

Lesson 8

Putting It All Together



Pray Together

Hanoon Hor, yev Vortvo, yev Hokvooyin Surpo, Amen.

Fill us, Lord, with the light and fire of your Spirit so that, like the saints and apostles, we might go into the world every day with courage and faith, hope and love, Amen.

inspired by Arakelo Aghavno, the Armenian hymn for Pentecost

Quick Quiz

Mark the correct answer.

1. In I Corinthians 12:28, God says he has set in his church all of the following except

- a apostles b teachers c soldiers d prophets

2. Jesus describes sharing our gifts openly as "letting our light shine before others." This is so that:

- a others will appreciate us b we can go to heaven
c God will reward us d others will praise God

3. Jesus repeatedly told _____ to feed His sheep.

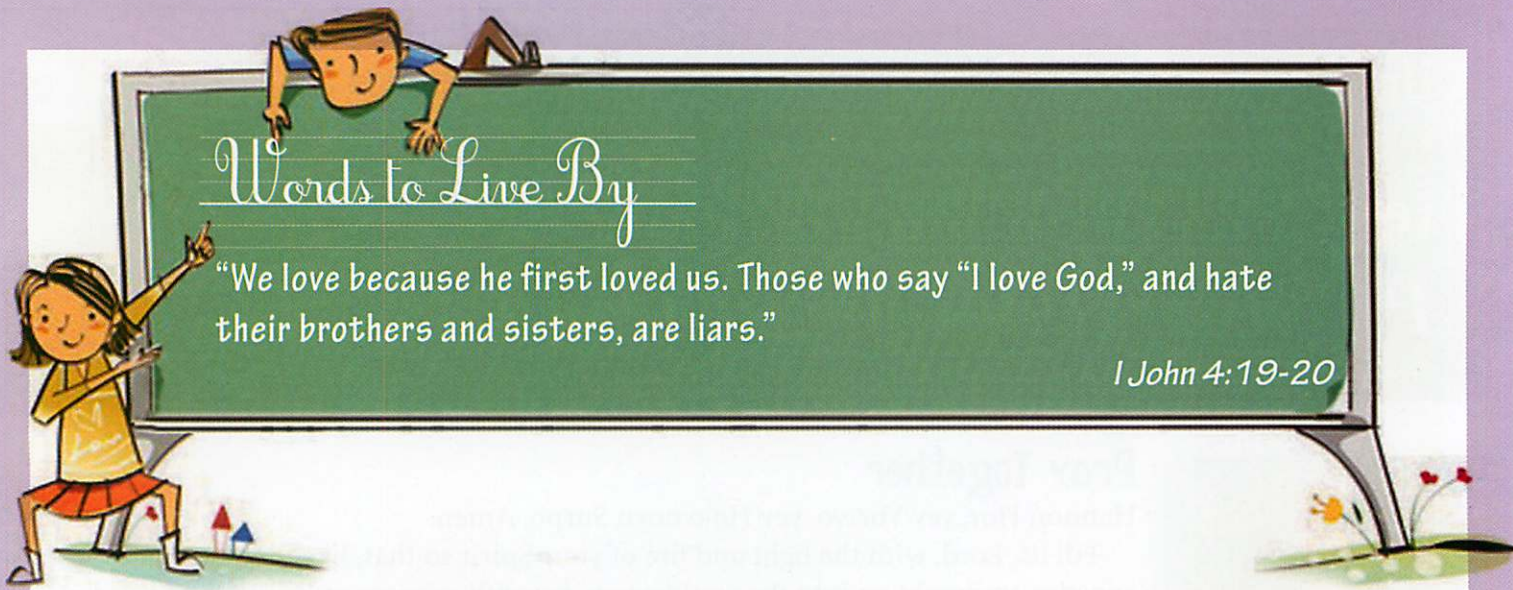
- a Saul of Tarsus b Thaddeus c Peter d Mary

4. St. Nersess Shnorhali is famous for his 24 prayers known as

- a I Confess With Faith b The Lamentations
c The epistles d The Psalms

5. Nersess refused to use _____ when dealing with people of differing religious beliefs.

- a music b prayer
c violence d leadership



Words to Live By

"We love because he first loved us. Those who say "I love God," and hate their brothers and sisters, are liars."

1 John 4:19-20



Bringing Timeless Blessings to our World

So far this Sunday School year you have learned about some of the special people from the Bible, Christian history, and the Armenian Church. You have studied about what made them special and what they contributed to the religious and secular worlds.

Imagine you are one of these individuals in the following scenario: You are all stuck in an airport during a snowstorm. You're not going anywhere for a good long while. In casual conversation, you introduce

yourselves to each other. As you converse among yourselves, you share things like your life experience, your faith, and what you think about life in the twenty-first century.

Look through your textbook to find the special Biblical and Armenian saints you have studied. Assign parts and have fun!

Our Armenian Way

Catholicos Hovhanness of Otzoon lived during the seventh and eighth centuries AD. Little is known about his early life. Even before he was ordained as Catholicos in 717, he was already well-known for his intelligence. As Catholicos, Hovhanness had an unusual habit. While most members of the clergy wore simple, plain clothing, Hovhanness was always dressed in fancy, highly decorated robes.

His reputation for wearing magnificent clothing reached all the way to the Emir of Damascus, ruler of the Arab world. The Emir was curious about Hovhanness and invited him for a visit and asked him to wear his best clothes. Hovhanness came to Damascus in his finest robes. The Emir, even though he was a Muslim, knew about Jesus' humility and simplicity. He was puzzled that a Christian leader would be dressed in such glorious garments, so he asked Hovhanness why he didn't dress modestly, as one would expect from a follower of Jesus.

Hovhanness asked the Emir to send everyone out of the room. When the two of them were alone, the Catholicos revealed that he wore a scratchy, shaggy, tight undergarment made of goat's hair underneath the beautiful robes. It must have made Hovhanness extremely uncomfortable all the time. St. Hovhanness explained to the Emir that he wore beautiful outer garments to remind others of the glorious splendor of God's kingdom. But next to his skin, he wore harsh clothing to remind himself of his own sinfulness. The stunned Emir was filled with respect and admiration for Catholicos Hovhannes and remarked that he was truly a holy man.

