

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



Faith at Home

Parent Handout

Theme of the Sunday: Wise King Solomon / Wisdom comes from God

Verse of the Sunday: “At Gibeon the Lord appeared to Solomon in a dream by night; and God said, “Ask what I should give you.” And Solomon said, “You have shown great and steadfast love to your servant my father David, because he walked before you in faithfulness, in righteousness, and in uprightness of heart toward you; and you have kept for him this great and steadfast love, and have given him a son to sit on his throne today. And now, O Lord my God, you have made your servant king in place of my father David, although I am only a little child; I do not know how to go out or come in. And your servant is in the midst of the people whom you have chosen, a great people, so numerous they cannot be numbered or counted. Give your servant therefore an understanding mind to govern your people, able to discern between good and evil; for who can govern this your great people?” It pleased the Lord that Solomon had asked this. God said to him, “Because you have asked this, and have not asked for yourself long life or riches, or for the life of your enemies, but have asked for yourself understanding to discern what is right, I now do according to your word. Indeed I give you a wise and discerning mind; no one like you has been before you and no one like you shall arise after you.” 1 Kings 3:5-12

Message/Moral of the day: The story of Wise King Solomon teaches us to think of God and ask him for wisdom whenever we are faced with a hard decision or problem. When we look to the Lord, we will always make a wise choice.

Faith at Home:

- Talk with your child/ren about the difference between good and bad decisions.
- Can you recall a story when God helped you make the right choice? Share it with your child/ren.
- Pray together with your child/ren and ask God for wisdom and help to discern between good and evil.

Prayer & Worship: Dear Heavenly Father, give me an understanding mind and ability to discern good from evil, so I can never fall in temptation, and guide the steps of my life and my decisions with your wisdom. I pray in the name of the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit. Amen.

Liturgical Calendar: Fast of Catechumens

The Fast of Catechumens is peculiar only to the Armenian Church. It begins three weeks before the Great Lent. In ancient times people could eat only bread and salt during the fast of Catechumens. On those days it was not allowed to celebrate Divine Liturgy either. The meaning of the Fast of Catechumens is the purification of the five human senses from pagan impurity. In the ancient Church there was a custom to fast during five days before baptism. St. Gregory the Illuminator ordered King Tiridates and others to fast for five days before baptism in order to get freed of the evil. That is the reason also for fasting of Catechumens to be called “fast of salvation” from the evil. According to the tradition, the fasting of Catechumens was initiated by St. Gregory the illuminator in memory of the above-mentioned practice.