

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



Faith at Home

Parent Handout

Theme of the Sunday: 5th Sunday of Lent: Sunday of the Judge

Verse of the Sunday: The Parable of the Widow and the Unjust Judge

“Then Jesus told them a parable about their need to pray always and not to lose heart. He said, “In a certain city there was a judge who neither feared God nor had respect for people. In that city there was a widow who kept coming to him and saying, ‘Grant me justice against my opponent.’ For a while he refused; but later he said to himself, ‘Though I have no fear of God and no respect for anyone, yet because this widow keeps bothering me, I will grant her justice, so that she may not wear me out by continually coming.’” And the Lord said, “Listen to what the unjust judge says. And will not God grant justice to his chosen ones who cry to him day and night? Will he delay long in helping them? I tell you, he will quickly grant justice to them. And yet, when the Son of Man comes, will he find faith on earth?” Gospel of Luke 18:1-8

Message/Moral of the day: The Bible teaches us that just as our parents want what is best for us and will give us what we ask for, God, our Heavenly Father, also hears and answers our requests. Sometimes we ask God for something one time and never mention it again. Maybe that is our impatience showing. When we ask for something, we want God to say "yes," and we want Him to say it right now! Our Lord Jesus said that we should always persevere in our prayers and not give up. Perhaps God just wants us to show that we are really serious about what we are asking of Him. Does this mean that if we keep asking for something over and over again that God will always give it to us? No, but He loves us and wants what is best for us, and He will answer, "yes" if He knows that's good for us.

Faith at Home:

- Share some stories/memories when you really wanted something, but never got it, and later you realized that it was better for you not to get it.
- Share about some answered prayers and how they changed your life for better.
- Pray together.

Prayer & Worship: Dear Heavenly Father, teach us to pray - and teach us to be patient, persevere, and be persistent in prayer. If we desire good things, remind us that we need to pray and pray again. Amen.

Liturgical Calendar: This week the Armenian Church commemorates the **Forty Martyrs of Sebaste** or Թորսուհայրապետացիք [Ka-ra-soun Ma-nouk] in Armenian. They were a group of Roman soldiers in the Legio XII Fulminata whose martyrdom in 320 for the Christian faith is recounted in traditional martyrologies.

They were killed near the city of Sebaste (present-day Sivas in Turkey), in Lesser Armenia, victims of the persecutions of Licinius, who after 316, persecuted the Christians of the East. The earliest account of their existence and martyrdom is given by Bishop Basil of Caesarea (370–379) in a homily he delivered on their feast day. The Feast of the Forty Martyrs is thus older than Basil himself, who eulogized them only fifty or sixty years after their deaths.