

NAZRETH DIVISION – CLASS 3

Unit 1: Bible Stories

Lesson 1 : Offerings that please our Lord

Fill in the blanks

- 1) The elder son Cain was a farmer.
- 2) The younger son Abel was a Shepherd.
- 3) Abel sacrificed the best of his first born sheep.
- 4) Cain offered his farm products.
- 5) God was pleased with Abel's sacrifice.

Answer the following

- 1) Who were the first two children of Adam and Eve?
Cain & Abel
- 2) God was not pleased with Cain's offering. Why?
Because Cain was a sinful man.

Verse : "The sacrifices of God are a broken spirit, a broken and a contrite heart- these, O God, you will not despise." (Psalms 51: 17).

Lesson 2 : Abraham's Broadmindness

Name the following

- 1) Abraham's nephew – Lot
- 2) Abraham is called as – Father of Faithfulness

Fill in the blanks

- 1) God told Abraham to leave his own country and people and go to another land.
- 2) Abraham stayed in the land of Canaan.
- 3) Lot selected the fertile plains of river Jordan lying to the east.

Who said to whom

- 1) "Let us separate. Take for you any part of the land you want"- Abraham said to Lot.

Answer the following

- 1) Why did Abraham and Lot part company?

The vast wealth and fight between herdsmen made it difficult for them to live together. So Abraham thought that it would be better for both families to live independently.

Verse: "Behold, how good and how pleasant it is for brothers to live together in unity."
(Psalms 133:1).

Lesson 3 : Fire in the bush

Name the following

- 1) The country where the people of Israel were slaves? Egypt
- 2) The person whom God choose to deliver the Israelites out of Egypt? Moses
- 3) The person who assisted Moses ? Aaron

Fill in the blanks

- 1) Lord appeared to Moses in the valley of Horeb mountains.
- 2) Moses had been a prince for 40 years and has been living as a shepherd for another 40 years.
- 3) God gave Moses courage and send him along with his brother Aaron.
- 4) King Pharaoh made Israelites slaves & burdened them with lots of hardships .

Answer the following

- 1) What was the strange sight that Moses witnessed in the Valley of Horeb Mountains?
The bush was on fire, but the flames did not burn it.
- 2) Who commanded Moses to remove his shoes and why?
God commanded Moses to remove his shoes as he was standing on a Holy ground.

- 3) What was God's purpose in choosing Moses?
To deliver Israelites from Egypt and to lead them to the land of Canaan.

Verse : "Through God we will do valiantly." (Psalms 60:12)

Lesson 4: The strength of prayer and fasting

Name the following

- 1) The king of Babylon? Ahasuerus
- 2) The cousin of Mordecai? Esther
- 3) The minister of King Ahasuerus? Haman
- 4) The person who decided to kill Mordecai and to destroy his tribe? Haman, the Minister of Babylon
- 5) The Jews among the slaves of Babylon? Mordecai and his family

Fill in the blanks

- 1) Esther directed all Jews to fast with her 3 days and pray to God.
- 2) Haman was hanged on the gallows which had secretly kept to hang Mordecai.
- 3) Mordecai approached Queen Esther and prayed to save her tribe from doom.

Answer the following

- 1) How did Esther become the queen of the land?
Esther grew up as a young girl with good character. King Ahasuerus liked her very much and made her his queen.
- 2) How did Esther save her own tribe from danger?
Through prayer and fasting.
- 3) Why did Mordecai refuse to fall down before Haman?
Mordecai, being a Jew wanted to follow his religious commandment of not to fall down and worship anyone other than Yahweh.
- 4) What was the lesson we learn from Esther story?
Fasting, prayer and pleadings can wipe out the wicked who use evil and cruel deeds.

Verse: “However, this kind does not go out except by prayer and fasting.” St Mathew 17: 21

Lesson 5 : Samson : The strength of Vow

Fill in the blanks

- 1) God’s angel had told Samson’s parents never to cut their son’s hair for he should be a Nazirite.
- 2) Philistines secretly asked Delilah to find out the secret of Samson’s strength.
- 3) When Samson fell asleep, Delilah cut off his hair.

Answer the following

- 1) Who was Samson?
Samson was an Israelite who was chosen by God from his mother’s womb to save His people of Israel from the Philistines.
- 2) Who is a Nazirite?
A Nazirite is a person who is chosen by the Lord from the mother’s womb.
- 3) What are the vows to be observed by a Nazirite?
A Nazirite should never drink wine or beer, never cut their hair and should live a dedicated life.
- 4) Narrate two incidents that reveal Samson’s strength.
 - a) In his youth, Samson tore apart a young lion with his bare hand.
 - b) He attacked the Philistines with a donkey’s jawbone and killed a thousand with it.
- 5) What did the angel tell Samson’s parents?
God’s angel told Samson’s parents never to cut their son’s hair.
- 6) What was the secret of Samson’s strength?
The secret of Samson’s strength was his long hair.

Verse : “Blessed is everyone who fears the Lord, who walks in His ways.” Psalms 128:1.

Lesson 6 : St. John the Baptist – The Burning Lamp

Name the following

- 1) Parents of John the Baptist – Priest Zacharia and Elizabeth
- 2) The angel who announced about John the Baptist's birth – Gabriel
- 3) The river where John the Baptist baptized Jesus Christ– River Jordan
- 4) The king who imprisoned John the Baptist – King Herod
- 5) Forerunner of Jesus Christ - St. John the Baptist

Fill in the blanks

- 1) During the start of the public worship , the Priest who encircles the altar represents Jesus Christ and the deacon carrying a lighted candle before him represents St. John the Baptist
- 2) Jesus had described John the Baptist as “burning and shining lamp”
- 3) John the Baptist called people to repent for their sins and get a baptism of repentance.
- 4) John the Baptist baptized Jesus Christ.

Who said

- 1) “Among those born of women, there is not a greater prophet than John the Baptist” – Jesus Christ said

Answer the following

- 1) Where did angel Gabriel appear to Zacharia?
Angel Gabriel appeared to Zacharia on the right side of the altar of incense.
- 2) What were the good qualities of Zacharia and Elizabeth described in St. Luke 1:6?
Zachariah and Elizabeth were both righteous before God, walking in all the commandments and ordinances of the Lord.
- 3) What did Gabriel, the angel of Lord, announce to priest Zacharia?
The angel said “ Do not be afraid Zacharia, for your prayer is heard. Your wife Elizabeth will bear you a son. You shall call him John”.
- 4) What did John the Baptist baptize people for?
John the Baptist baptized people to repent for their sins.

5) Why did King Herod imprison John the Baptist?

John the Baptist told King Herod that it was not lawful for him to marry his brother's wife, Herodias.

Verse: "He must increase; but I must decrease." St. John 3:30

Lesson – 7: Child Jesus at the temple

Name the following

- 1) Meaning of Pesaha? Passover
- 2) The word Pesaha is from which language? Hebrew
- 3) The place where young Jesus and his parents live? Nazareth.
- 4) The temple where young Jesus and parents went to attend Passover festival?
Temple of Jerusalem

Fill in the blanks

- 1) Thus Jesus revealed that God the father in Heaven was his real father.
- 2) After one day journey they could not see Jesus in the group.
- 3) Young Jesus's speech and conduct surprised everyone.

Who said to whom

- 1) "Son why have you done this to us? Your father and me sought you anxiously
Mother Mary said to Jesus
- 2) "Why did you seek me? Did you not know that I must be about to my Father's
business".
Jesus said to his parents

Answer the following

- 1) What did Joseph and Mary think about Jesus while they were travelling back home?
Joseph and Mary thought that Jesus too was travelling with the group.
- 2) Where did they find the lost boy? What was he doing?
They found the boy in the temple of Jerusalem. He was sitting in the midst of teachers,
learning scriptures and asking questions.

- 3) Why was Joseph and Mary surprised when they went back to Jerusalem temple?
They were surprised because young Jesus was sitting in the midst of teachers, learning scriptures and asking questions.
- 4) What was the reply of young Jesus when Mother Mary asked him “Son why have you done this to us?”
Jesus told them, “ Why did you seek me? Did you not know that I must be about to my Father’s business?”.

Verse: “Blessed are those who dwell in your house, they will still be praising you.” (Psalms 84: 4)

Lesson 8 : The Real Neighbour

Name the Following

- 1) Name the two persons who passed by neglecting the half dead traveller – Priest and Levite.
- 2) Who nursed the traveller? – The good Samaritan.

Fill in the Blanks

- 1) The Jew was travelling from Jerusalem to Jericho.
- 2) Oil and Wine are used as balm for wounds in olden days.
- 3) The thieves attacked the traveller to rob his clothes and money.

Who said to whom

- 1) “Take care of him and whatever more you spend, when I come again, I will repay you”
– Samaritan said to Inn keeper.

Answer the following

- 1) Who is our real neighbour?
A real neighbour is one who helps others in their times of need.
- 2) What happened to the Jew while travelling from Jerusalem to Jericho?
The thieves fell over and wounded him at a deserted spot. They robbed him of his clothes and money and departed, leaving him half-dead by the way side.
- 3) How did the Good Samaritan take care of the wounded Jew?
The Good Samaritan comforted the injured man and bandaged his wounds, pouring on oil and wine. He brought him to an inn and took care of him.

- 4) Whom would you consider as your role model – the priest, the Levite or the Samaritan?
Why?
The Samaritan – Though the Samaritan was a foreigner, he took care of the wounded Jew.

Verse : “Greater love has no one than this, than to lay down one’s life for his friends.” (St. John 15:14)

Lesson 9 : Nature Obeys its Creator

Fill in the blanks

- 1) One night Jesus and his disciples got on a boat to go across the sea of Galilee.
- 2) Jesus got up and told the winds and the waves to be calm.
- 3) Peter said “He is the real Messiah, Son of God. Let us bow to him”

Who said to whom?

- 1) “Who can this be? For he commands even the winds and water and they obey him”.
Disciples said to each other.

Answer the following

- 1) What was Jesus doing in the boat when there was a storm?
Jesus was sleeping.
- 2) Why did the disciples wake Jesus?
They feared that they will be perished due to the storm.
- 3) What did Jesus do when he saw the rough and stormy sea?
Jesus calmed the storm and the sea.

Verse : “For every house is built by someone, but He who built all things is God” Hebrews 3:4

Lesson 10 : The Call and Election of Apostles

Name the following

- 1) Who were called 'Bovanerghess' by Jesus- James and John
- 2) Meaning of Bovanerghess - Sons of thunder
- 3) Name the sons of Zebedee - James and John
- 4) Name the disciple who betrayed Christ -Judas Iscariot
- 5) Another name for St. Thomas – Didimos
- 6) The meaning of Didimos? Twin

Fill in the blanks

- 1) Jesus Christ chose twelve of his disciples and called them Apostles.
- 2) Matthew was a tax collector in Capernaum.
- 3) St. Thomas came to India and spread Christianity.
- 4) Majority of the twelve disciples were fishermen.
- 5) Thaddaeus was the scholar in the group of disciples.

Match the following

- | | |
|---------------------------------|-------------|
| 1) Didimos | – Twin |
| 2) Jesus | - Nazareth |
| 3) James and John | – Idimakkal |
| 4) Peter | – Andrew |
| 5) Judas Iscariot | – Traitor |
| 6) The Guardian Father of India | - Thomas |

Answer the following

- 1) What are the names of the twelve disciples?
Peter, Andrew, James, John, Philip, Thomas, Matthew, James, the son of Alphaeus, Thaddeus, Simon, Bartholomew, Judas Iscariot.
- 2) What is the name that Jesus has given to Zebedee sons and what does it mean?
The name that Jesus has given to Zebedee sons is "Bovanerghess" and it means 'sons of thunder'.
- 3) What did Jesus tell Peter and Andrew when he called them?
Jesus told them, " Follow me, and I will make you fishers of men".

Verse : “Whoever desires to come after me, let him deny himself, and take up his cross, and follow Me.” St. Mark 8: 34.

Unit 2 : Prayer

Lesson 11 : Prayer

Fill in the blanks

- 1) The meaning of the word ‘Moran’ is ‘Our Lord’.
- 2) O Jesus Christ, Our Lord, close not the door of Thy mercy upon our faces.
- 3) We confess, we are sinners; have mercy upon us, O Lord.
- 4) O Lord, Thy love for us didn’t make Thee come down to us from Thy place.
- 5) Tradition says that the prayer “O Jesus Christ, our Lord, close not the door of Thy mercy upon our faces...” was the prayer said by Barabas.

Answer the following

- 1) What is Prayer?
Prayer is the communication between God and us.
- 2) What do we request Christ through “O Jesus Christ, our Lord, close not the door of Thy mercy upon our faces... prayer?
To have mercy upon us.
- 3) When do we recite the prayer “O Jesus Christ, our Lord”?
This prayer is recited in our Vespers (Evening prayer) and Nocturn (Mid night prayer).

Verse : “By this we know love because, He laid down His life for us.”(1 John 3: 16)

Lesson 12 : Let’s pray to God, the merciful

Fill in the blanks

- 1) O merciful God, the voice of our prayer knocks at Thy door.
- 2) Prevent not from Thy devotees the petitions of their needs.

- 3) We call upon Thee, O God, to assist us in our infirmities.
- 4) O good one, hearken to the voice of our supplication, and grant our petitions in Thy mercy.
- 5) Compline means guard.

Answer the following

- 1) How many times an Orthodox believer should pray?
Seven
- 2) In the evening prayer, we recite the prayer of three canonical hours. Which are those three canonical hours?
None (Ninth hour), Vespers (Evening prayer) and Compline (Late Evening prayer).

Verse: "Seek and you will find; knock and it will be opened to you." (St. Luke 11:9)

Lesson 13 : Let us pray to the Holy Trinity

Fill in the blanks

- 1) "O holy Father, guard us by Thy sacred Name".
- 2) "O Son of God, our Saviour , protect us with Thy victorious Cross."
- 3) "O Holy Spirit, make us worthy temples of Thy holy habitation."
- 4) We say "Victorious Cross" because the Crucified Christ got resurrected.
- 5) We have been anointed with the Holy Spirit through the holy sacrament of Baptism.

Answer the following

- 1) What is the meaning of ""Shubhol'abo w'l'-abro wal-ruho kadeesho" ?
Praise to the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit.
- 2) Who are the three persons of the Triune God?
Father , Son and Holy Spirit are the three persons of the Triune God.
- 3) Why do we make the sign of the Cross whenever we see a Cross?
We make the sign of cross whenever we see a Cross because then we remember the Son of God who died on the Cross and gave us life.
- 4) Why the prayer " O Holy Father ..." is known as the prayer to the Holy Trinity?
This prayer is addressed to the three persons of the Holy Trinity , namely Father, Son and Holy Spirit. Hence this prayer is known as prayer to the Holy Trinity.

Verse : “Do you not know that you are the temple of God and that the Spirit of God dwells in you? “ (1 Corinthians 3:16)

Unit 3 : Hymns of Worship

Lesson 14 : Let us Seek the Intercession of Virgin Mary, Mother of God

Fill in the blanks

- 1) ‘Thou whose praise the church doth sing
Intercession for us bring,
Unto Him, Thine only Son,
That He may not mercy shun.

- 2) By Thy cross O Jesus Lord
By Thy Mother’s praying word,
Take from us and from our path
Punishment and rods of wrath.

Verse : “Whatever He says to you, do it.” (St. John 2:5)

Lesson 15 : Let us sing and worship

Name the following

- 1) Name the Church Father who wrote the hymn “By Thy Mother’s plea...” Mar Balai.

Fill in the blanks

- 1) Hoothoma means concluding prayer
- 2) Liturgical worship in the orthodox church ends with the Hoothomo prayer.

- 3) May this offered Eucharist
By the Priest, appease Thee, Lord
May it gladden angels high,
Our departed ones absolve

- 4) By Thy Mother's plea,
And of all Thy Saints
Lord, absolve our sins,
And with us, our dead.

Verse: "Blessed are the pure in heart, for they shall see God." St. Matthew 5: 18

Unit 4 : My Church

Lesson 16 : The Holy Altar ('Thronose')

Fill in the blanks

- 1) The Holy Altar is the throne of God.
- 2) The Holy of Holies (Holy Sanctuary) is the most important and the most sacred place in the church.
- 3) The Holy of Holies is also known as Kdush Khudsin (or Bethkudisho).
- 4) The concept of Altar comes from the Greek word Thronos.
- 5) The Holy Altar is at the centre of the Holy Sanctuary.
- 6) The Holy Eucharist is celebrated only on the Holy Altar.

Name the following

- 1) The meaning of the word 'Altar' - Throne
- 2) Table of heavenly feast – Holy Altar
- 3) Altar stone placed on the altar - Tabalaitha
- 4) Consecrated wooden plank on which the Holy Eucharist is placed - Tabalaitha
- 5) Decorated draping at the front of the altar - Chithola
- 6) Name of the top altar cover – Virikkoottu
- 7) Vessel containing the Holy wine – Chalice
- 8) Vessel containing the Holy Bread – Paten

Answer the following

- 1) What is the meaning of the word altar?
Altar comes from the Syriac word, Thronos which means the throne.
- 2) Why does the Orthodox Church give a most important position to the altar?
In the Orthodox tradition, the Holy Eucharist is submitted on the altar. The Holy altar is the worldly location where the invisible God reveals his presence to community of worshippers.

- 3) Why Thronos is called Altar?
Because our Christ's Holy Sacrifice is sacramentally re-enacted on it.
- 4) What are the different meanings of the "Holy altar"?
The Holy altar represents the throne of God, Golgotha, Christ's Cross, Christ's tomb and is the sign of Christ himself.
- 5) What are the colours used in the drapings? What do they stand for?
White, green and red colour. Red colour represents the universe, green colour the earth and the white colour the holy church.

Verse : "Even the sparrow has found a home, and the swallow a nest for herself, where she may lay her young-even your altars, O Lord of hosts, my King and my God." Psalm 84:3

Lesson 17 : Church Instruments

Name the following

- 1) Who ended the persecution of Christianity in the 4th century – Emperor Constantine
- 2) Who recovered the cross from Jerusalem – Queen Helen

Fill in the Blanks

- 1) The Son of God gave salvation to mankind through his Crucifixion and Resurrection .
- 2) There are twelve candles on the altar of our churches and they are said to represent the Apostles.

Answer the following

- 1) What are two incidents that happened in the fourth century which gave prominence to the Cross?
Conversion of Emperor Constantine and Recovery of Christ's Cross by Queen Helen.
- 2) Give a brief explanation of the Cross?
The Cross is the sign of the Resurrected Christ. The Cross is also a sign of Peace, Victory and Salvation. And it is the weapon against Satan. We should take refuge in Christ's cross for our protection and salvation.
- 3) Why do Malankara Orthodox church uses the cross with out the image of crucified Christ on it?
Because Christ who died on the Cross got resurrected.

- 4) What is the theological meaning of the candle?
It is a symbol of Jesus Christ who is eternal light to the world.
- 5) Is bowing before the Cross idol worship? Why?
No. The symbols used for reminding biblical incidents and to make the faithful participate in worship actively do not become idols.
- 6) What message does the candle give us?
It gives the message that “the lord is my light and salvation.

Verse : “The Lord is my light and my salvation.” Psalms 27:1

Unit 5 : Great Men of God

Lesson 18 : St. Behanan and his sister Sara

Name the following

- 1) Sara’s brother – Behanam
- 2) The King of Asoor of Persia – King Senharib
- 3) The Holy man who cured Sarah – Mar Mathai
- 4) The age of Behanam and Sara when they became martyrs - Behanam was 25 and Sara was 20.

Fill in the blanks

- 1) The monastery on the mountain was the abode of Mar Mathai.
- 2) The King built a palace and Church beside it as a monument to his children.
- 3) The king killed his children as they became Christians.
- 4) Sara was cured of her illness as Mar Mathai healed her with a touch.

Answer the following

- 1) What was the vision that Behanam had?
The vision that Behanam had was that there was a great ascetic living in the nearby mountain who could cure Sara.
- 2) What disease afflicted the king who killed his own children?
The king lost his balance of mind and became mad.

- 3) How did the King regain his balance of mind?
At the request of the queen, Mar Mathai came to the palace and placed his hand on the king's head, prayed and cured him.
- 4) Why did the King build a palace and a church as a monument?
To maintain the memory of his children who become martyrs.
- 5) How was the king, queen and their subjects converted to Christianity?
When the King was cured of his madness caused due to the martyrdom of his children, he believed in Christ, repented and prayed. The king, queen and their subjects got baptized and became Christians.

Verse : "The just shall live by faith." Romans 1:17

Lesson 19 : Mother Marthasmooni (St.Shamuna and her seven children)

Name the following

- 1) Name the ruler who killed this mother and her children - King Antiochus IV
- 2) Name the Jewish priest under whom the Jews organized themselves and defeated the Greeks - Priest Judas Macabees.
- 3) Another name for St. Shamuna - Mother Marthasmooni
- 4) Name two saints of Orthodox Church - St. Gregorious of Parumala , St. Dionysius of Vattasseril.

Fill in the blanks

- 1) Sainly women are addressed using the term Marth.
- 2) Mar is used to address saintly father.
- 3) The story of St. Shamuna is from the Book of Macabees in the Apocryphal books.
- 4) The Greek emperor Antiochus IV destroyed the holy temple of Jerusalem and placed idols of Greek gods.

Answer the following

- 1) How many children did mother Marthasmooni have?
Marthasmooni had seven children.

- 2) What did the king ask Marthsmooni and her children?
The king asked Marthsmooni and her children to reject Jahweh and to eat the forbidden meat.
- 3) What was the reply given by Mother Marthasmooni to the king?
Mother Marthasmooni replied to the king that she would worship only Jahweh who was the true God.
- 4) Why did Emperor Diocletian kill St. Kuriakose and his mother?
St. Kuriakose and his mother was killed by the Emperor Diocletian because they did not worship the dieties of the King but confessed Jesus Christ.

Verse : "It is a wonderful heritage to have a wise Father." Proverbs 20:7

Unit 6 : Good Habits

Lesson 20 : Forgivance - The ideal way to respond

Fill in the blanks

- 1) Jesus has taught us overcome evil with goodness.
- 2) We request God to forgive our sins.
- 3) If your brother sins against you, rebuke him and if he repents, forgive him.

Name the following

- 1) Name the first Christian martyr who prayed for those who stoned him - St.Stephen.

Answer the following

- 1) What was the prayer made by Jesus on the Cross?
"O Father pardon them as they don't know what they have done".
- 2) When do we have the right to ask for pardon of our sins?
We have the right to ask for pardon of our sins only if we pardon those who wronged us.
- 3) How can we bear Christ's witness before others?

We can bear Christ's witness before others by being patient and forgiving. We should also love and respect others.

Verse : " Jesus said" But whoever slaps you on your right cheek , turn the other to him." St Matthew 5:39

Lesson 21: Charity : A good and gracious way of responding

Fill in the blanks

- 1) Jesus Christ was the incarnate for the salvation of man.
- 2) God commands that He is pleased not in sacrifice but in mercy.
- 3) For even the Son of Man did not come to be served, but to serve, and to give His life a ransom for many.
- 4) Jesus taught us to love our neighbours as ourselves.

Answer the following

- 1) Name some great men who lived as the companion of the poor?
Father Domien, Mother Teresa , H.G Pathrose Mar Osthathios, H.G Geevarghese Mar Osthathios.

Verse : "Yet I am among you as the One who serves." St. Luke 22:27