

"Magic" Fold and Cut Cross

Your students will enjoy making this "Fold and Cut" Cross to commemorate today's Exaltation of the Holy Cross feast day.

SUPPLIES NEEDED

- 8.5" by 11" paper
- Pens
- Scissors

PREPARATION BEFORE ACTIVITY

Practice making this "Fold and Cut" cross before class by following the instructions below. This will make it easier to guide your students during the activity.

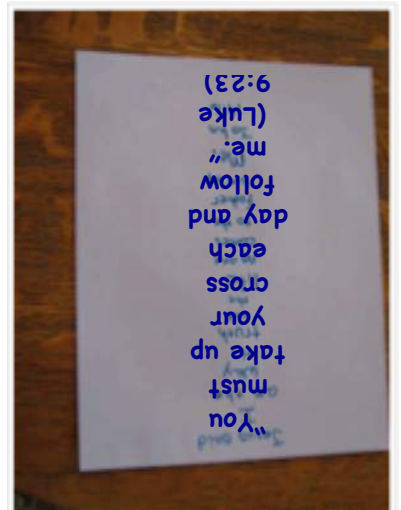
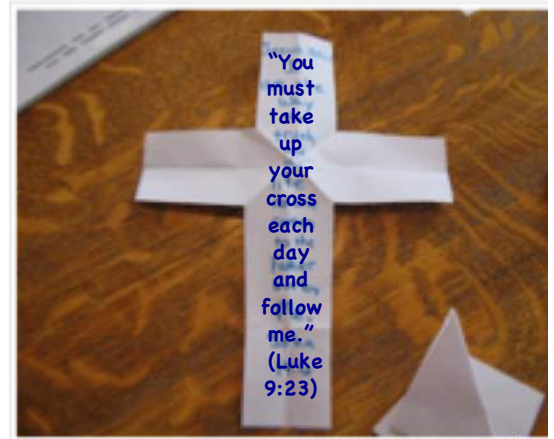
WHAT TO DO

As you read the steps and story below, have students copy what you do with the 8.5" x 11" paper.

1. First, you take a regular, 8.5" by 11" piece of paper, and write the verse down the middle:

"You must take up your cross each day and follow me." (Luke 9:23)

2. The Armenian Church has venerated the cross since the apostle James, the first bishop of Jerusalem, recited the prayer, "O Christ, we bow down to your cross." But in 610 A.D., things got turned upside down. ***(turn paper so words face upside down)***



3. In 610 A.D., the city of Jerusalem was captured by the Persians and among the articles taken as booty was the cross of Christ. The cross was gone! (**flip the paper over**)



4. You can imagine how distressed the Christians were to have their precious cross taken away . . . (**follow diagrams below**)



5. . . . especially by people who did not worship it as they did. (*continue following diagrams below*)



6. But, (*unfold the paper to reveal the shape*) in 627 A.D. the Emperor Heraclius defeated the Persians, returned the cross to Jerusalem and placed it back in its original location in the Church of the Holy Sepulchre. And this is what we remember on the feast of the Exaltation of the Holy Cross.

