

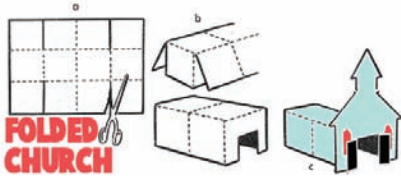
- c. Is there a job in the church more important than another? (when all are done in the spirit of Christ, no)
- d. What are some things we do at church? (sing, pray, play study, read, fellowship, eat)
- e. What are ways we can praise God? (sing sharagans, pray, tell others about God)
- f. Is everyone important to the Church? (yes!)

8 min.

5. Review **Faith Word** and read **Our Armenian Way**. Ask the class if they ever thought of the nave, the place where the congregation sits, as a boat. What are some moments during Soorp Badarak that the class feels that they are one body in Christ? (during the recitation of the Creed, Confession, Holy Communion, saying the Hayr Mer together, Kiss of Peace).

7 min.

## 6. Handmade With Love: Being the Church craft



- Distribute the copied templates of the church, front and back.
- Cut out the front of the church....cut on the solid lines and fold on the dotted lines (the doors).
- Then cut out the back of the church (the box shape). Cut on solid lines and fold on dotted lines, as shown in picture a. On the outer boxes, draw and or write ways in which you can be part of the church.
- Then glue corners as indicated in picture b. Then cut out the black rectangle. Glue the front of the church to the box on the small side that has the rectangle door cut from its side. You now have a paper church.

7. Clean-up. Close with the prayer: “Dear Heavenly Father, thank you for the blessing of our church, may we always work together for you! Amen.”

20 min.

## Unit Three: Being the Church

### Lesson Two: A Gift for Everyone

#### Key Concepts

1. God gives every member of the believing community a gift to use in love and service (1 Corinthians 12: 27-30).
2. The Armenian Church has a tradition of Home Blessing asking God’s blessing and protection on the family and home.

#### Objectives

During this lesson students will

1. Participate in a teamwork group activity of putting together words from individual letters.
2. Read and discuss a story about the teamwork involved in a summer camp.
3. Examine 1 Corinthians 12: 27-30.
4. Complete a poster on the gifts of a church community.
5. Review the Armenian Church Home Blessing.
6. Create a clay pot to put salt in for a home blessing.

#### Materials Needed

Display items: a cup of water, a chunk of bread (slice/pita/roll), a dish of salt

Individual letters to spell the words **grace, community, fellowship, prayer and worship** (see Procedure #1). Easiest would be to purchase prepared letters

11"x 22" sheets of oak tag (See procedure #4)

Thick markers

Crayons, markers, colored pencils

Light colored construction paper or white drawing paper

Air-drying clay (many brands such as Activ Clay and Crayola are readily available in craft stores and Staples); sticks for design-making.

Optional (see Procedure #6): Tempera, acrylic or watercolor paints and brushes.

## Procedure

1. Greet students warmly and open class with the prayer in **We Pray Together**. Depending on the size of the class, select a few words in advance that you would like the class to put together as a group. The idea is to have each student have a letter that will make a word when joined with the others. Some examples of suggested words are: **grace, community, fellowship, prayer, worship**. Divide class into groups and distribute letters for a word within each group. Have them try to form a word with their letters; they may consult the word list in their texts as a guide. This is an activity demonstrating teamwork and that each person's letter is important. After the exercise, discuss the questions in **Let's Discover**. 10 min.
2. Call on volunteers to take turns reading **Our Story**. Ask if any of the students have ever attended a camp like Anita's, perhaps even a day camp. Did they share any of the same experiences? Why did Anita feel like camp was a family, a community? Ask for specific examples. If no one has been at a summer camp, ask about experiences at school. Do children learn together? Eat in the cafeteria together? What else do they share in? 7 min.
3. Introduce the **Faith Word**. Call on students to read **God's Word** (I Corinthians 12: 27-30).
4. Read **We Learn About God**. Divide the class into groups of 4. If the class is small, work together. Give each group a piece of large oak tag (11"x 22" would be fine) and thick markers. Have them work together and make a poster depicting the Church as one body with its different parts and different gifts. Make sure students review the Scripture verses in **God's Word** for ideas. Have blank paper available if they prefer to draw things separately and then paste them on the poster. The poster title can be *The Church is One Body* or *One Body, Many Gifts*. They should also choose a presenter to describe the poster to the class. These can later be mounted on a school bulletin board.  
Note: Circulate constantly and provide assistance. Children may have difficulty with ideas or with working together. 20 min.
5. **Our Armenian Way**. Read the paragraph. Point to the water, salt and bread on display as you read. Ask the class if they ever have attended a home blessing or have had one in their own home. If possible, help families arrange one with your priest during an appropriate season ahead. 5 min.
6. **Handmade With Love: Home Blessing Clay Pot**
  1. Distribute sufficient amounts of clay for each student to shape a small clay pot (that could fit in the palm of your hand), small sticks may be used to carve shapes or designs into clay.
  2. Depending on drying time required for specific clay, pots can be painted in today's class or next week. You don't need to paint the pots at all
7. Clean-up. Close with the prayer: "Dear Heavenly Father, thank you for our church community. We will strive to work together, using the gifts you gave us all to live as Christians together, amen." 20 min.