

*about Sam Armenian* (or make up a name-a fictitious person). The student will say that they don't know anything about this person because they don't know them. Ask: "Why did the first four volunteers know and say so much? (Because they are family, they talk to each other, they spend time together.) How would our 5<sup>th</sup> volunteer get to know "Sam Armenian"? How about God? How do we get to know him? Through prayer, as it is our way of talking to God, reading the Bible, attending church and Sunday School. Any other ideas?" Have class complete the sentences in the **Let's Discover** section. 10 min.

3. Have students take turns reading **Our Story**. Ask the class if this story sounds familiar. Show them a cell phone and cell phone charger. Ask them if they know what to look for when it needs to be charged. (A flashing battery icon or it stops working, etc.) Ask the class what Rose meant by needing a recharger—have them write their answer (and the next) on the lesson page. (She is tired, too much to do, needs rest, etc.) How can Armen help his mom recharge? (Have her put her feet up, help with the chores, keep all of the chargers in order, offer her a refreshment, talk to dad about taking mom to a movie, vacation, etc.)

4. **God's Word**. Assign each Scripture reading to a student. Have the students guess who the readings are referring to. (Jesus) 10 min.

5. Read **We Learn About God**. Ask students why they think Jesus prayed to his Father. After all, he was God's Son, he could do anything! Survey their responses. Refer to the second paragraph. (If possible, try to arrange a visit into church for the deacon's refrain of "again in peace let us pray to the Lord" or show a You Tube clip of this part of the Badarak.) 5 min.

6. Read **Our Armenian Way** and introduce the **Faith Words**. Let the students know that there are several active Armenian monasteries in Jerusalem, Etchmiadzin and Antelias (Lebanon), to name a few. Draw their attention to the clock and have them write the number of the service on the clock. Suggested times for guidance (does not need to be exact, just an approximation: *sunrise-6:00 a.m.; morning-9:00 a.m.; midday-noon; evening-4:00p.m.; night-7:00 p.m.; peace-9:00 p.m.; rest-midnight.*) 10 min.

#### 7. **Handmade With Love**

- Have students trace their one hand with closed fingers onto black paper and cut out. It will be a silhouette of one praying hand.
- Have them write on the 4 x4 white paper: P R A Y in a vertical manner and then write a short acrostic prayer- refer to example in the lesson.
- Student will glue wax paper to frame and then lightly glue tissue paper on top. The praying hand can then be glued in the center with acrostic prayer on top of the hand.

8. Have students clean-up. Close with the Hayr Mer as a class, as it is the prayer that Jesus taught us. 25 min.



## Unit Two: Jesus & Me

### Lesson Three: Day and Night

#### Key Concepts

- We are called to pray morning, noon and night.
- The Armenian Church prays in morning (matins) and evening (vespers) services.

## Objectives

During this lesson students will

1. List their daily schedule to see if there is a time for prayer.
2. Read and discuss the story of Daniel in the Lion's Den.
3. Read Psalm 55:17 about praying morning, noon, and evening.
4. Explore the concept of prayer as talking with God at any time and with any feeling.
5. Compose simple, free verse prayers for morning, noon and night.
6. Learn about how the Armenian Church prays mornings and evenings.
7. Create a craft based on Daniel's story of faithful prayer.

## Materials Needed

Assorted construction paper for background

Index cards (3x5) preferably white or light in color for students to write

Crayons, markers or coloring pencils

Either one of the coloring handouts at the back of this manual OR plain white paper/construction for children to draw their own depiction of Daniel and the Lions' Den.

Glue sticks

## Procedure

1. Greet students warmly and open class with the prayer in **We Pray Together**.
2. Read the first paragraph of **Let's Discover**. Share your own daily schedule as an example; then have children complete the chart. Ask students to share their timeline. Discuss the questions concerning prayer. 10 min.
3. Introduce **Our Story** by asking if they have heard the story of Daniel in the Lion's Den. Have children take turns reading the story and then complete the comprehension questions. Answers: (pleased, tricked, three, prayed, save, mouth, lions, praised).
4. **God's Word**: Ask for a volunteer to read the Scripture passage and another to answer the question (God). 15 min.
5. Read **We Learn About God**. Help students compose three prayers on their page. The first line for each has been done for them. You might start by giving your own example, such as. *Dear God, Thank you for a good night's sleep and this beautiful morning. Help me to learn in school today and to be a good friend. Amen.* Hopefully there will be time enough to have students share one of their prayers with the class. 10 min.
6. Read **Our Armenian Way** and introduce the **Faith Words**. Let the students know that on Sunday mornings before Divine Liturgy, there is a morning ("matins") prayer service. Encourage the class to come early one of the Sundays and attend the service. Also mention that at church camps, morning and evening services are often held. 5 min.
7. **Handmade With Love**
  - a. Distribute index cards. Have students imagine they are Daniel and have them write the prayer they think he would have prayed while in the lion's den.
  - b. In advance, decide to either have students draw their own depiction of Daniel in the lion's den or have them color one of the attached sheets or something similar.
  - c. Have students select a background color of construction paper and have them glue their drawing and their prayer card to the paper.
  - d. If time, have students show their art work and read their prayers to the class.
8. Clean-up. Close with the prayer: "Dear Heavenly Father, thank you for your amazing love for us. We pray to you morning, noon and night thanking you for your gifts. Amen." 20 min.