:23

True or False? Write **T** for true and **F** for false.

6. ____ The sacrament of Penance involves confession and forgiveness.
7. ____ Chrismation takes place during the marriage ceremony.
8. ____ A person must be a deacon before being ordained a priest.
9. ____ Communion is a remembrance of the Lord's Supper.
10. ____ The green garment of baptism symbolizes spiritual growth.



Matching: Draw a line to the correct answer.

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|-----|----------------|-----------|
| 11. | Water | Communion |
| 12. | Wine | |
| 13. | Crowns | Baptism |
| 14. | Holy Muron | |
| 15. | Godparents | Matrimony |
| 16. | White Garments | |

SPECIAL PEOPLE OF THE CHURCH/HISTORY

1-5 Put the following events in Armenian Church history in chronological order, 1 to 5:

- ____ The Armenian alphabet is invented.
 - ____ St. Santookht is martyred.
 - ____ The Battle of Avarayr takes place.
 - ____ St. Gregory the Enlightener baptizes King Drtad and Armenia become the first Christian nation.
 - ____ St. Nersess Shnorhali writes “Jesus, wisdom of the Father.”
6. In what year were the men, women and children who died for their faith in 1915 canonized as saints by the Armenian Church? _____

Choose answers for 7-12 from the pairs of saints listed below. Write the letter on the line.

7. ____ Which pair of saints are known as the first enlighteners of Armenia?
8. ____ Which two are credited with the invention of the Armenian alphabet?
9. ____ Which two renowned churchmen – distinct for their contributions to the Armenian Church and people – are forever linked by the power and influence of the prayers they wrote.
10. ____ These two are the major players in the Battle of Avarayr – one, a clergyman; the other, a nobleman.
11. ____ This king and queen led the newly-Christian Armenian nation.
12. ____ The 1st century Armenian princess (and first Armenian martyr) and the apostle who mentored her.

- | | |
|--------------------------------|--|
| a. Sts. Santookht & Thaddeus | d. Sts. Drtad & Ashken |
| b. Sts. Sahag & Mesrob | e. Sts. Vartan & Ghevont |
| c. Sts. Thaddeus & Bartholomew | f. Sts. Nersess Shnorhali & Gregory of Narek |

THE DIVINE LITURGY

Identify the part of the Divine Liturgy in which the following take place. Write **S** for Synaxis or **E** for Eucharist.

1. ____ Communion is distributed.
2. ____ We recite the Nicene Creed.
3. ____ We exchange the Kiss of Peace.
4. ____ The Scriptures are read.
5. ____ We sing Hayr Mer.
6. ____ We sing Soorp Asdvadz.
7. ____ We confess our sins.
8. ____ The deacon lifts up the Gospel and proceeds around the altar.



Write the response for 9 and 10:

9. Peace to all _____
10. Let us bow down to God _____
11. The greeting during the Kiss of Peace means:
____ Christ is risen. ____ Christ is crucified. ____ Christ is revealed.

OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST

True or False? Write **T** for true and **F** for false.

1. _____ Jesus was a carpenter by trade.
2. _____ We know a great deal about Jesus as a teenager.
3. _____ All of the disciples except Judas were with Jesus at the crucifixion.
4. _____ All of the disciples were fishermen.
5. _____ Before his death, Jesus forgave his persecutors.
6. _____ All of the disciples were present at the Last Supper.
7. _____ After Jesus resisted the temptations in the wilderness, he was baptized.

Why are these places important in the life of Christ?

8. Nazareth _____
9. Bethlehem _____
10. Golgotha _____
11. Gethsemane _____
12. Jordan _____

Matching: draw a line connecting the parable to its basic lesson.

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|---|-------------------------------------|
| 13. Parable of the Prodigal Son | a. Never stop praying |
| 14. Parable of the Good Samaritan | b. Pray with a humble heart |
| 15. Parable of the Persistent Widow | c. The nature of God's amazing love |
| 16. Parable of the Pharisee and the Tax Collector | d. <i>Everyone</i> is our neighbor! |

17-19. Which of the following are linked to one of Jesus' miracles? (3 answers)

- _____ a basket of coins
- _____ a wedding in Cana
- _____ a lost sheep
- _____ ten young girls
- _____ a leper
- _____ a large catch of fish



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PART II: Essay Questions

Answer any five (5) of the following questions. Include as much detail as possible.

1. What are the most important things you feel you need to know to consider yourself “Armenian Christian literate?” Name some as specifically as you can and tell why these are important.
2. The Holy Tradition of the Armenian Church consists of many elements, foremost the Bible but also our worship, prayers, doctrines, feast days, sacraments, and even our art and music. Which of these speaks to you the most? Why?
3. Define prayer (5-6 sentences) Write a four sentence prayer.
4. Define what it means to be a saint. St. Santookht, St. Nersess Shnorhali, St. Vartan are all saints of the Armenian Church. How do they fit this definition? (Feel free to look them up.) Do you know someone you would call saintly? Why?
5. List the five major feast days of the Armenian Church. Describe three in as much detail as you can. Include what we are remembering and what special customs might mark the day.
6. What did Jesus say were the two greatest commandments of all? Look this up in Matthew 22:34-40. How might this sum up all the commandments as listed in Exodus 20:1-17?
7. What are two important dates to you in the history of the Armenian Church? Why?
8. What difference did Jesus make in the life of the following people? Read the passage and then respond:
 - a. The Widow of Nain (Luke 7: 11-17)
 - b. The Disciples (Matthew 8:23-27)
 - c. Zacchaeus (Luke 19:1-10)
9. Choose one of these parables and recap the story briefly. What question or moral dilemma does it address? How does it answer the question?
 - a. The Parable of the Prodigal Son (Luke 15:11-32)
 - b. The Parable of the Good Samaritan (Luke 10:25-37)
 - c. The Parable of the Persistent Widow (Luke 18:1-8)
10. What is one belief of the Church that you have struggled with?

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PART III – Prayer Recitation / Bible Memorization

Students should show proficiency in reciting the following:

1. The Lord's Prayer in English
2. The Lord's Prayer in Armenian
3. The Kiss of Peace (greeting / response) in English
4. The Kiss of Peace (greeting / response) in Armenian
5. John 3:16
6. Psalm 23