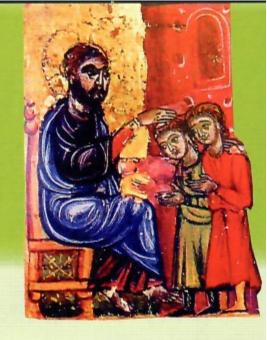


Jesus Made People Feel Better



WE PRAY TOGETHER



Hanoon Hor, yev Vortvo, yev Hokvooyn Srpo.

Dear God, we pray today for the people in the world who are sick or lonely. We feel your love and know that we are never alone. Amen.



OUR LIFE TOGETHER

Mrs. Kaloustian was in a nursing home. Her children lived far away. They could not come to visit her often. Many times you would find her sitting by herself. Sometimes she would get up and look at the family pictures in her room pictures when she was a young girl, pictures of her wedding, pictures of her children. She was filled with memories, but she was lonely.

Sunday was the day

when people came to entertain the residents at the home. One Sunday, children came to visit from a nearby Sunday School. They sang songs, danced and talked to the residents of the home. While they sang, someone noticed that Mrs. Kaloustian sang too. When they danced, Mrs. Kaloustian clapped her hands. And, when some small children went to talk with Mrs. Kaloustian, she hugged them. Mrs. Kaloustian was truly happy. She did not feel alone.

GOD'S WORD TO US

Take your pencil. Put a dot in this box. That dot is about the size of a mustard seed.

One day a man came to Jesus and knelt in front of him. He came to tell Jesus about his son who was very sick. "Help my son," he begged. "Your disciples could not help him."

Jesus prayed for the boy, and gradually he got well. His disciples asked him, "Why couldn't we make the boy feel better?"

Jesus answered, "You could not make the boy feel better because you did not have enough faith. Faith is trusting me and believing what I have taught you. If you have faith, even if it is no larger than a mustard seed, I will always be with you."

Matthew 17:14-21

WE LEARN ABOUT GOD

When Jesus' disciples wanted to know why they couldn't help the sick boy, he explained the answer. Jesus knew that they didn't yet really believe in him and trust him. "Even if you have faith no larger than a mustard seed, I'll always be with you," Jesus said.

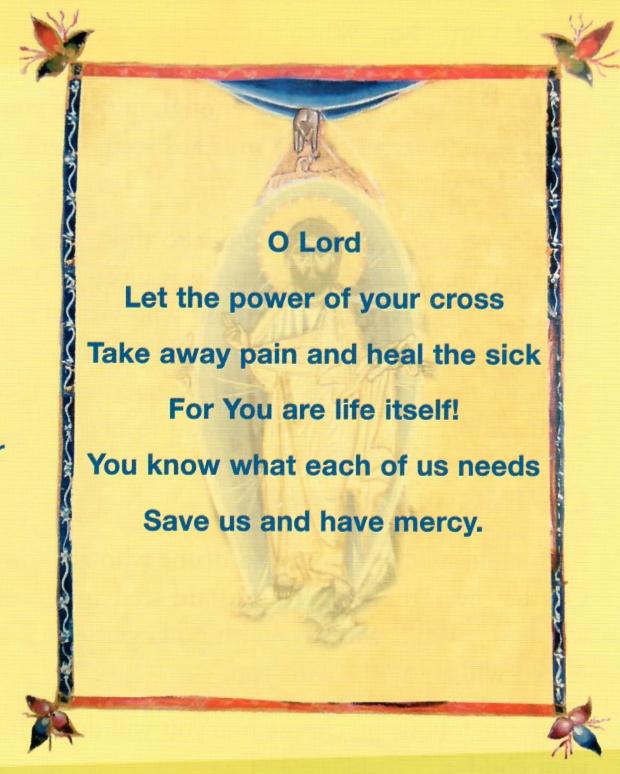


At night, when you go to bed, you say your prayers. What do you say to Jesus? Do you pray for your family? Can you think of others who need your prayers? Can you pray for a neighbor or classmate who may be sick? Can you pray for the children in the world who feel lonely? Can you pray for elderly people like Mrs. Kaloustian who may feel that nobody cares about them?

Jesus hears your prayers because you believe in him. You have faith.

OUR ARMENIAN WAY

This is an Armenian prayer said for someone who is sick.



WE CELEBRATE

Even if you have faith no larger than a mustard seed, I will always be with you.



SHARING OUR FAITH

Our lesson today was about having faith. Jesus healed a little boy. When his disciples asked why they were not able to help him, Jesus answered, "You do not have enough faith. If you have faith no larger than a mustard seed, I will always be with you."

The lesson was also reaching out to those who feel they are alone. An example was given of a group of Sunday School children who visited a local nursing home. A woman, who was alone with her memories, was able to interact with the children, bringing joy to them and to herself.

LIVING OUR FAITH

Each child made a card for someone who is ill or lonely. On the cover, they glued a mustard seed and inside, Jesus' words – "Even if you have faith no larger than a mustard seed, I will always be with you."

From the following, choose one you will do with your child.

- 1. Talk with your child about remembering others in their prayers.
- 2. Encourage your child to make cards for someone who is lonely, for someone who is sick, for a happy birthday, for a baptism, for a wedding.

