

COUNCIL OF NICAEA

This Council was held in Nicaea, Asia Minor in A.D. 325 under Emperor Constantine the Great. There were 318 Bishops were present, one of them being St. Gregory the Illuminator's son, St. Aristakes. During the Council, the first part of the Creed was composed, which refuted the teachings of Arius and defined the divinity of the Son of God. They also determined when the date of Easter would be celebrated.

The Arian Controversy was one heresy which lasted for centuries and still exists today in the form of Jehovah's Witnesses. Arius denied the divinity of Christ. He argued that if Jesus was born, then there was time when He did not exist. If He became God, then there was time when He was not. The Council declared Arius' teaching a heresy, unacceptable to the Church and decreed that Christ is God. He is of the same essence "*homoousios*" with God the Father.

HEALING DEAF MAN WORDSEARCH

X Y V Q X S B H J S E D E A F
 G F K G L U P I E R Y B H Y D
 V P S T Y S K E W A D W G T A
 A N I F J I V O E D V C P N H
 T P J I W G P W C C B E B K P
 S B M N U H D O F X H Y N H R
 T O N G U E N O P I Z M K E G
 O X L E N D D U Z E R L W A B
 U G V R I O U C V W N D Y L N
 C T G S P Q F J L B Y E Y E U
 H X L J M A N Y E R O Y D D Q
 E Q J F R E E D B S X B Z C P
 D C S P E A K T M M U D I L T
 E E X M P R N P N X H S J J Z
 Q C N W G S N P M V E Q O P J

JESUS	DEAF	SPEECH	TOUCHED	HEALED
FINGERS	SIGHED	SPIT	TONGUE	HEAVEN
OPENED	MAN	SPEAK	EARS	FREED

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RAISING SAINTS

SUNDAY BULLETIN FOR YOUTH

HEARING FOR THE FIRST TIME

Eve of the Fast of the Exaltation of the Holy Cross | Mark 7:31-37

Imagine hearing for the first time. What do you think you would feel? In today's Gospel, a crowd brings a deaf man to Jesus to be healed. The way Jesus heals him may seem strange to us at first because He put His fingers in the deaf man's ears and then spits and grabs the man's tongue. He then says, "Ephphatha," which means "be opened".

Imagine being the deaf man. You cannot hear and you do not know what's going on. Then a huge crowd of people grab you and bring you to a man you've never seen before. This man then puts His hands in your ears and then tries to grab your tongue. How would you feel? What would be your reaction?

You would probably feel scared because you do not know what's happening and no one can communicate that to you. But then all of a sudden you hear birds for the first time and the sound of wind moving leaves and trees and people talking. A miracle has taken place and you were overjoyed for this because now you can hear the world and God.

There are many people in this world who do not know and have not heard Jesus before and it is up to us to bring people to Christ. Just as in the gospel reading the crowd brought this deaf man to be healed, we too must bring people to Christ to be healed. People are suffering emotionally, physically, and spiritually, and only Christ can heal them, but we need to bring them to Christ for that healing.

It's up to each of us to bring people to Christ and the Church (the Body of Christ), so they can hear and be transformed as the deaf man was.

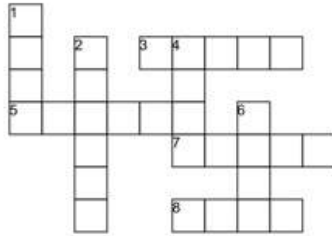
Who will you bring to Christ's Church?

ARMENIAN WORDS TO KNOW FROM HOLY BADARAK

Օրհնէա Տէր => Orhnya Der => Bless, Father

**Chanted by the deacons numerous times throughout the Divine Liturgy before the priest offers a prayer. An example can be found on page 12 in the Liturgy Book.*

HEALING DEAF MAN CROSSWORD



ACROSS

- The Son of God.
- One of the four extremities of the hand, other than the thumb.
- To use the voice to say words or converse with someone.
- To say, or to give information to someone.

DOWN

- Unable to hear.
- The fleshy part inside the mouth used in tasting and in speech.
- The two organs on each side of the head which people use to hear.
- To make someone healthy again.

SPEAK
JESUS

HEAL
FINGER

TONGUE
DEAF

TELL
EARS

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SPIRITUAL THOUGHT

Lord, do not grant me any gifts if that will cause me to become their servant and stop being Your servant. Do not grant me any graces if they will become the objects of my love and adoration. Lord, teach me to long for the One who gives and not that which is given; to wait for You and not for those things which come from You; to look at Your eyes and not at Your hand; to look at Your embrace and not Your "pocket."



He looked up to heaven and with a deep sigh said to him, "Ephphatha!" (which means "Be opened!"). At this, the man's ears were opened, his tongue was loosened and he began to speak plainly.

Mark 7:34-35

Հայեցաւ յերկինս. յոգոց եհան եւ ասէ. Եփփաթա, որ է՝ բացիր: Եւ նոյնժամայն բացան լսելիք նորա, եւ լուծան կապանք լեզուի նորա եւ խօսէր ուղիղ:

Մատու է. 34-35