

Unit 5: MANY BLESSINGS OF OUR LORD

Lesson 5.3 Red Sunday

Teacher Preparation and Materials Needed:

Song: [Our Church Martyrs](#) (duration 3:07)

Craft: [Crown of Martyrdom](#)

MORAL CHARACTER FOCUS:

In this lesson, the children will learn about the great sacrifice the followers of Jesus and our ancestors made to teach about Kingdom of heaven and God's word.

Words of the week:

վկայ – vga – witness

մարտիրոս – mardiros – martyr

արիւն – aryoon – blood

Memory Verse:

“When you are brought before synagogues, rulers and authorities, do not worry about how you will defend yourselves or what you will say, for the Holy Spirit will teach you at that time what you should say.”

- Luke 12:11-12

Lesson

Open with prayer:

Իմաստութիւն Յօր՝ Յիսուս, տո՛ւր ինձ իմաստութիւն, զբարիս խորհել եւ խօսել եւ գործել առաջի Քո՛ յամենայն ժամ. ի չար խորհրդոց, ի բանից եւ ի գործոց փրկեա՛ զիս. եւ ողորմեա՛ Քո արարածոց եւ ինձ բազմամեղիս: Ամէն:

Eemasdootyoon Hor Heesoos, door eents eemasdootyoon uzparees khorel yev khosel yev kordz arachi ko hamenayn jham. Ee char khorhrtos, paneets yev kordzots prgya zees yev voghormya ko araradzots eents pazmameghees. Amen.

Wisdom of the Father, O Jesus, grant to me the wisdom to think, speak, and do that which is good in Your sight. Save me from all evil and distracting thoughts, words, and deeds. Have mercy upon your creatures and upon me, a great sinner. Amen.

**Wisdom Prayer, written by St. Nersess the Grace-filled (Shnorhali).*

Lesson Body:

Q: *Have you ever heard the word martyr? What do you think it means?*

The word martyr comes from Greek and means witness (the Armenian is *vga/վկայ*). It is someone who gives testimony of the truth and of something he or she has witnessed. Today, when we say martyr, we understand a person who voluntarily sacrifices something of great value, especially his or her life, for witnessing and refusing to give up his or her faith.

Q: *What do you think being a witness means for Christians? And what does that have to do with Red Sunday which we celebrate today? (Open classroom discussion.)*

This Sunday we celebrate Red Sunday and remember how the establishment of the one, holy, catholic, and apostolic church was built upon the sacrifices of those who came to faith by witnessing Jesus Christ. The long and difficult path of the establishment of the Christian Church was covered in blood of the witnesses, who chose to sacrifice their lives for the Truth and the glory of God. Hence, comes the name Red Sunday.

On Red Sunday we remember all the sacrifices our Christian brothers and sisters made for Christ, and which give us an example to follow. Today, martyrdom still occurs in the lives of Christians, happening in different parts of our world. Places as Egypt, Ukraine, Israel, Pakistan, China, Syria, and Armenia are such places. Perhaps the most well-known martyrdom in our recent history was made by many of our ancestors, who were killed during the Armenian Genocide of 1915, when the Ottoman Empire decided to erase all Christians from their lands and the Armenian Christians from the face of this earth. During that time, 1.5 million Armenians were martyred for Christ.

Now we, who carry the legacy of our ancestors, must remain strong and withstand the challenges evil puts in front of us, defend our faith and be strong in it. As Christ says, “When you are brought before synagogues, rulers and authorities, do not worry about how you will defend yourselves or what you will say, for the Holy Spirit will teach you at that time what you should say.” Luke 12:11-12

Song: [Our Church Martyrs](#) (duration 3:07)

Craft: [Crown of Martyrdom](#)



Image from www.iloovs.com

Words of the Week:

վկայ – vga – witness

մարտիրոս – mardiros – martyr

պսակ – bsag – crown

Memory Verse:

“When you are brought before synagogues, rulers and authorities, do not worry about how you will defend yourselves or what you will say, for the Holy Spirit will teach you at that time what you should say.”

- Luke 12:11-12

Review

Memory Verse Review:

“When you are brought before synagogues, rulers and authorities, do not worry about how you will defend yourselves or what you will say, for the Holy Spirit will teach you at that time what you should say.” (Luke 12:11-12)

Words of the Week Review:

վկայ – vga – witness

մարտիրոս – mardiros – martyr

պսակ – bsag – crown

Lesson Review:

Questions:

1. What Sunday follows Green Sunday? (Red Sunday)
2. What does the word ‘martyr’ mean? (Witness)
3. What did the martyrs do? (They testified of God’s goodness and were killed because of that)
4. Where are there still Christian martyrs being killed today? (Some examples are Egypt, Ukraine, Israel, Pakistan, China, Syria, and Armenia)
5. Are you a descendant of the Holy Martyrs? (Yes. You have their blood in you)

Life Application

What are we going to do with what we have learned today?

Refer to the lesson.

* *Departing Prayer, written by St. Nersess the Grace-filled (Shnorhali).*

Close with prayer:

Պահապան ամենայնի Քրիստոս, աջ Քո հովանի լիցի ի վերայ իմ, ի տուէ եւ ի գիշերի, ի նստիլ ի տան, ի գնալ ի ճանապարհ, ի ննջել եւ ի յառնել, զի մի երբեք սասանեցայց եւ ողորմեա՛ Քո արարածոց եւ ինձ բազմամեղիս: Ամէն

Bahaban amenayn Kreesdos, ach Ko hovanee leetsee ee vera eem; ee dveh yev ee keesheree, ee nsdeel ee dan, ee knal ee janabarh, ee nunchel yev ee harnel, zee mee yerpek sasanetsayts yev vog-hormya Ko araradzots yev eents pazmamyghees. Amen.

O Christ, guardian of all, let Your right hand guard and shelter me, by day and by night, at home and abroad, in sleeping and in waking, that I may never stumble. Have mercy upon Your creatures and upon me, a great sinner. Amen.

At Home

Please memorize by next week:

Memory Verse:

“When you are brought before synagogues, rulers and authorities, do not worry about how you will defend yourselves or what you will say, for the Holy Spirit will teach you at that time what you should say.” (Luke 12:11-12)

Words of the week:

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