

# **Christian Religion Studies**

## **Class Five**



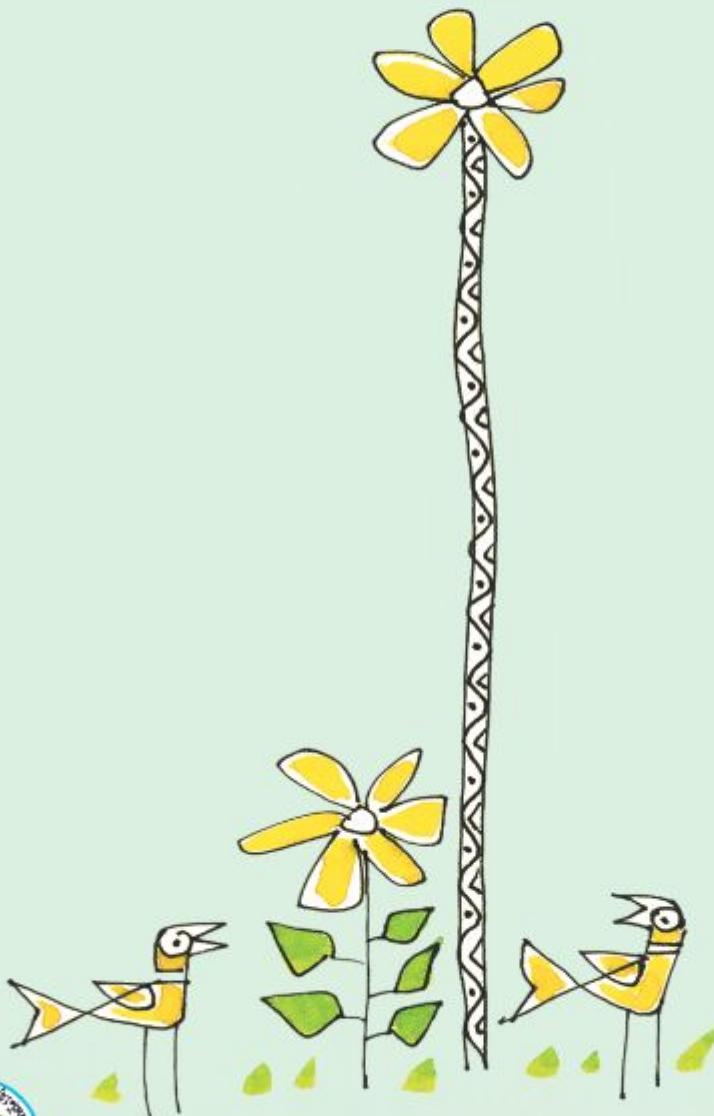
**National Curriculum and Textbook Board, Bangladesh**

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# Christian Religion Studies

## Class Five

Revised for the Academic Year 2025



National Curriculum and Textbook Board, Bangladesh

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## Preface

Primary level constructs the foundation of education. A set of well-defined targets and properly planned primary education provide strengths to the entire education system. Keeping this in mind, the primary level has been given supreme importance in the Education Policy 2010. Increasing the span and inclusiveness of the primary level, as the developed countries of the world, have been emphasised. Special attention has been given to ensure that no child's access to education is hindered by social and economic status, religion, ethnicity, or gender identity.

The National Curriculum and Textbook Board (NCTB) has implemented an integrated curriculum to update primary education. While this curriculum trails the pedagogy and the curriculum of developed countries, it also adopts traditional teaching-learning values of Bangladesh at the same time. This has enabled the education to be more life-oriented and productive. In the context of globalisation, the mental health of the children has also been specially considered in this curriculum.

Textbook is the most important component of curriculum implementation. NCTB has always borne that in mind while designing textbooks for all levels and classes including primary level. Curriculum goals and objectives have been prioritised in the writing and editing of each book. A keen eye has been kept on the diverse curiosity and capacity of the child's mind. Special importance has been given in designing the curriculum and textbooks to make teaching-learning interactive and enjoyable. It is hoped that each book will help in the balanced psycho-physical development of children through educational activities. It will support in acquiring the required skills, adaptability, patriotism and moral values at the same time.

The necessity of learning religion is becoming wider everyday. It is utmost necessary at primary level. Because, at this age, a child's religious base is strongly developed. This Christian Religion Studies textbook for class V has been developed strongly focusing on Christian Religion so that our students can learn the difference between good and evil doing, avoid the evil and accept the good, build up themselves as a person of ideal character and strong personality. They will also be able to know and love God, the creations of God and nature according to their own characteristics.

Special thanks to the specialists and teachers who worked intensively in writing, editing and revising the textbook. Thanks to those also who have made the textbook attractive to children through its design and illustration. This textbook has been revised to address the need in the changed context of 2024. Due to time constraints, some errors may still exist. Any constructive advice and guidance from the audience will be considered with due importance.

At the end, I wish every success of the learners for whom the book has been produced.

October 2024

**Professor Dr. A K M Reazul Hassan**

Chairman

National Curriculum & Textbook Board, Bangladesh

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## Chapter One

### BODY, MIND AND SOUL OF HUMAN BEING

God has created man with body, mind and soul. A man is the combination of body, mind and soul. Because of these three, we have our normal existence. We will be sick if any of these remains absent or lacks. All these three are continuously being active in us. But we can't be alert in that case all the time. We are going to discuss our body, mind and soul in this chapter and we would like to show respect to all these three elements. We will praise our God for His gift.

#### **The Body, Mind and Soul of Human being**

We have our body, mind and soul. We can touch our body. But we cannot see or touch our mind and soul. Our body is mortal, one day it will die and be destroyed. But our Soul is immortal It will never be destroyed. Our soul will go to heaven at the time of our death. Then God will take the decision whether our soul will stay at heaven or will go to hell. It is really a matter of surprise that it is a precious gift in our mortal body



Various parts of Mango

and the immortal soul. To show the relationship / unity of our body, mind and soul, we can compare ourselves with different fruits

including mango, litchi etc.

Fruits	Human being
1. Fruits have their skin, flesh and seeds.	1. Human beings have body, mind & Soul.
2. The function of skin, flesh and seeds are different.	2. The functions of body, mind and soul are different.
3. A fruit is not complete without skin, flesh and seeds.	3. A man cannot be a complete man if all three do not remain together.
4. A fruit will destroy if any of the elements is separated.	4. Human being cannot live normally if body, mind and soul are separated from each other.
5. The Fruits receive life from the trees. The fruits will be destroyed if separated from trees.	5. Man remains connected with God. Man cannot live without the help of God.
6. The success/ fullness of the fruits is ensured if it can sacrifice itself totally.	6. The fullness of human being only comes if he/she can sacrifice his or her life for the service of mankind.

The above mentioned example is given only to show the relationship of our body, mind and soul. But it does not mean that human being is fully like a fruit. Actually human being is the best among the whole creation. The reason is: human beings have intelligence. Without intelligence human being would be like a thing. Because of this intelligence man is different from any other animal. The other animals have a little bit of intelligence. But they do not know that they have some intelligence. Human being knows that it has intelligence. For this reason, human being is the best among the creations.

Human being is not only the best among the animals but human being is the best among all the creations. The reason is, God Himself has given the dignity to human being and placed on the top of everything.

## **Human being can perform miracle with the help of God**

He has placed the immortal soul in the human being. Human being can perform miracle with the help of God. Human being with its body, mind and soul can do many things including eating, giving birth, caring of children, etc. Such as:

1. Human being can perform development activities, can play nice games, and can show mercy to others by using body. He/she can develop something new and at the same time he/she can also destroy.
2. Man can think, study, plan and counsel other by using mind. He/she can invent something new by using mind. He can think good and also can think evil. He can believe and also deny by using reasons.
3. With the power of soul human being can feel the presence of God, can pray and can be holy.

We have to remember that whatever human being performs, body, mind and soul are present there. Man can do nothing alone. He performs everything with the power of God.

## **God sees and leads everything**

God remains present everywhere at the same time. At this moment, He remains within me and at the same time He remains present in the lives of the other humans elsewhere in the world. He knows and sees everything. He knows everything that happened from the beginning. Whatever we think, talk or imagine he knows everything. Even if we do something in dark, He knows that also. He knows everything of our body, mind and soul. Nothing can be hidden from Him. If I hide something under the ground, no one may know that but God will certainly know that. We may deceive man but not Him.

God has spoken through Jeremiah, “Am I God only of present? Not for future? Am I not seeing if any one hides himself in a hidden place? Am I not present in earth and heaven?” (jer. 23:23-24)

## God is almighty and honourable

'God is almighty' means He can do everything with His own power. There is nothing impossible to Him. God has created everything that we see with our eyes around us. He is so powerful that He has created everything by only His word. We know that Jesus became human but at the same time He also remains as God. How He became human though He is God, the almighty. He had done so many miracles. He has risen from the death. All these are the expression of His mightiness. There is nothing impossible for God.

## Respecting and honouring God

God has created everything for His glory. For this reason, every creation adores and praises Him. We, the human beings, are the best among the whole creation. So we have to adore, respect and praise Him for all His activates. This is our moral obligation. We can show our respect to God in the following ways:

1. Showing respect to God by showing love and respect to His best creation – human beings. We can show our love and respect to God by loving and forgiving our enemies.
2. We can show love and respect to God by taking care of His creation.
3. We can show our love and respect to God by showing obedience to our parents and elders. Obedience is the expression of respect.
4. We can show love and respect to God by taking care of the poor and needy because Jesus lives among them.
5. We can show love and respect to God by following Jesus - His only son. God has given him as an example for us.
6. We can show love and respect to God by praying and observing different religious activities.
7. We can show love and respect to God by leading our lives in the path of holiness. We can prove ourselves as the children of God if we live in holiness.

## What we have learned

God is almighty and great. He sees and leads everything. We must show honour and respect to Him. Because, he has created our body, mind and soul.

**Planned Work:** Draw three circles, write down body, mind and soul to relate each other.

## Exercise

### 1. Fill in the gaps.

- a) Our Soul -----.
- b) Human has body, mind and -----.
- c) Among all animals Human is-----.
- d) By the power of Spirit human sees the----- of God
- e) God can perform ----- by His own power.

### 2. Match the left part of the sentence with the right part .

a) Body, mind and soul	a) there will be no existence of mind .
b) If soul separated from body	b) for His Glory.
c) Actually human beings are	c) he has intelligence .
d) Human being knows	d) praises worthy.
e) God has created everything	e) combination of these three is a human being.
	f) best among all the creation.

### 3. Give a tick (✓) mark on the right answer.

#### 3.1 After death our soul goes to -

- |                |              |
|----------------|--------------|
| a) Holy Angels | b) Devils    |
| c) God         | d) Righteous |

#### 3.2 What will be the situation of human being if body, mind and soul are separated?

- |                 |                      |
|-----------------|----------------------|
| a) dies         | b) becomes sick      |
| c) becomes weak | d) becomes powerless |

3.3 Why are human beings separated from all others ?

- a) has intelligence
- b) has mind
- c) has body
- d) has soul

3.4 How can human being feel the presence of God ?

- a) by body
- b) by mind
- c) by soul
- d) by intelligence

3.5 At how many places can God be present at a time ?

- a) one place
- b) three places
- c) five places
- d) every where

4. Answer the following short questions.

- a) Who helps human being to live alive?
- b) What can human being do with mind?
- c) What are the elements that are connected with the activities that the human being perform?
- d) Who knows, what happened from the beginning?

5. Answer the following questions.

- a) How does God see and lead?
- b) What can human being do with the power of God?
- c) What are the functions of body, mind and soul?

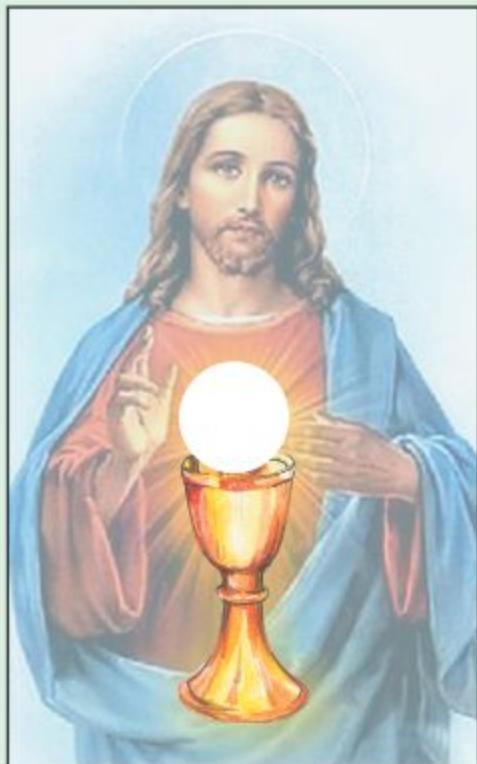
## Chapter Two

### GOD

There is a beginning and an ending to human beings and all other creations, a birth and a death. But God neither has any beginning nor any ending. He has always been, He is and He will remain forever. Before our birth as human being, we did not exist; now we do exist, in the future, our soul will remain, but our bodies will perish. This is a mystery. We cannot understand these mystery of God who has created us, who has no beginning, who is eternal and infinite. That is why, we revere and respect Him and worship Him. We praise Him for all His creations and for all His works.

#### **Holy Bible on the Eternality and Infinity of God**

God is eternal and infinite. He has always been, He is, and He will be forever. Infinity is in other words eternal. This eternal and infinite God has created us so that we can be one with Him. We can all be one with Him by receiving this eternal life if we listen to the words of Jesus and live by them, because God, the Father, has sent His Son to us. If we listen to the words of Jesus, we also listen to words of God. Jesus also says, "If we receive the body and blood of Christ with utmost faith, we can gain eternal life." Meaning of receiving Jesus' body and blood is to obey His commands. If we are obedient to Jesus, He will resurrect us on the Last Day. For, He Himself has resurrected. By resurrection, we can be one with God. Since we have belief in Jesus, even if our bodies die, we will resurrect like Jesus on the Last Day.



I am the bread of life

St. Paul says, "We have become God's children by being free from the bondage of sin. We have been made holy. He does not want us to be slaves of sin again. If we lead a holy life, we can gain eternal life, that is, we can be united with eternal and infinite God. We always need to remember that sin causes our death, but living in the path of Jesus gives us eternal life."

### **Eternal and Infinite God**

Virtues of eternal and infinite God are invisible. But we can understand them through His creation. St. Paul says, "For the invisible things of Him from the creation of the world are clearly seen, being understood by the things that are made" (Rom 1: 20). "He is before all things, and in him all things hold together" (Col 1: 17). From the above words, we have learned about eternal life according to the Bible. That eternal life is God Himself. Moses asked for God's name at the burning bush. He told Moses, "I Am Who I Am. Say this to the people of Israel: I Am Who has sent me to you" (Exodus 3: 14). By saying 'I am', God tells us that He is always present. He was as in the beginning, is now, and will be forever. He is eternal, infinite.

### **God is Always Present Everywhere**

In the Psalms of David we can understand God's being present everywhere at all times. He wrote:

"Where can I go from your Spirit?  
    Where can I flee from your presence?  
If I go up to the heavens, you are there;  
    if I make my bed in the depths, you are there.  
If I rise on the wings of the dawn,  
    if I settle on the far side of the sea,  
even there your hand will guide me,  
    your right hand will hold me fast. (Psalm 139: 7-10)

In the book of Proverbs, we come to know that God always keeps His eyes on all: "The eyes of the Lord are everywhere, keeping watch on the wicked and the good" (Proverbs 15: 3). God enters into men's hearts through His words: "For the word of God is alive and active. sharper than any double-edged sword, it penetrates even to dividing soul and spirit, joints and marrow; it judges the thoughts and attitudes of the heart" (Hebrew 4: 12).

## Ways to be united with God

Once, a small fish asked a big fish, “where is the ocean?” The big fish replied, “It is here. You are swimming in it.” The small fish says, “This is only water. I do not see any ocean here.” It is the same with us. We are in God. We cannot escape from Him. Yet, we are eager to see Him. How can we be united with God? In order to be aware of God’s presence in our midst, we can take the following steps:

- 1) Keep our interest awake of being with Him.
- 2) Keep on trying to see God through Jesus.
- 3) Read Psalm 139 slowly and prayerfully.
- 4) Participate in personal and family prayers.
- 5) In order to turn away from sinful ways and to make our hearts holy, take help of the sacraments.
- 6) Take part regularly in the liturgy and be attentive to it so that you can feel His presence.
- 7) Read at least some parts of the Holy Bible everyday with reverence and prayerfulness. Because Bible is the word of God. To read his words is to listen to Him. To listen to God is to be with Him.
- 8) Do some works of Charity everyday for the poor and needy.  
Because Jesus said He is present among the poorest of the poor.
- 9) Listen respectfully to the advice of the spiritual guides.

## What we have learnt

We have learnt that God is eternal and infinite and He is present at all places. We have also learnt how we can be united with Him.

## Plan of Action

Make a chart of the activities to be united with God.

## Exercises

### 1) Fill in the gaps

- Infinity in other word .....
- If we obey God, we will always be ..... in peace.
- The virtues of eternal and infinite God are .....
- Read at least some parts of the Holy Bible everyday with reverence and .....

### 2) Match parts the sentences on left with the right

a) I shall	a) gives eternal life through Jesus
b) Sins cause death, but God	b) we come to know about eternal life
c) Through Prophet Isaiah	c) lives in your heart
d) You certainly know that	d) resurrect him on the last day
	e) you are the temple of God

### 3. Put a (✓) mark on the right answer

3.1) What do we do for all God's works and creation?

- |                 |                 |
|-----------------|-----------------|
| (a) Blame Him   | (b) Praise Him  |
| (c) Glorify Him | (d) Acclaim Him |

3.2) What did Jesus compare Himself with?

- |                 |          |
|-----------------|----------|
| (a) Bread       | (b) Body |
| (c) Human being | (d) Fish |

3.3) What do we need to do to live in peace eternally?

- |                      |                          |
|----------------------|--------------------------|
| (a) Obey God         | (b) Obey the angels      |
| (c) Obey Satan/Devil | (d) Obey the holy people |

3.4) What is the word of God like?

- |                        |                        |
|------------------------|------------------------|
| (a) Pointed and sharp  | (b) Live and active    |
| (c) Hard and difficult | (d) Pointed and active |

3.5) How do you listen to the spiritual guides?

- |                   |                 |
|-------------------|-----------------|
| (a) With humility | (b) Attentively |
| (c) Respectfully  | (d) Reverently  |

### 4. Give short answers to the following questions

- How can we know the virtues of eternal and infinite God?
- What is eternal life?
- What does God want to tell us when he says 'I AM'?
- What is the best way to know the presence of God?

### 5. Give answers to the following questions

- Write down five ways to be united with God.
- Explain what is meant by 'God is eternal and infinite.'

## Chapter Three

# HOLY TRINITY OF GOD

We are taught about the Holy Trinity of God every year in every class. The mystery of Holy Trinity is too vast to comprehend in our lifetime. Let us try to reflect with the known things of our life. Now, we will know that a combination of three persons is the Holy Trinity of God. In spite of that they are equal and have close unity. Trinity gives equal emphasis on each other, subsequently; we can give the dignity and emphasis on other like Trinity of God.

### **Equal person in Holy Trinity**

We learnt in the first chapter about the human body, mind and soul. We compared our body, mind and soul in the first chapter regarding the result of unity. We would like to remember that example here. We have seen that mango, litchi and such kind of fruits have the shell, skin and seed. Characteristics of these are separate. But total of these is a fruit. We can use the same example regarding the Holy Trinity of God. Summing up of three things is one fruit. Simultaneously, combination of Father, Son and Holy Spirit is one God. Here, we can cite another example which we mentioned earlier. That is water. We know water has three forms i.e. normal water, ice and vapour. So, vapour, ice and normal water are forms as same but these are water. Same thing happens regarding Trinity of God. They are separate persons but they are one God and three are equal.

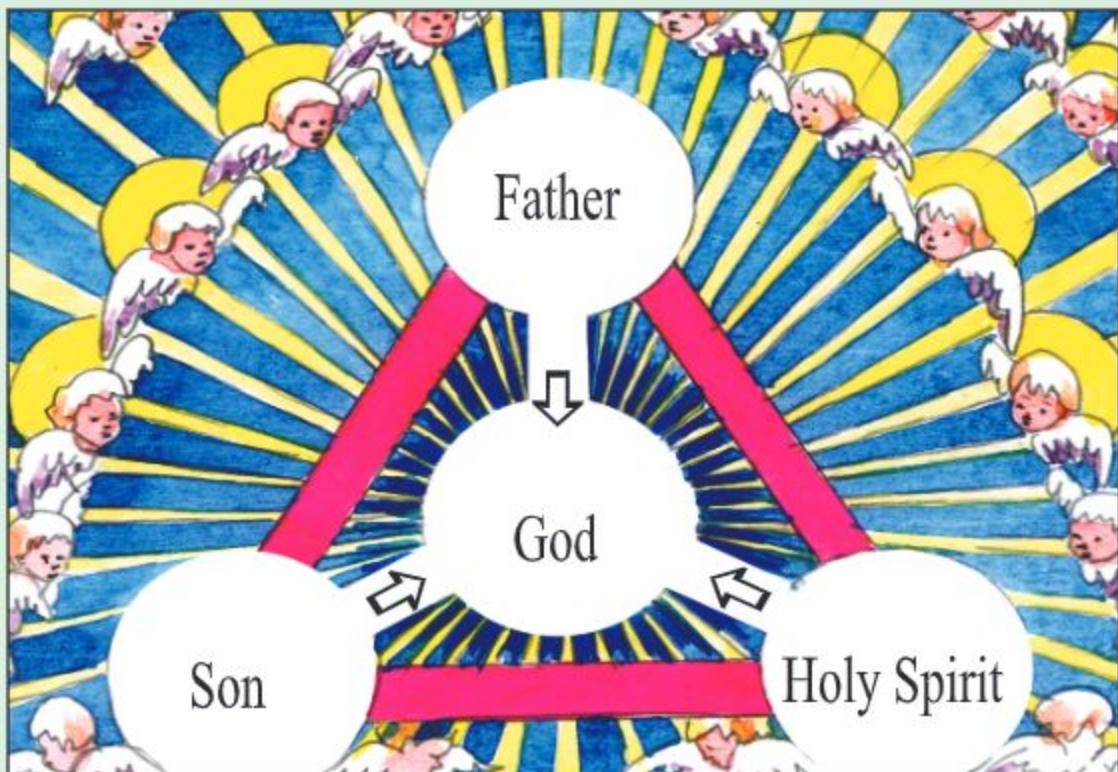
### **Unity in three persons**

We have discussed and sighted family regarding Trinity earlier. Father, mother and children form a family. Many families have good relationship with father, mother and children. They make plan and implement the work together and share the experience with each other. This type of family is good and has unity. So they are a happy family.

If there is no sharing or understanding among the families, those families could not be happy.

Holy trinity is a standard model before us. Because, it shows the greatest unity between Father, Son and Holy Spirit. Trinity respects each other equally.

Everyone cooperates with each other and never hinders othre's work. Because, what Father does, Son and Holy Spirit know that What Son does simultaneously Father and Holy Spirit know and what Holy Spirit does, Father and Son know. They do it because they love and give dignity to each other. That's why, Holy Trinity has existence till to-date.



Holy Trinity of God

### **Giving dignity and importance each other**

If we want to be happy, we need to learn from the Holy Trinity. We should respect each other like the Holy Trinity. For this, we can learn from some persons written below:

- a) **Mohatma Gandhi:** He had been leading a movement for the independence of the country, but he kept the dignity of others. So, he started a non violence movement. We can follow the principle of Gandhi's movement for gaining our rights.
- b) **Martin Luther King (Jounior):** There was discrimination between the black and the white people in the United States. For Long time, the black people worked there as slaves. To free them from slavery Martin Luther king followed non violence principles. In his great speech 'I have a Dream' he explained his theory of non-violence which helped to unite the states to get the peace and unity all desired.
- c) **Nelson Mandela:** For a long time, there was conflict in South Africa. Under Nelson Mandela's leadership, all parties came together. They unitedly established peace and unity there.

### We can give importance and respect to our family members as under:

1. Never read and open letter of others without permission;
2. Behave well with the house assistants and the workers;
3. We will switch off the television or keep away our work when guest comes to our home and talk to them ;
4. We will not touch one's things without one's permission.
5. We will leave the toilet and basin clean for others' use.
6. Do not mention the other's error in-front of the people;
7. Share good food with others.
8. Inform the authority if you have damaged anything.
9. Wash your own plate or glass after taking meal and help elderly people;
10. After taking bath keep your towels in proper place;
11. Obey your parents and elders.
12. Never criticize the less knowledgeable parents but always respect them.
13. Say sorry if you do wrong with anyone.

If you could act this song with dance:

Jagadakaranama, Jagttaranama, Jagadaprananama Tribattite Ek Bhagabana...

### What we have learned

Three persons are equal in Holy Trinity and they are united. How to respect and give importance to others, we have learnt from this chapter.

**Planned Work :** Sharing in the group: Why should we give dignity to others and how?

### Exercise

#### 1. Fill in the gaps.

- a) Father, son and ----- are one God.
- b) Holy Trinity is a ----- model.
- c) What Holy spirit does that is known to Father and----- .
- d) We should give ----- and importance to others like Holy Trinity.
- e) There was ----- between the black and the white in the United States.

#### 2. Match the left part of the sentence with the right part .

a) Three persons in Holy Trinity of God	a) are the three forms of water .
b) Unity of body, mind and soul	b) perfect love never dies .
c) Vapour, Ice and normal water	c) be happy .
d) Although three persons are separated	d) separate from others .
e) There are father, mother and children in the family	e) mingle of three persons are one God.
	f) compared with fruits .

**3. Give a tick (✓) mark on the right answer.**

3.1 What is the relationship between Father, Son and Holy Spirit?

- a) malice
- b) unity
- c) peace
- d) hate

3.2 From where can we learn how to be happy?

- a) Father
- b) Son
- c) Holy Spirit
- d) Holy Trinity

3.3 What way did Gandhi follow for independence the country?

- a) movement
- b) fighting
- c) malice
- d) quarrel

3.4 What principles did Martin Luther king (Junior) follow?

- a) malice
- b) non-violence
- c) slavery
- d) sword

3.5 What happened in South Africa since long time?

- a) Peace and harmony
- b) Unity and love
- c) Party and conflict
- d) Quarrel and fighting

**4. Answer the following questions in short.**

- a) What will you do if guests come to your home?
- b) How will you behave with the house assistants and workers?
- c) What role should be followed during taking food?
- d) What kind of attitude should we have towards our parents?

**5. Answer the following questions.**

- a) How can we give importance and respect to others?
- b) Explain the unity of the Holy Trinity.

## Chapter Four

### CAIN AND ABEL

From the beginning of the creation, it was found that human had hatred in their minds. Because of jealousy and independent wishes human being did unforgettable sin. But Almighty God whose existence is everywhere in this world, the human could not escape from the eye of God for their detestable offences. The humans have done offence of their own self, so they had to be punished. Understanding the above subject, we will try to abandon hatred. We could be happy in our life and could make our society happy if we can avoid the above.

#### **Cain (Coin) and Abel (Hebel)**

The Lord God sent Adam and Eve out of the Garden of Eden and they were passing hard life in the world. They gave birth to two sons. The first one was Cain (coin) and the second was Abel (Hebel). They became adult gradually. Then they were acquainted with hard labour like their father. Abel became a shepherd, but Cain was a farmer. The mentality of Cain and Abel was not the same. Cain had a hard mentality and Abel was soft and kind.

#### **Offering of Cain and Abel**

Though Cain and Abel were different, both of them showed offering to Lord. After some time, Cain brought some of his harvest and gave it as an offering to the Lord. Then Abel brought the first Lamb of his sheep, killed it, and gave the best parts of it as an offering. The Lord was pleased with Abel and his offering. But He rejected Cain and his offering. Cain became furious, he scowled in anger. Then the Lord said, "Cain, why are you angry? Why is that scowl on your face? If you have done right thing, you would be smiling but you have done evil, sin is crouching at your door. It wants to rule you, but you must overcome it.' (Genesis 4:6-7) We can easily understand from the conversation of the above why the Lord

God was pleased with the offering of Abel. Materials are not required by the Lord but He wants to see our attitude towards God. Offering of Abel was good. So, God has accepted the offering of him.

Abel stood before God smiling and Cain became inferior in front of God.



Offering of Abel

**Cain killed his brother, Abel**

Cain did not listen to God's advice and he maintained his life as his own decision. He took decision that he would kill his brother Abel. Then Cain said to his brother, Abel, "Let's go out in the field." When they were out in the field, Cain turned on his brother and killed him. Then Lord asked Cain, "Where is your brother, Abel?" He answered, "I do not know. Am I supposed to take care of my brother?" We know that The Lord knows everything and watches us. He knows the secret thinking of human being. God knew what was in Cain's mind. Cain thought that he would kill his brother secretly and no one would know it. So he did not kill his brother at home but killed in the field. But Cain could not hide his sin in front of God.



Offering of Cain

## Effects of Offence

God had seen Cain's offence. The Lord said, "Why have you done this terrible thing? Your brother's blood is crying out to me from the ground, like a voice calling for revenge. You are placed under a curse and can no longer farm the soil. It has soaked up your brother's blood as if it had opened its mouth to receive it, when you killed him. If you try to grow crops, the soil will not produce anything; you will be a homeless wanderer on earth." (Genesis 4: 12)

And Cain said to the Lord, "This punishment is too hard for me to bear. You are driving me off the land and away from your presence. I will be a homeless wanderer on earth, and anyone who finds me will kill me." But the Lord answered, "No, if anyone kills you, seven lives will be taken in revenge." So the Lord put a mark on Cain to warn anyone who met him not to kill him. And Cain went away from the Lord's presence and lived in a land called 'Wandering' which is east of Eden.

## Distinguish the attitude of Cain and Abel

Cain and Abel were Adam and Eve's Children but we find that there are some attitudinal differences. These are as under.

Cain's Mentality and Attitude	Abel's Mentality and Attitude
Selfish	Kind
Ungrateful to God	Always grateful to God
Angry and proud	Kind and gentle
Jealous mentality	Simplicity
Not offering good crops	Offering the best lamb
Superiority complex	Emphasis others
Opposite mentality and dishonour to God	Love and respect to God
Parsimonious and dishonest	Generous and honest

## How to keep away ourselves from jealousy

We can keep away ourselves from jealousy as under:

- 1) Do not think hatred but think positively and think lovable matters for others. What we think in our mind that reflects outside.
- 2) Forgive others like Jesus Christ did.
- 3) Love enemies and friends.
- 4) Try to do good thing for others.
- 5) Be Grateful to God for His abundant mercy and gift.
- 6) Wishing congratulation for others' success and joyous matter.
- 7) Practise politeness.

### Let us sing a song

Make me a channel of your peace  
Where there is hatred, let me bring your love.  
Where there is injury, your pardon, Lord.  
And where there's doubt, true faith in you  
Make me a channel of your peace.  
Where there's despair in life, let me bring hope.  
Where there is darkness only light,  
And where there's sadness ever joy.  
Oh, Master, grant that I may never seek  
So much to be consoled as to console.  
To be understood as to understand.  
To be Loved, as to Love, with all my soul.

### What we have learned

Everything is known to God. God has watched the secret offence of Cain. God wants that we may love and respect each other.

### Planned Work

1. Prepare a list, what kind of good works you can do for your brothers and sisters and class friends.
2. Write down three remedies to get rid of jealousy.

## Exercise

**1. Fill in the gaps .**

- a) Adam and Eve were passing hard -----.
- b) The mind of Abel was ----- and polite.
- c) God wants to see human's -----, not materials.
- d) Cain did not listen to God and led his life with -----.
- e) God watched the ----- work of Cain.

**2. Match the left part of the sentence with the right part .**

a) Abel went with his brother	a) put a warn mark.
b) God then on the body of Cain	b) brings blessing.
c) After killing of his own brother	c) went to field.
d) Jealousy	d) need to congratulate and enjoy with other.
e) Success of others	e) Cain' conscience was biting him repeatedly.
	f) keep thinking.

**3. Give a tick (✓) mark on the right answer.**

**3.1 What shall we do for those who don't love us?**

- |               |                         |
|---------------|-------------------------|
| a) compassion | b) illusion/fascination |
| c) sympathy   | d) love                 |

**3.2 How did Adam and Eve spend their time out of Eden Garden?**

- |                |                |
|----------------|----------------|
| a) joyful      | b) painful     |
| c) hard labour | d) comfortable |

3.3 What was profession of Cain?

- a) Cultivate land
- b) Shepherd
- c) Teaching
- d) Animal raring

3.4 What kind of offering was offered by Abel to God?

- a) Cow
- b) Lamb
- c) Crops
- d) Fruits

3.5 Whose offering was accepted by God?

- a) Adam
- b) Eve
- c) Cain
- d) Abel

4. Answer the following short questions.

- a) Who were Cain and Abel?
- b) What was the offering of Abel?
- c) Whose offering was accepted by God?
- d) Why did Cain kill his brother Abel?

5. Answer the following questions.

- a) Write down five attitudinal and mental differences between Abel and Cain.
- b) Why was not the offering of Cain accepted by God?
- c) How did Cain kill his brother, Abel?

## Chapter Five

### PROPHET

In the history of Holy Bible, the prophets played important roles. God called them to convey the message of Him to his own nation and show the perfect way of God. As a Christian, we got the prophetic role through our baptism. That's why we need to know, who is a good prophet, what is the characteristic of a prophet and what is the role of a prophet. After knowing of these we will try to become a modern prophet.

#### Prophet

At first we need to have a clear idea about a prophet.

- a) He who reflects the word of God profoundly and invents the meaning of the word of God;
- b) Understand the will of God;
- c) Could know the future plan of God
- d) In the name of God, proclaims the good news without fear.

Prophet could be major or junior. A major or junior prophet does not mean that one is important and other is not important. Some prophet books have many prophecies and others have a bit less. The Prophets whose more prophecies have been written are called Principal prophets. And whose less prophecies have been written are called minor prophets. Principal or inferior prophet is not the main factor, it is true that these "prophecies" have been given by God and they have written these by the encouragement of God.

#### Characteristic of Prophet

Prophets started their journey through meeting with God. Through the nearness of God, he can invent himself and be able to understand the kindness of God. In this process, he knows himself and God and easily he can express God to the people. For Prophet's perception of God, they use the example or poem language for easy understanding to the people.

These can be done by the inspiration of God. The prophets can not: stay without proclaiming the word of God because God has chosen them. They are not afraid to proclaim the word of God in front of the king and others. Even they take the risk of their life for proclamation of word of God. What so ever situation is!

The prophet will proclaim the truth without fear. They have sacrificed their life for the justice and love. Because, God is love and justice. So on behalf of God, they stand for the poor, oppressed and helpless people. Till the establishment of justice, they continue fighting. Prophet proclaims the presence of God in the history of human being. He believes that by the blessing of God mankind can do the well-being in the earth. Besides, prophets inspire the people to change their mind.

Prophet pointed out the Israel and other nations' offences and proclaims punishment of God. On the other hand, he proclaims the news of savior. He said the saviour would wipe away the tears and keep the sorrow away of their dear ones. Such way, he brings the salvation, happiness of God and new hope for the frustrated heart.

### **Prophet's name**

There are 16 prophets' names mentioned in the Holy Bible. Among them four are major and the rest of them are minor. Principal prophets are: 1) Isaiah, 2) Jeremiah, 3) Ezekiel and 4) Daniel.

Rest of them are: 5) Obadiah, 6) Micah, 7) Nahum, 8) Habakkuk, 9) Zephaniah, 10) Haggai, 11) Zechariah, and 12) Malachi.

Moreover, we found the prophets names in the history of Israel like: Moses, Samuel, Nathan, Alioy and Alisiah and John Baptist etc.

### **Prophet Nathan**

Like other Prophets Nathan was a messenger of God. By the instruction of God, he scolded the king David for his sin. This scolding from Nathan helped the King David turn back from his sin. Now we will read that part. One day, king David saw a woman taking bath while he was walking in the evening on the rooftop. The king David wanted to know who she was?

He got to know that she was the wife of Oriah (one of his soldier), named Bathseba. That time Oriah was in the battle field. Using the opportunity, the king David brought Bathseba to his palace.



King David and Prophet Nathan

After few days, Bathsheba got pregnant. Then the king David wrote a letter to his chief soldier named Joyaber. He sent order to Joyaber to stay back in the war field and sent Oriah at the frontline of the battlefield so that Oriah might be died fighting there. Joyaber carried out the order of the king.

The news of her husband's death put Bathsheba in a terrible sadness. After a few days the king David married her and she gave birth to a son.

This offensive action of the king David angered the God very much. God sent Nathan to the king David to scold him for his offence. To make the king realize his offensive action toward Bathsheba and joyaber, Nathan told this story to the king David: Once upon a time, there lived a rich person and a poor person in a village. The rich person had a lot of sheep and cows, whereas the poor person had only a sheep. The poor person loved and raised the sheep as his own daughter. One day, to feed a guest, the rich person snatched away the poor person's sheep and prepared the food for the guest.

Listening the story, the king became angry and said to Nathan, "I oath in the name of God that who did this against the poor, the capital punishment is the right punishment."

He should not get any compassion from the poor, so the rich person has to pay four times price of the sheep. Nathan answered the king, "But you are like that person." Then the king said to Nathan, "Really I made offence against God. In reply Nathan said, ok God has shown mercy on you, so you will not get capital punishment. But, what you have done is a great negligence to God, due to your sin the son given birth by Bathseba has to die." Then Nathan went away to his own house.

Within a few days the son became very sick and the king prayed to God from his heart and kept fasting. The son died within seven days. Through this punishment the king has got rid of his sin and changed his mind and came back to God.

## Role of Prophet

We can play the prophetic role in this modern era as under:

- 1) As a Christian wherever you get chance, you can proclaim the word of God;
- 2) Always speak the truth and lead the honest life;
- 3) Follow the Jesus Christ's values and witness regarding the Christ;
- 4) Protest the unethical condition and keep active role to establish the just society;

- 5) According to the reality express your opinions.

### What we have learned

Protesting against injustice, mediating for justice and Prophets are always following the will of almighty God. Prophet Nathan did not get fear to inform the word of God to the king.

### Planned Work :

1. Play the role in your class how Nathan told the word of God to the king.
2. Discuss the role of a prophet.

### Exercise

#### 1. Fill in the gaps.

- a) There are ----- Prophets in the Holy Bible.
- B) God is of justice and ----- God.
- c) Prophet proclaimed the mankind history of God -----.
- d) Prophets started their journey through ----- with God.
- e) Prophet of God namely ----- sent to the king David.

#### 2. Match the left part of the sentence with the right part .

a) There are four principal prophets and	a) mind changed.
b) Like several Prophets Nathan was a	b) that man is you, yourself.
c) The king David being scolded by the prophet	c) twelve junior prophets.
d) Then Nathan told David	d) to the people in the simple way.
e) Prophets felt about the perception of God	e) able to encourage.
	f) was a messenger of God.

**3. Give a tick (✓) mark on the right answer .**

3.1 How did prophets feel the perception of God?

- a) Story
- b) Example
- c) Poem
- d) Curiosity

3.2 Whose message is proclaimed by the prophet?

- a) God
- b) Mankind
- c) Religious
- d) Angels

3.3 Who encouraged for changing the human mind?

- a) King
- b) People
- c) Prophet
- d) Soldier

3.4 What was the name of Oriah's wife?

- a) Bethseba
- b) Ruth
- c) Sarah
- d) Sephania

3.5 Which Prophet was sent to the king David?

- a) Jeremiah
- b) Joshua
- c) Samuel
- d) Nathan

**4. Answer the following short questions.**

- a) Whose order was carried out by the chief soldier?
- b) With whom God became angry?
- c) How did the prophet Nathan warn the king David?
- d) What kind of punishment did the king get by God?

**5. Answer the following questions .**

- a) Write down the names of twelve minor Prophets.
- b) How did the Prophet Nathan warn the king David?

## Chapter Six

### EXPLANATION OF TEN COMMANDMENTS

Ten Commandments of God are expressions of His love. These can be divided into two parts. The first three (four according to the Protestant Churches) are about His love for human beings. The latter seven (six according to the Protestant Churches) are about humans' love for humans. Let us discuss elaborately these commandments.



#### **Honor Your Father and Mother**

God gave us life through our father and mother and sent us to this world. Both our father and mother, through their hard work, have nurtured and protected us. They have helped us grow with their love and provided with all our needs. It is very important for us to show due respect to them. It is our sacred duty to obey them, take care of them and respect them. It is not only to obey God's command rather it is our moral and human obligation to revere them. Our childlike duties are:

- 1) Love your father and mother.
- 2) Be grateful to them.
- 3) Obey them.
- 4) Provide them with moral and material support in their old age, during sickness and at bad times.

### **You Shall not Murder**

God is the giver of life. He is also the owner of this life. Nobody has the right to take another person's life. In the fifth commandment God said: "You shall not murder; he who murders shall be brought to judgment." With this commandment, towards the lives of human beings have been shown due respect. By obeying this commandment, we save our lives by saving lives of others; by showing respect to others, we respect our own lives.

Jesus said, "Killing a person is not a sin only, one cannot even be angry with another person. For through our sins we destroy our relationship with other persons." For this reason, there are two sides of this commandment. The first is a prohibition by which it is said not to kill another person. The second is a directive. One is directed to be in relationship with others through love, peace and friendship.

### **You Shall not Commit Adultery**

The meaning of adultery is to look at a man or a woman with lust. God has given us the desire to love and the power to conjugate/reproduce. We should use this appropriately. We need to show respect to any man or woman. With this commandment, we have been restricted to think impurely and act inappropriately, which may defile our body and mind. In the words of St. Gregory, many people do not know how to respect others, but come to senses after having committed adultery like an irrational animal. For that reason, they need to be far away from these evil thoughts. Idleness,

gluttony, sensuality, inapt dresses, uncontrolled language, watching pornographic films, reading of erotic books, indecent thinking and bad habits, can cause one to be adulterous. By relinquishing these, we have to purify and make our sights, thoughts, words and actions holy. Going for frequent confessions, receiving communion, praying regularly, and giving alms can help us remain holy. Holiness is a gift of God. Those who seek it get it.

### **You Shall not Steal**

Stealing is to take away or claiming to be one's own or forcibly possess other people's materials or wealth. Not only that, cheating in exams, tarnishing someone's name, helping others steal, cheating a buyer, taking something from a shop without paying for it, not returning a lost item, not paying for tickets in traveling, destroying or wasting other people's property, not paying just wages to laborers, staining one's respect, etc. are all various ways of stealing. We have to be respectful to propriety and wealth of others. Returning stolen materials can bring mental peace to the thief.

### **You shall not Bear False Witness against Your Neighbor**

With this commandment, God is prohibiting us to tell lies. Tarnishing one's good name by spreading scandal against him/her, willingly paying attention to these scandals, dispersing it to others, flattering, treachery, etc. can cause us to be liars. Because by lying, we become friends of devils, we smear our own good names. The devil also did the same thing with Eve in the Eden Garden. We destroy our society by falsehood because it deteriorates our relationship. Being truthful in our words and actions is honesty or sincerity. Living a truthful life is to be in union with God, living with our neighbors according to our words and actions.

### **You Shall not Covert Your Neighbor's Wife**

In the explanation of not committing adultery we have come to know that in marriage a man and a woman acquire the respect of being a husband and a wife. Each of them has certain rights over the other.

Nobody else can take these rights away. That is why when someone looks at another person's wife or husband with lust, he/she commits sin. This kind of behavior can ruin a family and their sacred relationship through marriage is smeared. For example, King David by coveting the wife of Uriah, committed a sin. He further sinned by marrying her. God punished him for this act.

### **You Shall not Covet Your Neighbor's Goods**

Through this commandment one is prohibited to be greedy over other people's goods. Greed is to acquire or desire strongly what I do not have or possess. Due to greed one desires to acquire more than one's needs. For this reason, many times we act unjustly. For example, we should not desire to have other people's money, toys, books, pens, mobile phones or clothes. By being greedy, some people can acquire other people's goods and become rich, while others become poor. This causes imbalance between the rich and the poor. Greed can also make people very cruel and violent for which he/she can even kill somebody. That is why the wise persons set a limit to their wants - decide not to have more than what they need. We can also set that kind of limit so that our greed can be controlled.

### **Good Fruits of Obeying the Ten Commandments**

Earlier we have learnt that the Ten Commandments are rules of love. By obeying these commandments we can live a happy and holy life. They will help us maintain good relationship with God and our neighbors. People will live in peace and happiness. We will enjoy the happiness of heaven. The Kingdom of God will be established on this earth. Otherwise, our life will be sinful. We will be unhappy and without any peace. This earth will be like hell for us. Thus, it is our duty to obey these commandments.

### **What we have learnt**

We have learnt the importance of honoring our parents, not to kill, not to commit adultery, not to steal, not to bear false witness, not to covet neighbor's wife/husband, and not to covet other people's goods.

### **Plan of Action**

Write five good fruits of obeying the Ten Commandments and bad fruits of not following them and share them in small groups.

## Exercises

### **1. Fill in the gaps.**

- The first three of the Ten Commandments are related to ..... love for human beings.
- Through our parents God has given us .....
- Honoring our parents is our ..... and human obligation.
- The commandment of not killing others is to show ..... for human life.
- Cheating in the examination is similar to sinning of .....

### **2) Match parts the sentences on left with the right**

a) The place of our father and mother	a) we need to be respectful.
b) By showing respect for all	b) very cruel and violent.
c) God has given us	c) the desire to love and the power to conjugate/reproduce.
d) Towards the goods of other people	d) gives us strength.
e) Due to greed people become	e) is very important.
	f) we show respect to our own lives.

### **3) Give a (✓) mark on the right answer**

3.1) Which of the following is a duty of children towards their parents?

- (a) Preserve their properties    (b) To be with them at all times  
 (c) Obey them                         (d) Putting them in a old peoples' home

3.2) Sanctity of marriage is ruined by --

- (a) Living separately                         (b) Coveting other peoples' wives/husbands  
 (c) Telling lies                                 (d) Hurting each other

**3.3) How can we be holy?**

- (a) By praying regularly
- (b) By building good relationship
- (c) By listening to good sermons
- (d) By giving good advice to others

**3.4) What happens in possessing too much wealth?**

- (a) Environment is ruined
- (b) We do injustice to others
- (c) Creates distance with others
- (d) Create distance with God

**3.5) Good fruits of obeying the Ten Commandments are**

- (a) Good relationship with God and neighbors
- (b) Peace in the society and in the family
- (c) Growth and improvement of the Church
- (d) Development of personal lives

**4) Give short answers to the following questions**

- (a) What did God say about killing?
- (b) What do you understand by stealing?
- (c) How do we become liars?
- (d) What do you mean by honesty?
- (e) What happens to our lives if we do not obey the Ten Commandments?

**5) Give answers to the following questions**

- (a) Explain the commandment of honoring your father and mother and what are some of our duties towards our parents?
- (b) Explain the commandment of bearing false witness against someone.
- (c) Do not covet your neighbor's goods - explain this commandment.
- (d) Write down the good fruits of obeying the Ten Commandments.

## Chapter Seven

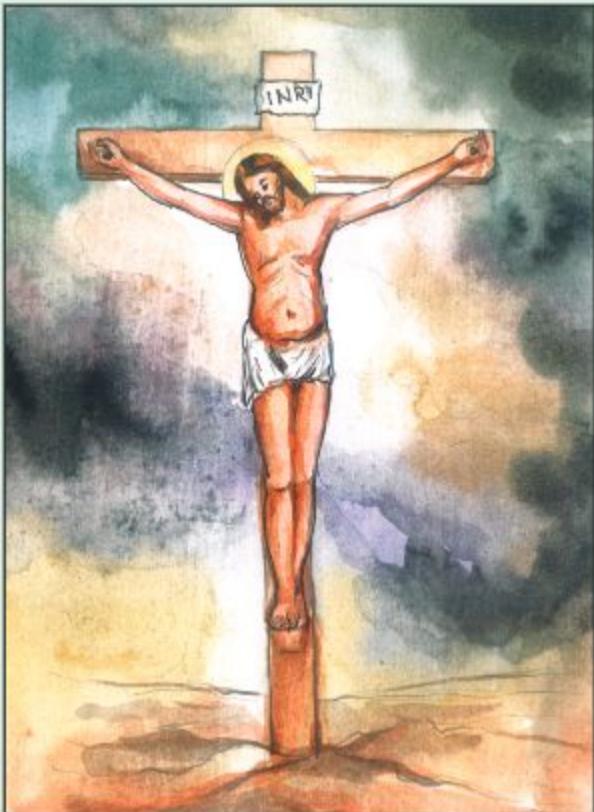
# SALVATION

All people want freedom. Israelites wanted freedom from the slavery of the Egyptians, and they received it. God promised to send the redeemer to save mankind from the slavery of sin. People were waiting for this redeemer for a long time. Finally the redeemer came, but not all recognized and accepted him. We discovered that redeemer. But we need to understand better the meaning of freedom or salvation, its consequences and significance.

### Meaning of freedom or salvation

Freedom or salvation usually means deliverance from a certain danger or an adverse situation. It means being safe from a destructive and risky situation. In the life of Christian faith, freedom or salvation means being free from slavery of sin and receiving the opportunity to go to heaven.

Due to the original sin of our forefathers, our entrance into heaven had been shut down forever. That is why, God had promised to send a redeemer for us. In the Old Testament we see that Moses was sent to deliver the Israelites from the slavery of the Egyptians. In the New Testament we see the end of the waiting days of mankind when the redeemer came into this world. He came



Cross is the Salvation

and offered his life as ransom for our salvation. He brought us out of the prison of sinfulness.

## Effects of redemption

Now we shall see what the fruit of redemption is. In the life of faith every human person wants freedom. With the original sin of Adam and Eve, mankind was tainted by sin; they want to free themselves from that defilement, they want to be purified by God's grace. The time of mending man's relationship with God is called the history of redemption. By being united with God, we move ahead towards redemption. When we received Jesus as our saviour, our life and heart begin to change. This change can be experienced in this world, in our lives and in heaven also.

### The effects that we receive by gaining redemption are as follows:

1. The heaven rejoices at our redemption. "I say to you that like-wise there will be more joy in heaven over one sinner who repents than over ninety-nine just persons who need no repentance." (Lk 15: 7)
2. By believing in the Son we gain eternal life;
3. We gain assurance of life in the faith and its security;
4. We receive the Holy Spirit and become brave;
5. Our sins are forgiven and we are filled with grace;
6. We become holy and worthy of going to heaven;
7. We become hopeful of our resurrection and ascension;
8. We are counted as God's children. Our relationship with Him becomes stronger and deeper;
9. We accept Jesus Christ fully as our saviour;
10. As free persons, we receive peace and joy.

But we must always remember that in order to be redeemed we have to have deep faith, hope and endurance. Redemption is an ongoing process. We must always be conscious in the path of redemption. We have to lead a holy life inspired by the Holy Spirit.

## Prophecy about the coming of the Redeemer

Mankind has been waiting for the redeemer for a very long time. The prophets in the Old Testament prophesied about this. In the book of Isaiah it is written: "The people who walked in darkness have seen a light: those who dwelt in a land of deep kindness, on them has light shone... For the yoke of his burden, and the staff for his shoulder, the rod of his oppressor, you have broken as on the day of Midian... For to us a Child is born, to us a son is given; and the government shall be upon his shoulder, and his name shall be called Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace." (Is 9: 1,3,5)

In the New Testament, we hear from John the Baptist: "I baptize you with water for repentance, but he who is coming after me is mightier than I whose sandals I am not worthy to carry. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire." (Matt 3:11)

## Significance of Redemption

The most significant aspect of redemption is that God loves us unconditionally. He could have given ultimate punishment to Adam and Eve after their sin in Eden. The door to heaven, He could have shut for us forever. But he did not do it, rather he promised to redeem mankind. At the right time he sent his Son and redeemed us. His only Son suffered enormously, died on the cross and by conquering death redeemed mankind from sin and from the devil. He gave us the right to call God our Father. Through this we experienced God's love for us.

### What we have learned

The door to heaven was shut down because of the sins of our forefathers. But God sent his only Son and redeemed us from the slavery of sin. The coming of the redeemer was prophesied by the prophets. We have now received redemption. We became free from the devil.

## Planned work

Share in the small group your feeling about freedom or redemption in real life.

## Exercise

### 1. Fill in the gaps.

- ..... promised to send the redeemer.
- In the life of Christian believers the meaning of redemption is to be free from .....
- The name of our awaited redeemer is .....
- The Israelites were freed from the slavery of the .....
- God gave us the right to call Him ..... through Jesus.

### 2. Match the left part of the sentence with the right part .

a) By believing in the Son	a) an ongoing process .
b) By receiving the Holy Spirit	b) go to heaven .
c) "The people who walked in darkness	c) the history of redemption.
d) The time of developing relationship with God is known as	d) we receive redemption .
e) Redemption is	e) we become brave .
	f) have seen a light .

### 3. Give a tick (✓) mark on the right answer .

#### 3.1 Which prophet prophesied the coming of the Redeemer?

- |           |          |
|-----------|----------|
| a) Isaiah | b) Mica  |
| c) Haggai | d) Jonah |

3.2 What does each person want to receive in the life of faith?

- a) assurance of life
- b) happy life
- c) redemption
- d) love

3.3 What do we gain as free persons?

- a) love and kindness
- b) courage and strength
- c) faith and hope
- d) peace and joy

3.4 "He will baptize you in the Holy Spirit and in the fire" about whom were these words spoken?

- a) John the Baptist
- b) Prophet Isaiah
- c) Christ the Redeemer
- d) Holy Spirit

3.5 For redemption one needs -

- a) deep faith, hope and endurance
- b) giving and receiving forgivness
- c) inspiration of the Holy Spirit
- d) faith and love

4. Answer the following short questions.

- a. From whose hands did Jesus save us?
- b. What price did Jesus pay for our salvation?
- c. Due to whose sins was the door to heaven shut?
- d. What do we need to have to receive salvation?

5. Answer the following questions.

- a. What happens to our life after receiving salvation? Write.
- b. What did John the Baptist say about Jesus?
- c. Write about the significance of salvation.

## Chapter Eight

### JESUS, THE REDEEMER

All mankind has been waiting for a redeemer for a long time. For God had said through the prophets he would send a redeemer to save the world. At the right time Jesus Christ, the redeemer was born. He was born in manger like a poor man. He died on the cross after undergoing endless suffering. But his death was not the end; he was raised to life on the third day. By conquering death he redeemed the mankind from the bondage of sin.

#### Suffering of Jesus

Listening to the new words of Jesus and witnessing his life and miracles innumerable people were attracted to Him. Seeing this, the Jewish religious leaders and Pharisees were indignant with him. They started plotting against him to kill him. They were waiting for the opportunity. Finally, one of Jesus' closest disciples, Judas (Judah) handed Jesus over to the enemies in exchange for thirty silver coins. But Jesus knew everything. Before his death, he arranged a banquet for his disciples. After the meal he came to the garden of Gethsemane. Reaching the garden he told his disciples, "While you wait here, I will go to pray." He took with him Peter, James and John. At this time he grew very anxious. He told them, My soul overwhelmed with sorrow to the point of death. You wait here and keep awake." Then he fell to the ground to pray. Then he said, "Father! Everything is possible for you. Take this cup away from me. Yet, not what I want, but you will be done."

On his return, he found the disciples sleeping. He said to Peter, "Simon. are you sleeping? You could not even keep awake an hour with me? Keep awake and pray so that you may not fall into temptation. You have enthusiasm but human beings, made of flesh and blood, are very weak!" Then he went back to the place and prayed. And then again he returned and saw the disciples sleeping for their eye-lids were heavy. They did not know what to answer him. When he came back the third time, he told them.

"You are still sleeping, still taking rest! No, it is enough. The time has come. Now the Son of Man is going to be handed over to the enemies. As per earlier plan Judas came and kissed Jesus and the enemies arrested him. Jesus was judged in front of the court. Finally they condemned him to death. Jesus silently endured all the torture and tyranny".(Mk14:32-42).

### **Jesus' agony and death**

At the judgment of Pilate, Jesus' punishment was death on the cross. The enemies put a heavy cross on the shoulder of Jesus. On his head, they put a crown of thorn. They tortured him in various ways. They hit him on the head crowned with thorn, spit on him, rebuked him with foul language, slapped him, ridiculed and insulted him by saying 'king of Jews'. In this way they took him to the mount of Calvary. Jesus fell on the ground three times due to the pain they inflicted. They pulled him up and forced him to carry the cross. Blood flowed from his body. After suffering enormously Jesus finally reached Calvary. There they crucified him in between two thieves. After enduring unbearable pain for three hours, Jesus died on the cross.

Why did innocent Jesus die this way? To keep the promise of God and to fulfill the will of the Father, Jesus came to this world. In order to redeem the mankind from sin and from the hands of Satan, Jesus offered himself to death on the cross. After his death on the cross, he was brought down and buried. There was a prominent man named Joseph of Arimathea. He brought Jesus down from the cross and wrapped him with fine linen. And he laid him in a tomb which had been hewn out of the rock and rolled a stone against the door of the tomb.

### **Resurrection of Jesus**

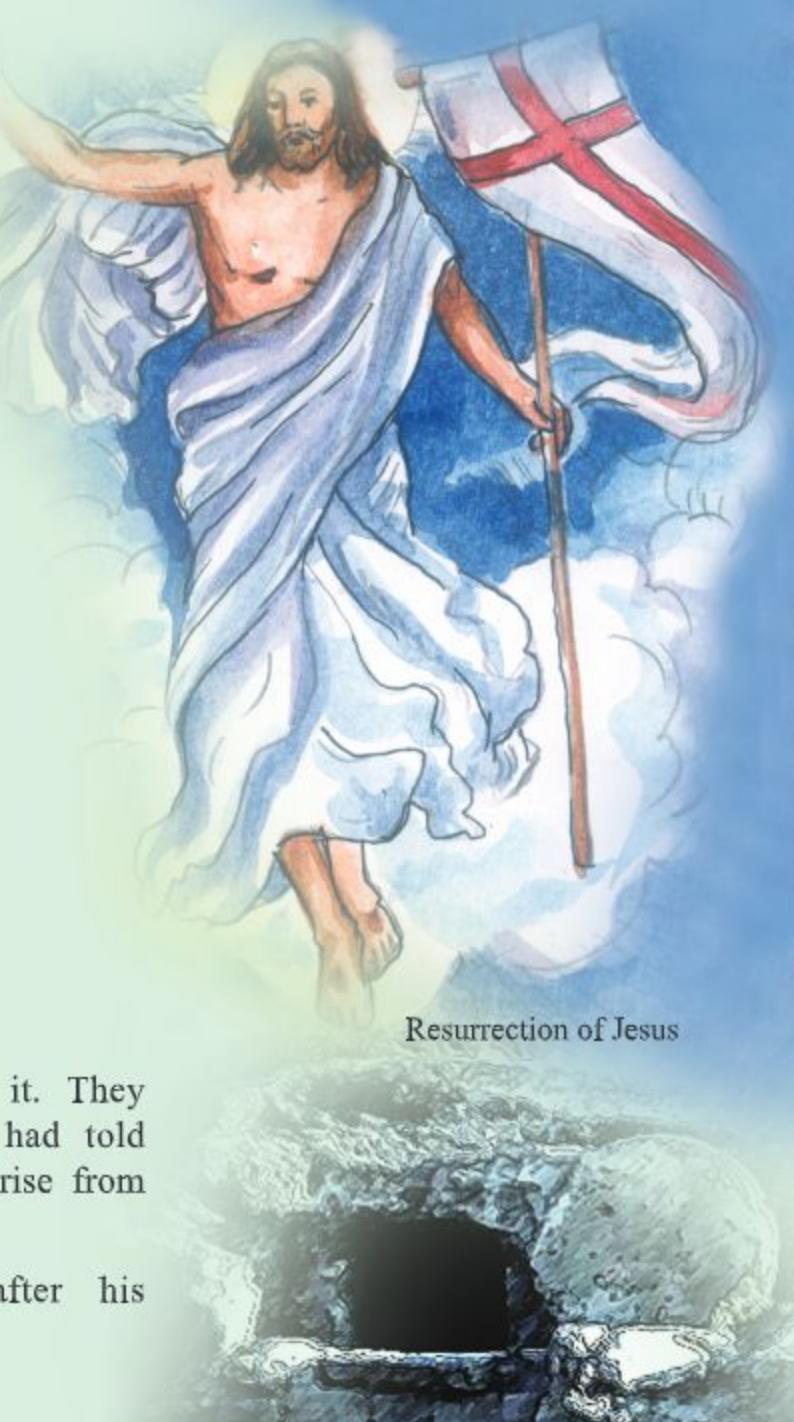
Mary Magdalene, Mary, the mother of James and Salome, knew where Jesus was buried. To anoint Jesus with spices they came to the grave on a Sunday morning before the sun rose. They were saying how they will move the heavy stone from the grave. But they looked at the grave they

saw the stone had already been moved.

Going inside the tomb they saw a tall young man dressed in white sitting on the right side of the tomb. They were afraid. But he told them, "Don't be afraid; you are looking for Jesus of Nazareth, the one who was crucified! He is not here, he has been raised. See, here is where he was buried. Now, go and tell his disciples, and especially Peter: 'He is going to Galilee before you. You will see him there, just as he told you!'" Then they ran to the disciples and told them:

"They have taken Jesus away from the tomb, and we do not know where they kept him." Then Peter and John ran to the tomb. They also saw the tomb, but not Jesus in it. They remembered what Jesus had told them before that he will rise from death.

On Sunday morning after his



Resurrection of Jesus

resurrection Jesus first appeared to Mary Magdalene. Mary gave this news to the disciples. Later on Jesus also appeared to several other disciples. One time he appeared before two disciples who were traveling to Emmaus. At another time the disciples were inside a locked room. He came there in the middle of all and told, 'Peace be with you.' Saying this he blew on them and told, 'Receive the Holy Spirit. The sins of one you forgive will be forgiven. Sins of those you do not forgive will not be forgiven. In this way he appeared to his disciples several times. By resurrecting from death Jesus conquered over death and the power of Satan. He fulfilled all God's plan. He became the redeemer of mankind.

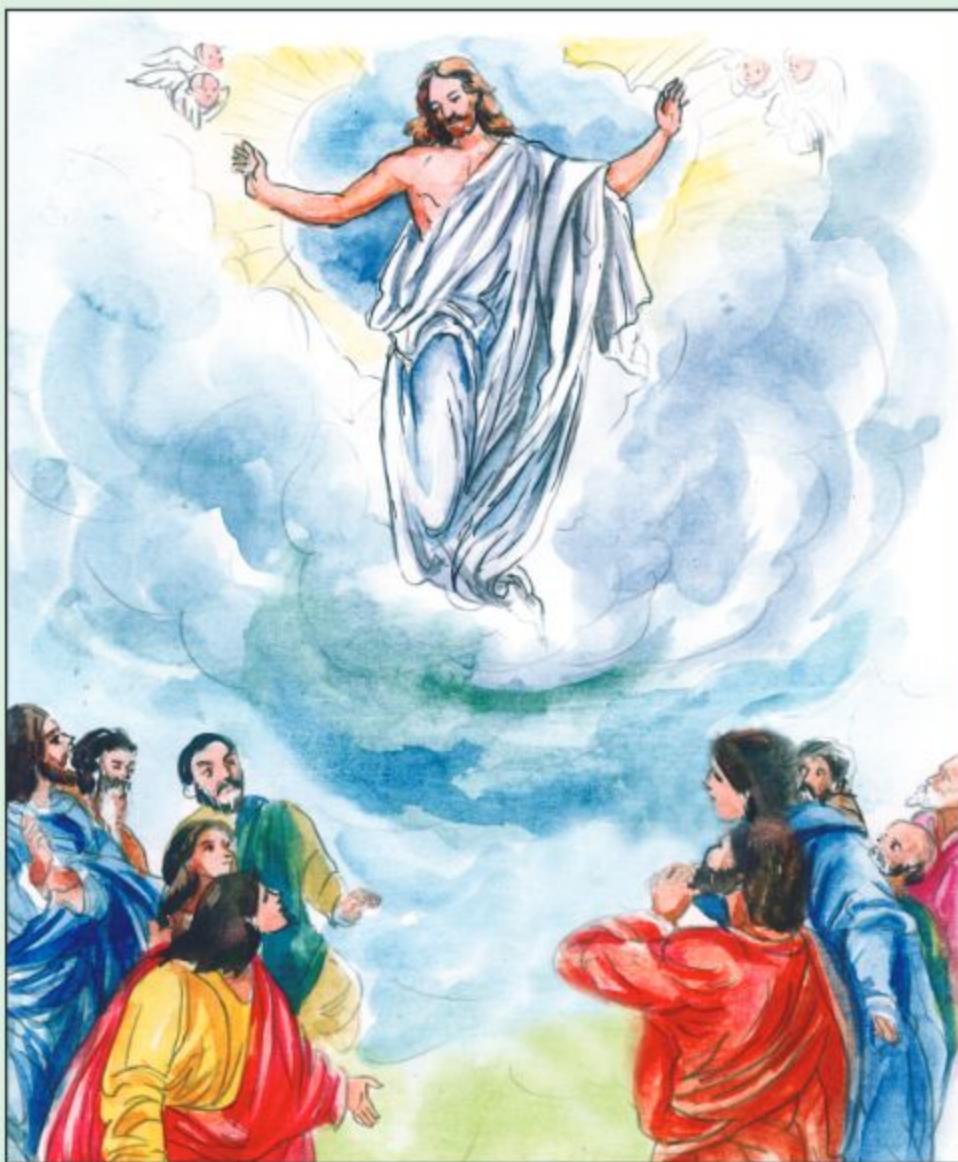
### Ascension of Jesus

After his resurrection Jesus was in the world for forty days. In this time he appeared to his disciples at different places. He gave them many instructions. Especially, he promised to send the Holy Spirit to them. One day Jesus told his disciples to go to mountain in Galilee. The disciples went there. They fell prostrate to greet him. Then Jesus came to them and said: "All authority has been given to me in heaven and on earth. Go, therefore and make disciples of all the nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit. Teaching them to observe all things that I have commanded you: and do, I am with you always, even to the end of the age" (Matt 28: 18-20). Saying this he raised his hands and blessed them. With the blessing he departed from them. A cloud carried him over and he ascended into heaven. His disciples worshiped him and returned to Jerusalem happily. There they waited for the Holy Spirit.

### Risen Christ is our eternal friend

By his resurrection Jesus lives with us always. But his body is not like before. This body is now a glorified body. There times come in our life when we experience pain and death like Jesus. And then later on we experience his resurrection. When we work hard at our studies or do

such other things, we experience suffering and death like Jesus.



Ascension of Jesus and disciples

But when we become successful, we feel that Jesus is with us. Besides, when we overcome temptation, we see the resurrection of Jesus in our life. When after we do something for someone with great pain and feel joy, resurrected Jesus lives in us. Like this, even though Jesus has been raised to heaven, he lives with us always.

## What we have learned

Jesus came to this world to redeem us. He suffered pain in the garden of Gethsemane; suffered unbearable pain and he died; he resurrected on the third day. He appeared to his disciples many times. After this he ascended into heaven. The resurrected Christ lives with us always.

## Planned work

1. Share with the small group a time when you experienced suffering, death and resurrection.
2. Draw a picture of Jesus by the empty tomb.

## Exercises

### 1. Fill in the gaps.

- a. Jesus suffered and died on the cross to ..... humankind.
- b. The ..... and the Pharisees were very angry at Jesus' words and miracles.
- c. ..... handed Jesus over to the enemies.
- a. After the last supper, Jesus went to a place called.....
- b. Punishment of Jesus ..... in the judgment of Pilate.

### 2. Match the left part of the sentence with the right part .

a) "Take away this cup from me,	a) riding on the cloud.
b) Jesus blew on them and said,	b) we can see Jesus' resurrection in our lives.
c) Jesus was raised to heaven	c) he lives with us every day.
d) By conquering temptation,	d) redeemed us .
e) Although resurrected Jesus ascended into heaven,	e) and yet it is not my will, but your will be done."
	f) receive the Holy Spirit.

3. Give a tick (✓) mark on the right answer

- 3.1 After receiving death sentence, what did the enemies put on Jesus' shoulder?

  - a) a big stone
  - b) a crown of thorn
  - c) a big piece of wood
  - d) a very heavy cross

3.2 How many hours did Jesus undergo unbearable suffering?

  - a) two hours
  - b) one hour
  - c) three hours
  - d) four hours

3.3 Who brought Jesus down from the cross?

  - a) Peter
  - b) Mary Magdalene
  - c) Joseph of Arimathea
  - d) James

3.4 The body of resurrected Christ was -

  - a) mortal body
  - b) bruised body
  - c) glorified body
  - d) immortal body

3.5 Who will be with us until the end of time?

  - a) Peter
  - b) James
  - c) John
  - d) Jesus

**4. Answer the following short questions.**

- a) How much money did Judas receive by handing over Jesus to the enemies?
  - b) By what words was Jesus ridiculed?
  - c) To whom did Jesus appear first after his resurrection?
  - d) By what name did Jesus tell his disciples to baptize people?
  - e) After how many days did Jesus ascend into heaven?

**5. Answer the following questions.**

- a. Write something about Jesus' suffering and death.
  - b. Narrate the story of Jesus' resurrection.
  - c. Write in details the story of Jesus' ascension.

## Chapter Nine

### HOLY SPIRIT

Before his Ascension, Jesus promised his disciples that when he goes to heaven he will send a helper. He told them, until the helper comes, the disciples should not leave the town they were in. The Holy Spirit descended as that promised helper upon the disciples on the day of Pentecost. We heard about this before. We have also learned about the coming of the Holy Spirit in us at Baptism. At Confirmation, the Holy Spirit renewed his coming in us. The Holy Spirit lives within us and guides us always. We can become mature Christians by getting the gifts which the Holy Spirit brings for us. Now we have to understand better the meaning of the inspiration of the Holy Spirit. We always have to try to live not as the needs of our flesh or according to our own desires, but according to the inspiration of the Holy Spirit. Only then we would be able to grow as happy persons.

#### **Living according to the inspiration of the Holy Spirit**

The meaning of living according to the inspiration of the Holy Spirit is to



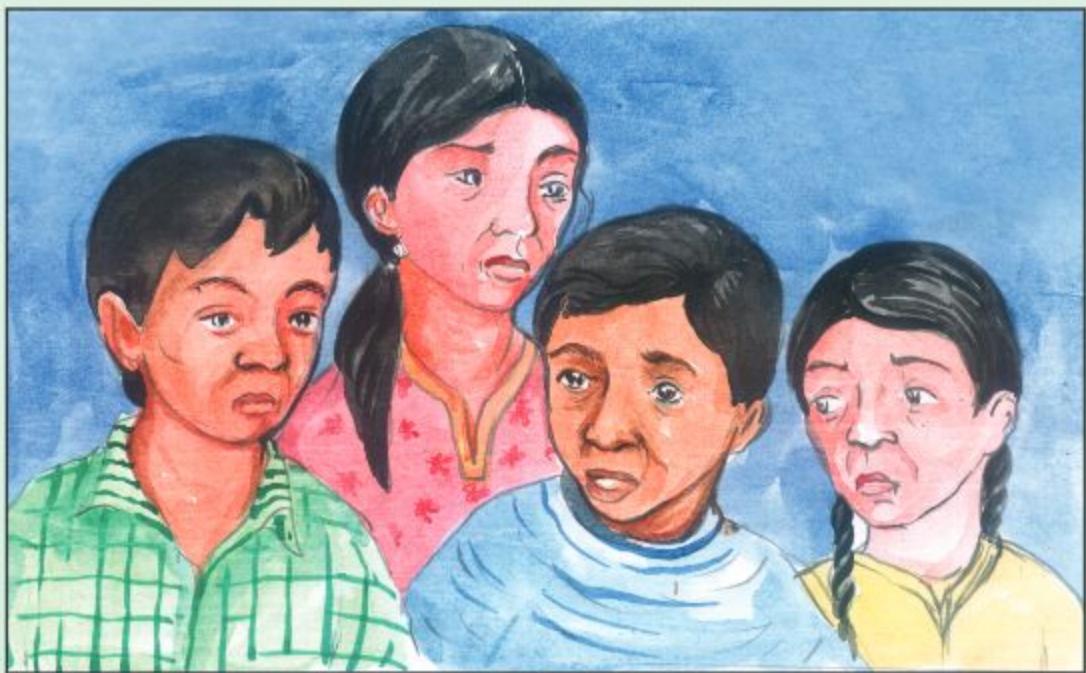
Happy are those who were led by the Holy Spirit

live as the Holy Spirit wants us to live. Those who live in this way, in them we find love, joy, peace, forbearance, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness and self-control.

The Holy Spirit guides us in the path of Jesus. That is why Jesus sent this helper so that he could remind us what Jesus had told us. Here there is no place for bodily desire. Those who live in accordance with the inspiration of the Holy Spirit are not influenced by sin.

### Living according to the desires of the flesh

St. Paul tells of living according to the desires of the flesh as a lower nature. This means to live as what the flesh wants. He showed us several aspects of this living according to one's flesh such as sexual immorality, impurity, debauchery, idolatry, witchcraft, hatred, discord, jealousy, rage, selfishness, dissensions, factions, envy, etc. We can easily understand that the lower nature or the desires of the flesh leads us towards sin. This is bad for all of us.



Those who are living according to the desires of the flesh are unhappy

## Difference between the inspiration of Holy Spirit and the desires of the flesh

From the above discussion it is clear to us that our lower nature or the desires of the flesh lead us to sinfulness. But living according to the inspiration of the Holy Spirit helps us remain in the path of Jesus. These two are made clear in the following chart.

Inspiration of the Holy Spirit	Desires of the flesh (Lower nature)
love, joy, peace, forbearance, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness and self-control .	sexual immorality, impurity, debauchery, idolatry, witchcraft, hatred, discord, jealousy, rage, selfishness, dissensions, factions, envy, etc.
leads us to God's ways .	leads us to devil's ways .
Holy Spirit gives us life .	flesh brings us death.
Holy Spirit makes us happy.	flesh destroys our happiness.
peace and harmony exist in family, society, nation and Church .	wickedness and chaos exist in family, society, nation and Church.
God is happy.	Devil becomes happy.

## Ways to live in the Holy Spirit

Path guided by the Holy Spirit is the path of truth. Path of the Holy Spirit is the path of Jesus. We can live according to the inspiration of the Holy Spirit by doing the following:

1. Take decision to live according to the inspiration of the Holy Spirit;
2. Accept the will of God with open mind;
3. Read the Bible everyday and follow the inspiration it gives;
4. Attending the Eucharist and try to put in practice the strength, courage, and inspiration received from it;

5. Listen to the advice of the spiritual directors, pray yourself and follow the inspiration of the Holy Spirit for taking right decisions;
6. After completing every task, ask the Holy Spirit during prayer how the task was done according to his inspiration; if any weakness is found, ask the Spirit how that can be removed in future and listen to what he says about it;
7. Invoke the Holy Spirit before and after every task, thank him for the success and seek his forgiveness for the failures;
8. Advise others to follow the instructions of the Holy Spirit.

Lord Jesus gave us the helper so that we can be guided in the right path. So, we will keep our minds and hearts open to his guidance. We will accept him as the leader of our lives.

### What we have learned

Holy Spirit shows us the path of Jesus. Following him we gain eternal life. But flesh leads us to death. Our aim is to follow the inspiration of the Holy Spirit.

### Planned work

Prepare a list of tasks that lead us to follow the Holy Spirit.

### Exercises

#### 1. Fill in the gaps.

- a. Lower nature leads us to .....
- b. Holy Spirit leads us to .....
- c. Holy Spirit gives us .....
- d. If we live by the flesh, we .....
- e. Living according to the flesh makes the ..... happy.

**2. Match the left part of the sentence with the right part .**

a) At Baptism, we receive the Holy Spirit	a) hatred, discord, jealousy and envy .
b) By receiving the gifts of the Holy Spirit	b) love, joy, peace, and self-control
c) Some aspects of the lower nature are	c) to the path of Jesus .
d) Those who live according to the Holy Spirit, we see in them	d) in our hearts .
e) Holy Spirit leads us	e) and yet it is not my will, not yours will be done
	f) we become mature Christians .

**3. Give a tick (✓) mark on the right answer .**

3.1 Which of the following are inspirations of the Holy Spirit?

- |   |                                 |
|---|---------------------------------|
| a) gentleness, jealousy and kindness        | b) joy, compassion and hatred   |
| c) gentleness, faithfulness and forbearance | d) self-control, peace and rage |

3.2 Jesus gives us the helper so that -

- |                                 |                             |
|---------------------------------|-----------------------------|
| a) we are led in the right path | b) we can love Jesus        |
| c) we can go to heaven          | d) we may gain eternal life |

3.3 Peace exists in family, society, nation and Church by-

- |                              |   |
|------------------------------|---|
| a) living in flesh           | b) following the devil                  |
| c) living in the Holy Spirit | d) living according to our lower nature |

3.4 Where does our lower nature lead us?

- |                  |                  |
|------------------|------------------|
| a) to sinfulness | b) to heaven     |
| c) to life       | d) to right path |

**3.5 Holy Spirit helps us -**

- a) make right decisions
- b) make wrong decisions
- c) go astray desires
- d) live according to our own

**4. Answer the following short questions.**

- a. What promise did Jesus make to his disciples before his ascension?
- b. Who leads us always?
- c. What does St. Paul mean by living according to our flesh?
- d. What does it mean to live according to the inspiration of the Holy Spirit?

**5. Answer the following questions.**

- a. What do you understand by living in the flesh and living in the Holy Spirit?
- b. Write the difference between living in the flesh and living in the Holy Spirit.
- c. Write down the ways we can live according to the inspiration of the Holy Spirit.

## Chapter Ten

### MISSION OF THE CHURCH

Jesus was sent to this world by His Father for the salvation of mankind. He gave the ultimate proof of God's love for humanity. He sent his own disciples to the whole world to continue his mission. The Church looks at proclamation of the word of salvation and mission as one. Works of people are more important than their words. Whatever Church preaches, it also practises. This mission of the Church is a reflection of Christ's intention. In this chapter we will discuss and inform all about the meaning of Church's mission, special apostolates or works of service, and how one can participate in these works.

#### Meaning of Church's Mission

Jesus at the time of sending his apostles to mission, says: "Go therefore and make disciples of all the nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit. Teaching them to observe all things that I have commanded you; and do, I am with you always, even to the end of the age. Amen" (Matt. 28: 19-20). After saying these words, He sent His disciples to fulfill his mission. Sent by the Lord, the disciples have to also be like the Lord. They certainly remembered his words. Jesus said of himself: "For even the Son of Man did not come to be served, but to serve, and to give His life a ransom for many" (Mk. 10:45).

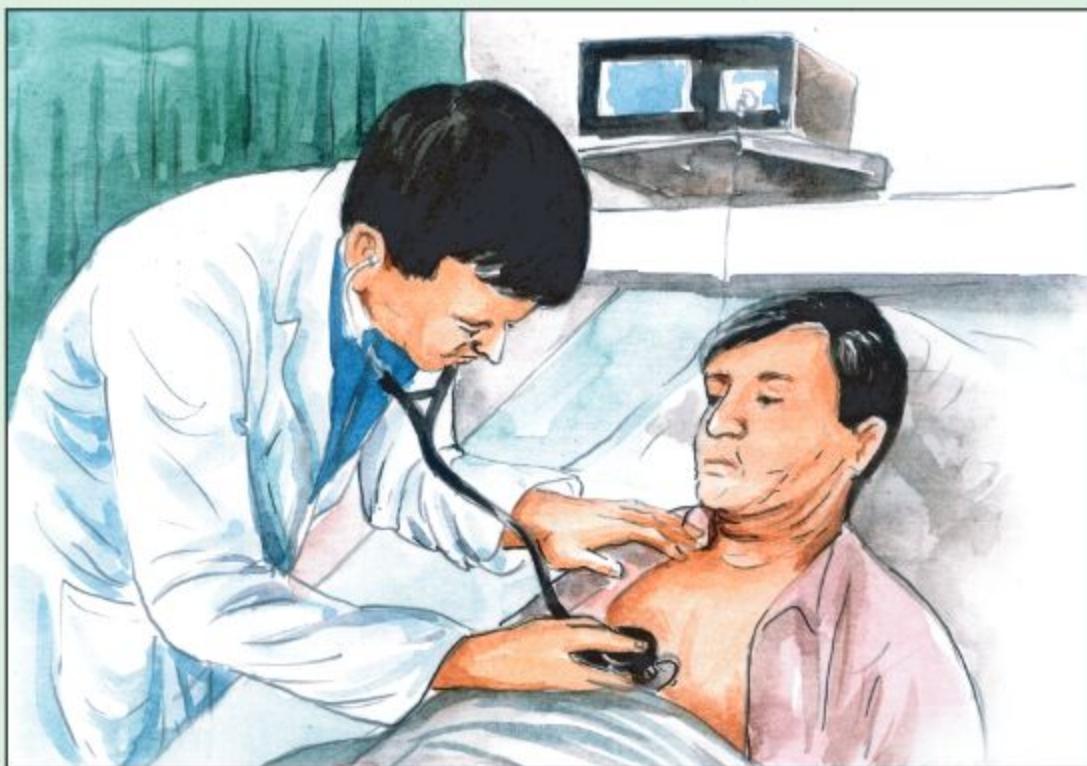
So, the mission is not as easy we might think it is. Lord gave himself fully to this mission. Being disciples of such Lord, they cannot choose to live a comfortable life or be served by others. If they do so, they cannot be true disciples of the Lord. Before sending them to mission, Jesus told his disciples: "You did not choose me, but I chose you and appointed you that you should go and bear fruit, and that your fruit should remain, that whatever you ask the Father in my name He may give you" (Jn. 15: 16-17).

## Church's fundamental Missions

Following are the fundamental missions of the Church:

**Education:** One of the fundamental missions of the Church is education. Only through education people can be made self-reliant. The Church understood this very well.

**Health care:** The role of the Church in healing physical, mental and spiritual health of people has been very strong from the very outset. Jesus healed the sick himself and gave powers to his disciples to do the same.



Health Care

**Vocational education:** Those young people who cannot continue with their academic studies, the Church arranges vocational training for them. Through this education they can be financially solvent in future.

**Service to the poor:** The Church serves the distressed and helpless people. Many non-governmental agencies and religious congregations have made remarkable contributions in this regard. One of the names that can be

mentioned is the organization Mother Teresa has established. The Church is ever ready to serve the poor, destitute, and helpless.

**Empowering of women:** Education, leadership and empowerment of women are very important factors for the development of the Church and of the country. The Church has always given priority over these matters and played an important role in this matter.

**Poverty alleviation:** The Church gives utmost importance to removing poverty from families and society for their financial emancipation. Many NGOs initiated by the Church and other individuals have made a lot of contribution in this regard.

**Family welfare:** Family is a basic Church or a home Church. This is the center of society. Giving adequate formation to families is special duty of the Church. The Church does it well. The Church takes special care for preparation of marriages and welfare of families.

**Children welfare:** Children are the future of the country and the Church. If the children are raised well, the nation will prosper. For the children, the Church has many children welfare associations. Through these associations, the Church takes various steps for their development.

**Youth formation:** The youth are the Church's future hope of possibilities. The contribution of the Church in the formation of youth is beyond comprehension. The Church always tries to devote its resources to form the youth by organizing formation-training programs and seminars.

Furthermore, the Church offers many other services according to the need of time. Through these works, the members of the Church always remember that Jesus is ever present with them and desires that they take part in these works on his behalf.

## Participation in the mission

The above mentioned mission works are done by the Church with the participation of its people. Our taking part in these works as much as possible is very essential.

## What we have learned

Jesus Christ was sent by his Father. He sent his disciples. He sends us today. The Church does its mission work this way. We all have to take part in this work.

## Planned work

Share in the group the kind of mission works the Church do today.

## Exercises

### 1. Fill in the gaps.

- a) The Church looks at preaching and ..... in the same way.
- b) The Son of Man did not come to ....., but he came to serve.
- c) I command you this, that you ..... one another.
- d) The Church always responds to the needs and ..... of her children.
- e) The Church is alive through its works of .....

### 2. Match the left part of the sentence with the right part.

a) To the end of the world	a) and be successful.
b) Whatever you ask my Father in my name	b) people can become self-reliant.
c) I wanted that you go ahead	c) heal the people.
d) Through education	d) I will always be with you.
e) In the service of the distressed	e) He will give you.
	f) the name of Mother Teresa comes ahead.

3. Give tick () mark to the right answer .

- 3.1 Which one of the following is a major mission of the Church?

  - a) education
  - b) poverty alleviation
  - c) distribution of relief goods
  - d) saving environment

3.2 What does the Church do for those who cannot continue academic education?

  - a) vocational education
  - b) informal education
  - c) agricultural education
  - d) healthcare education

3.3 What does Church consider for its mission activities?

  - a) condition of people
  - b) finances
  - c) need of the times
  - d) professional workers

3.4 What is the purpose of youth formation?

  - a) appropriate education
  - b) making them self-reliant
  - c) Proper instructions and formation
  - d) making them good citizens

3.5 What is the result of mission?

  - a) The Church is alive
  - b) People get services
  - c) Country is developed
  - d) Jesus becomes happy

**4. Answer the following short questions.**

- a. What is reflected in the mission of the Church?
  - b. Why is mission so important for the Church?
  - c. What did Jesus think of the mission?
  - d. What did Jesus command his disciples?

**5. Answer the following questions.**

- a. Explain the meaning of mission.
  - b. What instructions did Jesus give to his disciples when sending them to mission?
  - c. Write the three activities of the major missionary of the church .

## Chapter Eleven

# SACRAMENTS

We got some ideas about Sacraments in the previous classes. In classes Two and Three, we memorized the names of seven Sacraments. We learned about the Sacrament of Initiation (Baptism) more elaborately in class Three. In class Four we learned many things about Reconciliation (Confession), Confirmation and Eucharist. At this stage we will know in details the Sacraments of Anointing, Ordination and Marriage.

### **Sacrament of Anointing**

Church has special concern, prayer, support, love and care for the sick. For this special concern, the Church established this Sacrament. Through this Sacrament the sick receive God's grace and blessing. They get strength and consolation. Above all, through this Sacrament the sick can receive healing. This Sacrament is also known the Sacrament of Last Rights or Sacrament of Healing.

### **Anointing Ceremony**

The sick person is anointed on the forehead and on the hand and by anointing oil this prayer is said: "Receive the Holy Spirit with this stamping." Christ is healer. He took care of the sick and healed them. He used different signs and symbols to heal people such as saliva, placing of hands, clay and followed by washing with water, etc. With this symbols Jesus healed the sick. He gave this responsibility on the Churches he established. The Church of Christ uses its own customs that are found in the letter of St. Jacob. St. Jacob says, "Those among you who are sick, let him call upon the elders (priests); they will anoint oil on him and pray for his healing in the name of the Lord. The Lord will heal him; and if he committed any sin, they will be forgiven" (Jacob 5: 14-15). Oil is a symbol of affluence and happiness. Before and after taking bath people purify themselves. Children are anointed oil before giving them bath so that

they do not catch cold. Oil is the source of healing, beauty, health and strength. On the other hand, sick becomes purified and strengthened, healed and comforted spiritually with the anointing of oil.



Anointing ceremony

Anointing the sick with holy oil has been a liturgical tradition in the old days. For many centuries anointing was done to only those who were near death. For this reason this Sacrament was named "The Last Rights". But it is not only for those who are about to die. If anyone who feels very sick due to illness or old age, they can also be given this Sacrament. Before administering this Sacrament, Sacrament of Reconciliation and the Holy Eucharist can also be administered.

Owing to this Sacrament, we, with the help of the Holy Spirit, receive strength, peace and courage for severe illness or for the problems that arise due to weakness of old age. The sick person is improved of the illness due to strength of the Holy Spirit by this Sacrament, and if God wishes, the person can even be healed. Furthermore, "if the person has committed any sin, it is also forgiven."

## Sacrament of Ordination (Holy Order)

God formed the chosen people as a “nation of priests and a holy people”. But one of the twelve tribes of Israel, that is, the Levites, God set apart and chose them to administer liturgical celebrations of worship.

God himself is their heir. According to the Old Testament, the beginning of priesthood was performed with a special ceremony. A priest was appointed on behalf of people to build a relationship with God, so that he can offer sacrifices for the remission of sins of the people. The Holy



Sacrament of Ordination

Order was introduced to proclaim God's words and re-establish union of people with God through prayer and offering of sacrifices. Yet this Holy Order failed to bring salvation. At this the priests have to offer sacrifices many times and still they are not able to acquire full holiness. Only the sacrifice of Christ can do that. The Most High Priest and the only mediator Christ made the Church a nation, his own God and priest of the Father. All believers according to their vocations participate in

priesthood of Christ's priestly, prophetic and kingly ministries through Baptism.

God sanctified Christ and sent to this world. He, through the apostles, making the Bishops their heirs, gave the same responsibilities. The Bishops based on their own rights give various responsibilities to others. The responsibilities of the Bishops are also shared by the priests under their jurisdictions so that they can become priests and that they can also fulfill their apostolic responsibilities by becoming co-workers with the Bishops. Through the Sacrament of Ordination, a priest having received special grace from God can also fulfill his responsibilities as God's representatives. First, he himself is sanctified and then he also leads others to the path of sanctification.

## Sacrament of Marriage

By the Sacrament of Marriage, a man and a woman share between them their total life of participation. They receive the vocation of raising their children, the fruit of their love, and form them after the teachings of Christ. Through this Sacrament, man and woman establish a holy inseparable bond between them. We know that God created us after His own image. Thus He invites us to love one another. This is a basic and innate vocation of all people. Because God himself is love and He created humans in His own image. Since God created humans as man and woman, their mutual love is a reflection of God's infinite and everlasting love. And God invites human beings in this love. Bear fruit, increase your family, and fill the earth. In order to continue the work of creation a man and a woman receive the vocation of marriage following the appropriate, holy and religious traditions. Jesus himself said the meaning of marriage is the inseparable union of two persons that reminds us of God's plan at creation. The union that exists in the Sacrament of Marriage and its love has been instituted by God himself. Thus marriage is a holy bond. There must be appropriate preparation before reception of this Sacrament. In the marriage preparation classes, all participants must understand that it is a Sacrament. It is a life-long and eternal covenant. This can never be broken. In the Catholic faith no one can break this covenant at his/her will.

Neither a husband can divorce his wife, nor a wife her husband. It is of paramount importance to know the minds of those who will embrace the Sacrament of Marriage. If a girl or a boy is pressurized by his parents for any reason to enter into this covenant, that marriage must be dismissed. So, their opinion must be taken before marriage. The exchange of opinion of two parties in a marriage is an essential element of marriage in the Church. Marriage does not exist without mutual consent.

A priest or a deacon can administer the Sacrament of Marriage. He, on behalf of the Church, receives the consent of the husband and the wife and bestows Church's blessing on them. In their life as husband and wife they must remain faithful to each other. There can be minor misunderstandings, grudges, conceits, etc. between husband and wife at times. And that is natural.



Sacrament of Marriage

But when this kind of situation arises, things should be mended as quickly as possible. The grace a couple receives from God through their marriage keeps them enlightened through their entire life. This grace keeps them going in their conjugal life.

### **Ways to live in this Sacrament**

1. Trust Jesus Christ completely.
2. Follow the regulations of the Church.
3. Take religious instructions regularly.
4. Participate in the religious obligations and receive the Sacraments regularly
5. Lead a holy life and give up bad habits.

### **What we have learned**

- a) Through the Sacrament of Anointing a sick person receives special grace and blessing from God. He gains mental strength, courage and consolation and this helps the sick prepare for a happy death.
- b) Priestly life is a special call of God. By this Sacrament of Ordination, priests become other Christ to continue their ministries in the world.
- c) The Sacrament of Marriage is a special vocation from God. It is very important to know the opinions of the candidate before marriage. It is an everlasting covenant that can never be broken.

## **Exercises**

### **Fill in the gaps**

- a) Jesus gave responsibility to his established.
- b) Another name of the Sacrament of Anointing is
- c) Sacrament of Ordination is capable of..... to heal the sick.
- d) Responsibilities of the Bishops are bestowed upon the under their jurisdiction.
- e) Before taking the Sacrament of Marriage, prepare themselves.

**2. Match the left part of the sentence with the right part .**

a) Oil is a symbol of affluence and	a) true priest .
b) Anointing oil	b) in His Own image.
c) The society of the faithful	c) is a holy bond .
d) Bond of marriage	d) is a sign of happiness .
e) God created us	e) is anointed on the forehead and on the hands of the sick .
	f) has been established for communion .

**3. Give a tick (✓) mark on the right answer .**

- 3.1 For whom did the Church establish the Sacrament of Anointing?
- a) for all
  - b) for the children
  - c) for the sick
  - d) for the adult
- 3.2 Since when was the tradition of anointing oil on the sick started?
- a) from the old days
  - b) before the middle ages
  - c) from the middle ages
  - d) during this age
- 3.3 Which tribe did God choose to administer liturgical services?
- a) tribe of Juda
  - b) tribe of Levi
  - c) tribe of Jacob
  - d) tribe of Benjamin
- 3.4 On whom are the responsibilities of the Bishops bestowed?
- a) priests
  - b) servers
  - c) deacons
  - d) sub-deacons

**3.5 What is the basic and innate vocation of all people?**

- a) love
- b) jealousy
- c) hatred
- d) anger

**4. Answer the following short questions.**

- a) Who can administer the Sacrament of Anointing?
- b) What is the main responsibility of a priest?
- c) What must be verified before administering the Sacrament of Marriage?
- d) Who can administer the Sacrament of Marriage?

**5. Answer the following questions.**

- a) Describe the main functions of the Sacrament of Anointing.
- b) Explain the significance of the Sacrament of Ordination.
- c) What is your idea of the Sacrament of Marriage?

## Chapter Twelve

### RUTH

In the Old Testament, we read about the lives of a number of important women. They were firm in their belief in God and led a holy life. One of these women was Ruth. Although very ordinary, but she became extraordinary. She made family life a very attractive and ideal one. Thus she has become a living person among us. By knowing the life of Ruth, we can make our personal and family life more meaningful and joyous.

#### **Introduction of Ruth**

The meaning of Ruth is companion or friend. Ruth was a daughter of the Moabites. Her husband was Kilion. Her father and mother in-laws were Elimelech and Naomi. She lived in Moab.

At one time a severe famine broke out in Israel. Elimelech and his wife Naomi lived in Bethlehem of the province of Judea. They had two sons. Their names were Mahlon and Kilion. Bethlehem was a poor village. For that reason, Elimelech went to the country of Moab with his wife and sons. Land of this place was plain. Crops grew better in this place than in other places. They started living here happily. Their happiness did not last very long. Suddenly Elimelech died. Naomi became a widow with two sons. Gradually Mahlon and Kilion grew older. At their proper age, the two brothers married two Moabite girls. Wife of the elder brother Mahlon was Arpa and the wife of the younger brother was Ruth. They started their lives with new hopes and dreams. Again their good days did not last long. All of a sudden both the brothers died. Widow Naomi now became a childless mother. Arpa and Ruth became widows at a very young age. Bewildered Naomi now wanted to return to Moab leaving Bethlehem telling the two wives - Arpa and Ruth - of her two sons to go back to their homes and to start their lives all over again. Initially they did not want to leave Naomi.

But at the end, Arpa returned to her parents. Ruth did not want to leave Naomi at any cost.



Naomi and Ruth

### Faithfulness of Ruth in family life

Naomi prepared to return to Bethlehem. She told Ruth again to return to her country. Showing Arpa, she told Ruth, "See your sister-in-law, she has returned to her own people and her own gods. You do the same." Ruth did not agree to leave Naomi alone. Ruth replied, "I will go wherever you go.

I will spend the night wherever you spend the night. Your people will be my people. Your God will be my God. I will die where you will die. Nothing but death can separate me from you." Ruth remained unwavering in her resolve. At the end, Naomi went to Bethlehem taking Ruth with her. After traveling a long distance on foot, they reached Bethlehem.

It was time for harvest in Bethlehem. For reasons of survival, Ruth went to collect grains from Naomi's relative Boaz. He was kind to Ruth. Following Naomi's instructions, Ruth did not go to any other field to collect grains. Boaz was relative of Naomi from her husband's side. Boaz married Ruth as Naomi wished and in accordance with their family customs.

A son was born to Ruth and Boaz. His name was Obed. Son of Obed was Jesse. Son of Jesse was King David. We know that Joseph, the husband of Mary, was from the lineage of David. Our saviour was called 'Son of David' because he was born in the family of David.

**From the above description we come to know about the faithfulness of Ruth:**

1. She had deep love and respect for her husband and mother-in-law;
2. She took care of her mother-in-law leaving everything of her own;
3. She was obedient to her mother-in-law. She did whatever her mother-in-law wanted.
4. She married Boaz to continue the family lineage;
5. Despite her own difficulties she fulfilled her family responsibilities;
6. She gave priority to family responsibilities over her own happiness.

### **Ruth's firm faith in God**

Ruth served other gods before marrying Kilion. After marriage she came to know about One God. She had immense faith in God. Although her husband died, she did not leave God for her own happiness. Rather she told her mother-in-law: "Your God will be my God." This expresses her firm faith in God. No hardship could change her faith from God. Since

she had faith in God, she could leave her own country, religion, relatives, and everything.

After getting to know the true God, Ruth remains faithful to God at all times. Like being faithful to carry out family responsibilities, she was faithful to God. There was a great plan of God for Ruth. God wanted that Ruth's life will be like a guiding star in future forever. Although Ruth did not understand God's plan at that time, she accepted it. God will send his only son to redeem the people of the world. This son will have to be born in the family of David. Through Ruth this became possible. For we have seen that Jesus, the saviour, was born in the race of David and Ruth was David's grandmother.

### Being faithful to God

It is very important for us to be faithful to God. By doing the following tasks we can remain faithful to God like Ruth:

1. Know the life of Ruth and learn from it;
2. Remain faithful to God like Ruth;
3. Depend on God for everything like Ruth;
4. Seek God's strength to be faithful to Him.

### What we have learned

Ruth by leaving aside personal comforts remained faithful to family life with her mother-in-law. She had deep faith in God. God fulfilled His plan through Ruth.

### Planned works

1. Write and share with the group what sacrifices you make for your family.
2. Make a chart listing the things that can be done to be firm in the faith of God.

## Exercises

### 1. Fill in the gaps.

- a) The name of Ruth's father-in-law is ..... .
- b) Ruth's father and mother in-laws came from ..... to Moab.
- c) Ruth had deep ..... and respect for her husband and mother-in-law.
- d) For survival, Ruth went to collect ..... .
- e) Ruth married Boaz to continue the ..... .

### 2. Match the left part of the sentence with the right part.

a) Ruth told her mother-in-law	a) Ruth remained faithful to God.
b) Before marrying Kilion, Ruth	b) he was imprisoned for life.
c) After knowing the true God,	c) "Your God will be my God."
d) More than her own comforts	d) was born the family of David.
e) Jesus the redeemer	e) Ruth gave more importance to family responsibilities.
	f) believed in other gods.

### 3. Give a tick (✓) mark on the right answer.

#### 3.1 Why did Elimelech and his wife Naomi leave Bethlehem?

- |               |                      |
|---------------|----------------------|
| a) war        | b) draught and flood |
| c) insecurity | d) famine            |

#### 3.2 How many sons did Elimelech and Naomi have?

- |          |         |
|----------|---------|
| a) one   | b) two  |
| c) three | d) four |

**3.3 Who was Mahlon?**

- a) Arpa's husband
- b) Ruth's younger brother
- c) Ruth's husband
- d) Kilion's younger brother

**3.4 What is Ruth to Naomi?**

- a) Ruth's mother's mother
- b) grandmother
- c) mother
- d) daughter-in-law

**3.5 What plan of God was fulfilled through Ruth?**

- a) birth of King David
- b) Marriage of Boaz
- c) plan of salvation
- d) Ruth's marriage

**4. Answer the following short questions.**

- a) Which country did Ruth come from?
- b) What was the name of Ruth's husband?
- c) What did Ruth do after the death of her husband?
- d) What did Ruth's sister-in-law do after her husband's death?

**5. Answer the following questions.**

- a) Describe the life of Ruth.
- b) Write about the faithfulness of Ruth's family life.
- c) Narrate Ruth's firm faith and faithfulness in God.
- d) What can you learn from Ruth's life?

## Chapter Thirteen

### NELSON MANDELA

Many of us have heard the name of Nelson Mandela. He was a great and noble man. As a political and social leader he fought for the emancipation and freedom of people all his life. Nelson Mandela was born on July 18, 1918 in the city of Transkei of South Africa. Xhosa was an African language. In this language, Mandela's name was "Rolihlahla", literal meaning of which is to pull someone down from the branch of a tree. But the deeper meaning of this name is "Troublemaker".

Mandela's father, Gadla Henry Mandela, was

the chief consultant of the Thembu tribe. His mother, Noqaphi Nosekeni, was a quiet and simple woman. In Transkei, Nelson Mandela spent his childhood doing farming and tending cattle. At night, sitting by the fire, he used to listen to the stories of the African heroes from the elders. When he was only nine years, his father died. After his death, Mandela lived in the house of the head of the tribe for a few years. There his favourite work was to observe the work of the head of the tribe and resolve conflicts among small tribes. Doing this he expressed a desire to become a lawyer some day to prove his merit to do the same.



Nelson Mandela

After completing his studies at Methodist High School, he got admission at Fort Hare College in the town of Alice at East Cape. Following the African tradition at the age of sixteen he along with 25 other friends, prepared himself for his circumcision. According to this tradition, without having been circumcised, one could not be heir of property and work for the tribe. This tradition was a step to become an adult from being a child. Thus with joy and happiness, he embraced this tradition to bear his new identity as an adult.

The chief presenter of the traditional ceremony said with deep sorrow that the young people had been serving the British regime in their own countries for generations because their lands were occupied by the British. For this reason, they never had the opportunity to govern their own countries. He further said that in this way the young would destroy themselves working for the British like stupid people.

Initially Mandela could not understand the meaning of these words. Slowly, after receiving education and coming face to face with bitter experiences of the African situations and persecution, he understood their meaning. Thus, he resolved that he would stand against the neglect, injustice, suffering and persecution of the British and will free his own people.

### **Imprisonment and success**

He played an important role in the "African National Congress (ANC)." He helped in the formation of the youth wing of the ANC. Through this they stood against the injustices of the British for the first time. As a result, he was arrested in 1956 for treachery and then released in 1961. He directed the ANC from 1960 to 1962. In 1962, he was again arrested for treachery and was imprisoned for five years. Again in 1964, he was put into prison for life. During 27 years long imprisonment, his attitude toward apartheid changed. Finally in 1990, President F. W. Clark lifted the embargo against ANC and freed Mandela from imprisonment.

## President Nelson Mandela

Release of Nelson Mandela marked the end of apartheid in South Africa. The laws in the constitutions of the African government that created national discrimination against people, he removed them in 1991. In 1993, he was awarded the Nobel Peace Prize for his role in eliminating discrimination and establishing democracy. Nelson Mandela was elected the first black president of South Africa in May of 1994.

After being elected president his first task was to free the black people from economic and social bondage. By this he wanted to establish equality by restoring their dignity and helping them in their development. Besides, by removing discrimination he also wanted to build a just social and national system of governance. Nelson Mandela is still a source of inspiration for many to this day. He is a source of strength to all human rights movements in the modern world. His personality succeeded in establishing human dignity. Through this, he has become a light of hope in darkness. He is a sign of love in a world of hatred and oppression.

Nelson Mandela is a symbol of timeliness. His waking up at 4:00 am has been a life-long practice. He worked 12 hours every day and bitterly detested indiscipline. He says, "I was present at every event 15 minutes earlier and that made me a different person."

## What we have learned

Despite being born in the midst of oppression and limitations, Nelson Mandela freed his nation from national discrimination. Due to his hard work, merit and endurance, the door of political, social and economic rights has been opened. Today he has become an icon to all human rights, human dignity and equal rights movements.

Reward of good works at the Last Judgment is heaven. Reward of evil deeds is hell. We have learned what we need to do to prepare ourselves for the Last Judgment.

## Planned works

Write ten teachings of Nelson Mandela's life.

## Exercises

### 1. Fill in the gaps.

- a) Nelson Mandela was born in .....
- b) The name of Mandela in Xhosa was .....
- c) Mandela was imprisoned for ..... years.
- d) Due to untiring endeavour of Mandela, the African government dropped all discrimination laws in .....
- e) I have been present at all events ..... minutes earlier.

### 2. Match the left part of the sentence with the right part .

a) Xhosa was	a) in a Methodist High School.
b) Meaning of Rolihlahla is	b) he was imprisoned for life.
c) He reproaches those on the left and	c) he was released.
d) When Nelson was only nine years	d) pull some one down from a branch of a tree.
e) In the month of June in 1964	e) an African language.
	f) his father died .

### 3. Give a tick (✓) mark on the right answer .

#### 3.1 What was the name of Mandela's father?

- |                  |                        |
|------------------|------------------------|
| a) Nocikeni      | b) Xhosa               |
| c) Henry Mandela | d) Gadla Henry Mandela |

3.2 At what age was Nelson Mandela circumcised?

- a) 15 years
- b) 16 years
- c) 17 years
- d) 18 years

3.3 In what year was Nelson Mandela put into prison for life?

- a) 1936
- b) 1950
- c) 1960
- d) 1964

3.4 In what year was Nelson Mandela released from prison?

- a) 1990
- b) 1991
- c) 1992
- d) 1993

3.5 How many hours did Nelson Mandela work in a day?

- a) 8 hours
- b) 10 hours
- c) 12 hours
- d) 14 hours

4. Answer the following short questions.

- a) In which city was Nelson born?
- b) What does circumcision signify?
- c) At what age was Nelson Mandela put into prison?
- d) In what year did Mandela receive the Nobel Peace prize?

5. Answer the following questions.

- a) Write something about Nelson Mandela's childhood.
- b) What was his main goal after being elected the first black president?

## Chapter Fourteen

### THE LAST JUDGMENT

We came into this world by the will of God. We have to leave it when He wants us to do so. God has plans for us. He wants that we may know His plans and follow His path. He expressed His wishes to us through the Bible Jesus, His son, is the way we are to follow. If we follow His wishes, we will receive eternal rewards on the day of judgment.

#### **Meaning of the Last Judgment**

At the end of time God will judge all people and angel. After considering the good and the bad, his pronouncement is what is known as the Last Judgment. Every individual's fate will be decided based on his judgment. On that day, it will be decided who will go to heaven or to hell. In all of the four gospels, especially in Mathew's, this idea has been specifically mentioned. It was said that everybody will be resurrected on that day. At that time, Christ will come to this world with the angels of heaven. He will judge all people. He will reward those worthy of reward and punish those worthy of punishment during that judgment.

#### **Standard of the Last Judgment**

God will judge all people and angels. He gave power to Jesus, His son to judge the people the way they lived and acted out their lives. It is said in the book of revelation: "Then I saw a great white throne and him who was seated on it. The earth and the havens fled from his presence, and there was no place for them. And I saw the dead, great and small, standing before the throne, and books were opened. Another book was opened which is the book of life. The dead were judged according to what they did as recorded in the books." - (Rev.11-12)

After death, all people, small and great, will have to stand before Jesus for judgment.



Last Judgment

Jesus Christ will judge us based on our brotherly love. All deeds - good or bad - are written in the book of life. According to that, people will receive either reward or punishment. In the gospel of Mathew, it is written that on the day of last judgment, the son of man, that is, Jesus Christ, will separate the people into two groups. Like the way sheep and goats are separated, people will also be separated. Those who served the poor and the despised will be compared to the sheep. They will be seated on the right, that is, on the seat of honour. But those who did not serve the poor and the despised will be compared to the goats. They will be seated on the left. Christ will praise those on the right and send them to heaven. There they will live with God in eternal peace. Those on the left, he will

reproach and send them to hell. There they will live with the devil and suffer eternally. The angels who sinned, they will also be judged on the Last Judgment day. In the letter of St. Peter, it is written: "For if God did not spare the angels who sinned, but cast them down to hell and delivered them into chains of darkness, to be reserved for judgment" (2 Peter 2: 4).

### **Preparation for the Last Judgment**

Whether we like it or not, we have to be present for the last Judgment. No one can escape it. Therefore, we need to take preparation for it. Preparation for this starts from Baptism and it continues till the moment before our death. We can prepare ourselves by doing the following:

1. Pray in the morning after rising. Resolve to stay well all day long. Seek God's strength to lead a good life all times.
2. Carry out your responsibilities well.
3. Try to do something good everyday such as feed the hungry, give water to the thirsty, clothe the naked, attend to the sick, etc.
4. Read at least some parts of the Bible.
5. Gather in evening prayer with other family members. If all cannot be present, at least pray by yourself.
6. Examine conscience at night before going to bed. Repent and ask for God's forgiveness for any failures of sin committed during the day. Make promise to God and seek His strength so that no sins are committed in the coming days.

Jesus is our friend. He came into this world to show us the way to heaven. If we follow His path, that is, take heart His precept, we will be rewarded at the Last Judgment.

### **Let us sing**

Whatsoever you do the least of my brothers  
that you do unto me (4).

When I was hungry, you gave me food,  
When I was thirsty, you gave me drink.

## What we have learned

Reward of good works at the Last Judgment is heaven. Reward of evil deeds is hell. We have learned what we need to do to prepare ourselves for the Last Judgment.

## Planned works

Write five standards of the Last Judgment.

## Exercises

### 1. Fill in the gaps .

- God has a ..... for all of us.
- God's son Jesus Christ is the way to .....
- God will judge all people and ..... at the Last Judgment.
- On the day of Last Judgment, the son of man, that is ..... separates people into two groups.
- Read a part of the holy ..... at least once in day.

### 2. Match the left part of the sentence with the right part .

a) Those who are worthy of punishment	a) he will send them to hell .
b) Those who did not serve the poor and the despised	b) we have to be present for the Last Judgment .
c) He reproaches those on the left and	c) will shine like the sun in the Father's Kingdom .
d) Whether we like it or not	d) and crops are destroyed .
e) On that day the pious	e) he will punish them .
	f) compare them with the goats .

**3. Give tick ( $\checkmark$ ) mark on the right answer.**



The End

Academic Year 2025, Class Five–Christian Religion

The power of the tongue is immense.  
One who controls speech is the right person.  
—Sadhu Jakeb, Bible



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