

2. **Our Story.** You can divide the class into groups of two or three and have each group take a scenario to discuss and answer OR it can be done as a whole group activity. Conclude with this segue: “You had some great solutions. But, you know, God gives us lots of help so that we can do the right thing. Everywhere in the Bible we learn about how to apply our faith to right actions. That advice begins with the Ten Commandments. Let’s read about them.” 13 min.
3. Call on students to read **God’s Word**; For the Commandments, have each student read one. Refer back to **Our Story** and see if they can apply the commandment to the scenario [Answers: 1. #10; 2. #8; 3. #5; 4. #4; 5. #9; 6. The greatest commandment: love God and others].
4. Introduce the **Faith Word**, then read **We Learn About God**. Have students refer to the Ten Commandments and have them write “G” next to the commandments that help us love God (Answers: #1, 2, 3, 4) and have them write an “O” for the commandments that help us love others and ourselves (Answers: #4-10) 12 min.
5. Read **Our Armenian Way**. Have students think about who they could take *mahs* to. It would be nice to arrange a time when the students can actually distribute the *mahs* one Sunday after church. This could be arranged with the priest and the parish council. 5 min.
6. **Handmade With Love: My Commandment Handbook**
 - a. Distribute pre-cut heart shaped white paper—5 sheets to each student. Have them either fold in half or draw a line in the middle of the heart. On one side of the heart, have the students write a commandment (let them choose 5 from the 10); on the other side, have them draw a picture showing the commandment.
 - b. Cover- Students can select whatever light colored heart-shaped construction paper they want to make a cover (with the title **My Commandment Handbook: Love God, Love Others**.) Put all the sheets together and staple or holepunch and tie with ribbon.
7. Clean-up. Close with the prayer: “Dear God, we thank you for your laws which enable us to love and honor you and our neighbors. Amen.”

*At this time, if *mahs* is available for distribution, give to each student by placing it on the back of their extended hand; they may eat it and make the sign of the cross. Dismiss. 20 min.

Grade Two

Unit Three: Being the Church

Lesson Five: We Make Choices

Key Concepts

1. Sin is turning from God’s love.
2. Making the right choices is critical in our Christian walk.
3. The Lord’s Prayer reminds us that we need to be attentive to God’s will for us (“Your will be done”).

Objectives

During this lesson students will

1. Participate in a small group exercise about choices.
2. Read and discuss the Parable of the Lost Son.
3. Illustrate the final scene of forgiveness from the Parable of the Lost Son.
4. Discuss the meaning of Romans 6: 11-12.
5. Examine the line in the Lord’s Prayer: “Your will be done.”
6. Analyze actions that reflect doing God’s will.
7. Design a bookmark with WWJD, What Would Jesus Do?

Materials Needed

Crayons, markers and or coloring pencils

Pre-cut bookmarks (preferably copied onto card stock); see template at the back of this manual

Stickers, stamps

Optional (but highly recommended): Laminating material

Hole punch

Thin ribbon- 6 inches per student

Procedure

1. Greet students warmly and open class with the prayer in **We Pray Together**. Divide the class into small groups of two or three, whatever configuration works best for your class. Have each small group huddle together, read the case in **Let's Discover** and decide if the right choice was made. After a few minutes, have each group present their case and decision. If a poor choice was made, have them explain to the rest of the class what could have been done. Direct the class to reflect on choices they have made. Have them each write a line or two about a poor choice and the consequences. Ask for volunteers to share their answers. NOTE: You might want to do this exercise as a class, rather than in small groups. 12 min.
2. Encourage students to take turns reading the paraphrase of the Parable of the Lost Son (also known as the Prodigal Son) in **Our Story**. Ask students if they know what a parable is? (an earthly story with a heavenly meaning; stories that Jesus told to teach a lesson) After reading the story have students draw, in the space provided, the last scene of the story where the son returns home. Share their drawings. Ask who they think the "father" represents in the story. (God) How about the son? (all of us). Ask the class, does God forgive us when we make the wrong choices? 10 min.
3. Ask a volunteer to read the Scripture passage in **God's Word**. Discuss what students think it means to not have "sin rule over you." (Prompts for discussion: What does it mean to rule? A ruler dictates to those he or she rules. A ruler is *in charge*. Do we want sin, bad choices, to be in charge of us?)
4. Introduce **Faith Words** and then read **We Learn About God**. Ask the class if they think a mistake is the same as a sin. What's the difference between the two words? Sometimes we make mistakes or cause an accident. We do something wrong, but we do not mean to do it. Mistakes are not sins. Ask them to give an example of an accident or a mistake (spilling a cup of milk, dropping a plate). 8 min.
5. Distribute the *Hayr Mer* handout and recite the prayer as a class in English, then in Armenian. Refer to the line, "yegheetzeen gamk ko," "Your will be done." Have them trace the Armenian. Read **Our Armenian Way**. Have students complete the exercise by drawing a cross next to all the lines that demonstrate God's will. Go over each one. 10 min.
6. **Handmade with Love: WWJD? Bookmark**
 - a. Distribute pre-cut bookmarks. Students can decorate however they wish with crayons or markers, stickers, stamps, etc. Encourage them to draw their own symbols, etc. Include the date at the bottom. Leave a space to punch a hole.
 - b. A nice touch would be to laminate the bookmarks. Punch a hole at the top and tie a ribbon through it.
7. Clean-up. Close with the prayer: "Dear God, help us to do your will on earth as it is in heaven. Amen." 20 min.