

When children and parents have faith discussions regularly, faith multiplies.



Faith at Home

Parent Handout

Theme of the Sunday: Graduation / Disciples of Christ

Verse of the Sunday: “Then he said to them all, “If any want to become my followers, let them deny themselves and take up their cross daily and follow me. For those who want to save their life will lose it, and those who lose their life for my sake will save it. What does it profit them if they gain the whole world, but lose or forfeit themselves? Those who are ashamed of me and of my words, of them the Son of Man will be ashamed when he comes in his glory and the glory of the Father and of the holy angels.” Luke 9:23-26

Message/Moral of the day: One of the happiest days of a person’s life is the day they graduate. Graduation marks the day for a person to celebrate their hard work and achievements. It is the end of many years, studying to prepare for a person’s future. Our Graduation day is a happy day - we may even find ourselves wishing that it would never end.

Even though a graduation is a very happy day, would it have been a good thing if it had never ended? No! That day was not a stopping place . . . it was a starting place. It was the start of a wonderful journey with a bright future ahead. There would be many more happy days to come, such as finding the perfect job, earning a nice salary and all the things that go along with that type of success.

God sends a lot of happy days into our life. The day that we meet Jesus is, without a doubt, the happiest day of our life, but it isn't a stopping place -- it is a starting point for a journey that leads to eternal life in heaven with Him.

Faith at Home:

- Talk with your child/ren about the different stages of life and how important it is to graduate from them with “honors”
- Discuss how important it is for your children, and also the adults, to live a life according to the teachings of the Lord
- Share stories how your knowledge of the Lord has helped you through your challenges
- Talk to others and bring to your Sunday School

Prayer & Worship: Dear Heavenly Father, we thank you for all of the happy days that you send our way, but most of all, we thank you for the happiest day -- the day we met Jesus and invited him into our hearts. Amen.

Liturgical Calendar: Feast of Apparition of the Holy Cross

This feast is dedicated to the Apparition of the Holy Cross in Jerusalem. At noon on May 19, 351, a bright, luminous cross appeared over the skies of Jerusalem, centered over an area spanning from the Mount of Olives (where Christ was betrayed and arrested) to Golgotha (where Christ was crucified). Awestruck, the faithful of Jerusalem rush to church to give thanks and glorify the Lord. Bishop Cyril (later St. Cyril of Jerusalem) subsequently wrote a letter to Emperor Constantine of Byzantium wherein he describes the miraculous and beautiful scene. St. Cyril tells Constantine that the apparition is a true testimony of the orthodox faith of Christianity.

Further, St. Cyril exhorts the Emperor that the appearance is a sign for him to remain steadfast in his faith, and to stop defending the heretical movement of Arianism and its promulgators. The Armenian translation of the Bishop’s letter has been preserved by the Church, and is read each year on the Feast of the Apparition of the Holy Cross. The Armenian Church celebrates this feast 28 days following Easter Sunday.