

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



Faith at Home

Theme of the Sunday: *Jealousy*

Verse of the Sunday: *"Now Jacob dwelt in the land where his father was a stranger, in the land of Canaan. This is the history of Jacob. Joseph, being seventeen years old, was feeding the flock with his brothers. And the lad was with the sons of Bilhah and the sons of Zilpah, his father's wives; and Joseph brought a bad report of them to his father. Now Israel loved Joseph more than all his children, because he was the son of his old age. Also he made him a tunic of many colors. 4 But when his brothers saw that their father loved him more than all his brothers, they hated him and could not speak peaceably to him. Now Joseph had a dream, and he told it to his brothers; and they hated him even more. So he said to them, "Please hear this dream which I have dreamed: There we were, binding sheaves in the field. Then behold, my sheaf arose and also stood upright; and indeed your sheaves stood all around and bowed down to my sheaf." And his brothers said to him, "Shall you indeed reign over us? Or shall you indeed have dominion over us?" So they hated him even more for his dreams and for his words." Genesis 37:1-4*

Message/Moral of the day: I hope that we would never do anything so terrible, but we can learn from this story that jealousy can cause us to do things that will hurt other people. It is something that we should guard against. We have to learn to be happy with whatever our Heavenly Father has given us. When we trust in Jesus and praise Him for all that He has given to us, the reward is eternal life in heaven. I must tell you that this is not the end of the story of Joseph and his brothers. The story does have a happy ending and Joseph is reunited with his father and brothers. But for today, we learn the lesson of the terrible things that happen because of the sin of jealousy.

Faith at Home:

- Talk with your children about jealousy and how harmful it can be.
- Discuss the option of talking openly about our feelings and finding solutions to problems, instead of being jealous.
- Today, do or say something good and sincere to your sibling/s or family member. If you are angry to your sibling/s or family member, today is the time to fix it.

Prayer & Worship: Heavenly Father, you love all of your children and you want the very best for them. Help us to guard against feelings of jealousy that might come into our heart. In the name of our Lord we pray. Amen.

Liturgical Calendar: St. James of Nisibis

St. James, a Syrian monk and first cousin of St. Gregory, was appointed the Bishop of the Christian city Nisibis in Mesopotamia in 308 A.D. St. James played a leading role among the 318 Christian leaders present during the sessions of the Council of Nicaea.

The most important canon created at the Nicaean Council was the Nicaean Creed, or the official declaration of the principal doctrines of the Armenian Church. We solemnly chant the Creed at every Divine Liturgy as a formal declaration that we are unified by the same understanding of who God is, and who we are relative to Him—a declaration of faith that has united Christians throughout the world for 1,700 years. We affirm that our own faith is rooted and nourished by the "one, catholic and apostolic holy Church" with Jesus Christ as its head (Colossians 1:18)