

We Are A Family of Faith

We Continue the Work of Jesus

UNIT

4

Lesson
Four

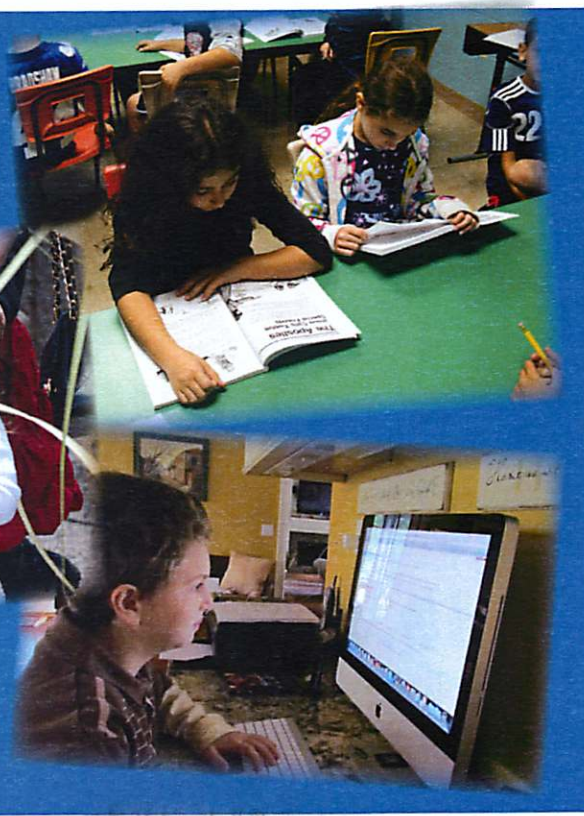


Prayer Starter

In the name of the Father, and the Son, and the Holy Spirit ...
Dear Lord, thank you for our Third Grade Sunday School class! We learned so much about you and about each other this year. Help us to take your love and spirit into all we do in the weeks ahead. Amen.

Hye-Q

A Backward Glance...



Daily Bread

Jesus taught people to love others and serve one another. Remember all those beautiful “one anothers”?

Wherever he went, he helped the sick, fed the poor, and taught people to do the same. Even at the Last Supper, he knelt down and washed the disciples’ feet. He told them he had come to serve, not to be served.

Think of times when someone has helped you, even in a small way, such as picking up a toy you dropped or making



a meal for you. Or saying some kind words when you weren't feeling very good. Every time you smile at somebody or make some one else's life easier, you are doing the work of God.

Faith is a powerful thing when you understand it in your heart. The love of God is easy to share. We often think about ourselves first. But when we are able to think of other people's needs, that is when we are truly showing God's love.

What are some simple everyday ways to share God's love? Helping your parents with work in the house or a teacher to clean up the classroom. Or something bigger: collecting coats for poor people who may not have them in winter or bringing food to a soup kitchen or homeless shelter.

SCRIPTURE SOURCE

When the righteous see Jesus in heaven, he will tell them something surprising:

"For I was hungry and you gave me something to eat, I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink, I was a stranger and you invited me in, I needed clothes and you clothed me, I was sick and you looked after me, I was in prison and you came to visit me."

They will ask him a question:

'Lord, when did we see you hungry and feed you, or thirsty and give you something to drink? When did we see you a stranger and invite you in, or needing clothes and clothe you? When did we see you sick or in prison and go to visit you?'

And Jesus will say something very important!

'I tell you the truth, whatever you did for one of the least of these, you did for me.'" *Matthew 25:35-40*



Well Versed

"... I will show you my faith by what I do." *James 2:18*



IN THE ARMENIAN TRADITION

One of the very important leaders of the Armenian Church was St. Nersess the Great. He lived in the 4th century and was the great-grandson of St. Gregory the Illuminator.

He was asked to be the Catholicos of the Armenian Church, even though he was not even a priest at the time. The King and the church leaders knew he was a faithful, smart and loving man. He became famous for helping people in need. He built schools and hospitals, orphanages, and shelters for the poor and the sick. He wanted Armenian Christians to always help the poor and the needy.

St. Nersess was a true champion of Christian charity in Armenia.

What can you do this summer to help others?

CELEBRATE WITH GOD

Celebrate a beautiful year in 3th grade!

St. Nersess saved many lives with his prayers. Once, when he and other priests and bishops were punished by an angry king and put on a desert island without food or water, he saw that his brother priests were starving. He prayed for a miracle and all of a sudden, swarms of fish flooded from the sea onto shore. A spring of fresh water burst from a rock. At last, everyone could eat and drink.

Did you know...!?

BIBLE BYTES

Righteous *This word means to be faithful to God. In the Bible, it describes those who will be with him in heaven.*

Family Focus

Today we surveyed our year's work with a fast review of the textbook. The children learned about how important it is to translate our faith into loving good deeds. We read about the 4th century Catholicos, St. Nersess the Great, who was renowned for building hospitals, shelters, and orphanages in his service to those in need. The children made a pledge to be more involved with helping others. It was a pleasure having your child in our class – God bless all of you and have a great summer!

Living Your Faith

1. Look through the 3rd Grade Textbook and share some of the stories. Ask your child questions.
2. Work on a service project or two with your child. Perhaps you can help clean up a public park, donate to a shelter, help a neighbor.