



.....So that you surely

Rejoice!



Fifth & Sixth Grades



Rejoice!

Deuteronomy 16:15



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Table of Contents

Grades 5-6



My Joy comes from the Lord	6
My Joy is Living by His Commandments	23
My Joy is ever lasting when I am With Him	35
My Joy is the Proper Behavior that is Fit for His Heaven	43
Jesus Teaches Me How to Praise	57
Memorization	62
Coptic	66
Hymns	87



Rejoice!

Deuteronomy 16:15

The Key of Joy

Hello friends,

Let me introduce myself. My name is Thomas and this is my sister Kristin; together, we worked on making a phone app which shows people the true meaning of joy. With the help of our beloved Sunday school teacher, Mark, and his friend Macarius, we started to implement the idea.

I decided to write down the stages of its implementation as a reminder of what we needed to do to accomplish our goal. Please join us on this new adventure, and you'll learn the most beautiful stories in our KERAZA!

Our theme this year is: *“So that you surely REJOICE”*.

1. The Holy Spirit

In this lesson we will get to know who is the Holy Spirit?

And how can we be filled with Him? Thus we will learn the true meaning of joy,

*My Joy Comes
from the Lord*



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2-The Epistle of Saint Paul to the Philippians

We will learn how St. Paul lived a life of true joy.

My Joy is When I Live His Commandments.

St Moses the Strong

From his story we will learn that living with God through repentance is the source of joy.

My Joy Lasts as Long as I live with Him

4-Tobias and the Archangel Raphael

You will get to see that any help we give to others can be a cause of joy for us and for them,

My Joy is a Behavior fit for His Heaven

5-Joy of the Righteous

My Joy is in My prayer



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Thomas: Summer vacation started, and with it starts all kinds of fun activities. Some people do research, some do reports, but in fact, I am noticing two strange things;

- The first is the strong connection between children and their cell phones, with all the games and applications. Children seem to spend a very long time on their phones.

- The second thing I have noticed this summer is that most people seem unhappy!

With my sister, Kristin, and our Sunday school servant, Uncle Mark, we began our adventure this year. We will try to solve these two problems.



6

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Uncle Mark: You are right, Thomas. Many people are noticing these problems too!

Kristin: How about if we try to solve one problem at a time.

Thomas: I was hoping we could solve them both at the same time.

Uncle Mark: What do you have in mind, Thomas?

Thomas: Maybe we can develop a Joyful App to help cheer people up.

Kristin: Great idea! A Joyful Application on the cell phone!

Uncle Mark: What content do you want to deliver on this app?

Thomas: That's where I'll need your help, Mark! I know you have a lot of knowledge about software, and you can also teach us about true joy.

Uncle Mark: I'm very happy you are thinking about how to make others happy. I want you to understand that in order for someone to be joyful, they must be filled with the Holy Spirit.

Kristin: How can we be filled with the Holy Spirit?

Uncle Mark: Let's do the sign of the cross and start our discussion. I will explain to you who the Holy Spirit is and how we can be filled with Him.



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The Holy Spirit

Uncle Mark: "In the name of the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, One God."

The Father is God, the Son is God and the Holy Spirit is God, not three Gods but one God and that's our belief about the Holy Trinity.



The Lord revealed to us that He is one God in three Persons (Hypostases) through the Bible, in both the Old Testament and the New Testament.



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Memory Verse

*"The Lord our God, the Lord is one."
(Deuteronomy 6:4)*

Memory Verse

*"For there are three that bear witness in heaven: the Father,
the Word, and the Holy Spirit; and these three are one."
(1John 5:7)*

There are some analogies through which the dogma of the Holy Trinity can be explained. Not that any analogy can compare to the Holy Trinity, but it does help us understand the dogma (belief).

The Sun

The sun is a physical element, light and heat.

- The sun itself – it is in space, and the planets revolve around it.
- Sunlight – it illuminates the world for us.
- The heat of the sun - it gives us the warmth.

Through this analogy we can understand that the Blessed and **Holy Trinity is our One God.**

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Deuteronomy 16:15

The Sun is different from the heat and from the light, but it's all one sun.

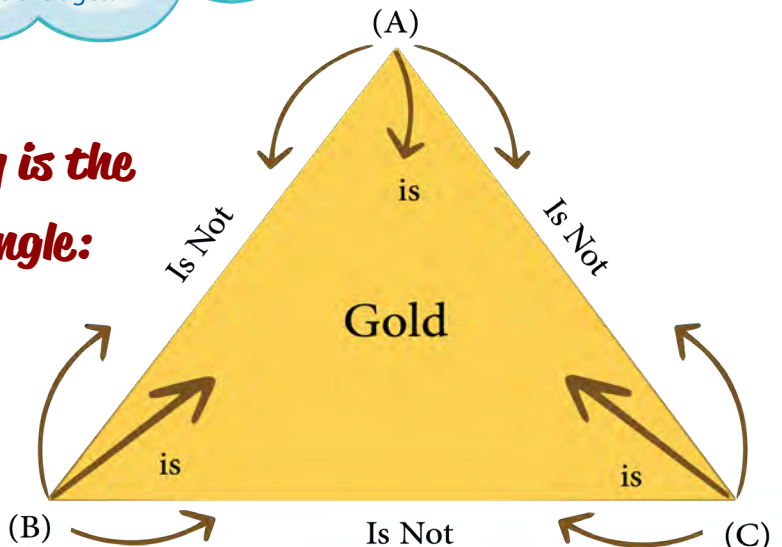
Through this, we understand that the Father is different from the Son and the Holy Spirit, but they are all One God.

Hence, we understand that the Father never existed without the Son or the Holy Spirit. That is, the three Persons (hypostasis) existed together from eternity and forever.

It never happened that the sun existed without the heat or light. There is no separation between the sun, its bright light and its heat.

This shows that the Father never existed without the Son or the Holy Spirit. The three Hypostases existed since before the ages.

Another Analogy is the Equilateral Triangle:



10

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Uncle Mark:

How many vertices does the triangle have?

Kristin:

3 (A), (B), (C)

Uncle Mark:

This means it is one triangle with 3 vertices. In a similar way, **the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit** are 3 Persons (hypostasis), **One God**. Is any angle bigger than the others?

Thomas: No, it is an equilateral triangle. So all the angles and the sides are equal. $A=B=C$.

Uncle Mark: Are there any angles separated from the triangle?

Kristin: Of course not, all the angles are connected to each other.

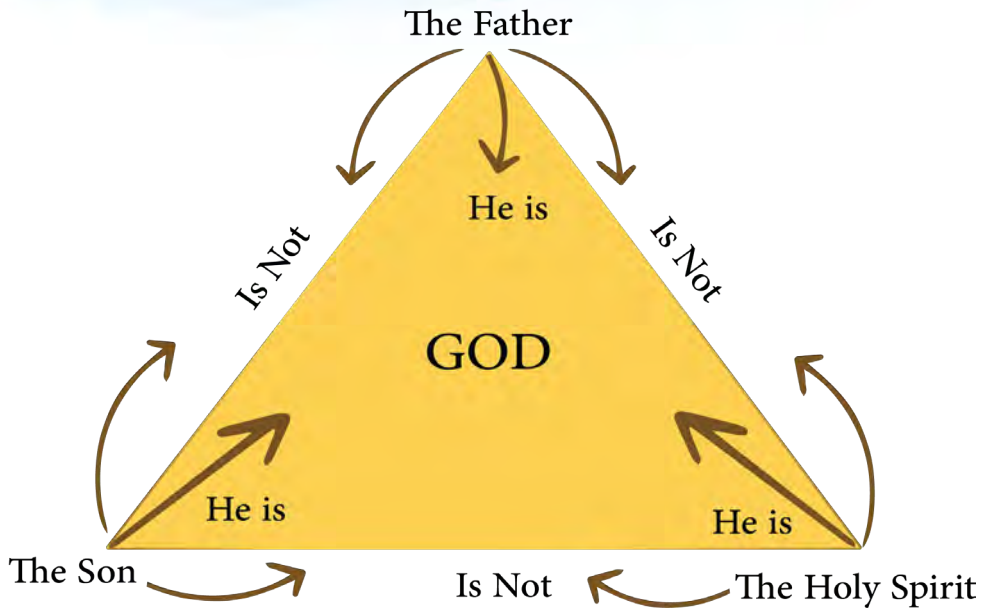
Uncle Mark: Hence, we understand that the Father = the Son= the Holy Spirit, there is no greater or lesser hypostasis. They are all equal and have the same Divine Nature, one essence. None of the angles are separated from the rest. This tells us that the Hypostases are united to each other; from before the ages and forever.

Uncle Mark:

I have an important question, can we say that vertex A is the same as vertex B and vertex C?

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Deuteronomy 16:15



Thomas: Definitely not, vertex (A) is not vertex (B) or vertex (C), but why do you ask this question?

Uncle Mark: Let me explain, although the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit are equal in essence, the Father is not the Son, and not the Holy Spirit. Each Person has characteristics that distinguish Him from the other Hypostasis. So, the Father is the origin or source, the Son is begotten (born) of the Father, and the Holy Spirit proceeds (comes forth) from the Father.

As we say in the Creed: "We believe in one Lord Jesus Christ, the Only-Begotten Son of God, begotten of the Father before all ages; Light of



Light, true God of true God, begotten not created, of one essence with the Father, by whom all things were made; Who for us men and for our salvation came down from heaven, and was incarnate of the Holy Spirit. Yes, we believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the Life-Giver, Who proceeds from the Father”

Kristin: Ok Uncle Mark, I think I understand now.

- The Father is God. He is the Origin and the Source.
- The Son is God. He is the Only Begotten of the Father.
- The Holy Spirit is God. He proceeds from the Father.

Uncle Mark: Excellent! Ok, so far we have covered the first question; Who is the Holy Spirit?

Kristin and **Thomas:** He is God.

Uncle Mark: Bravo! and our Bible shows us that the Holy Spirit is God. We will find many verses making it clear to us that the Holy Spirit is God through His actions and traits.



Attributes of the Holy Spirit:

- **The Holy Spirit is Creator:** “The Spirit of God has made me” (Job 33:4). Of course this is one example, but there are many more that show that the Holy Spirit is Creator.



- **The Holy Spirit is Omniscient** – all knowing
 - o “For the Spirit searches all things, yes, the deep things of God. ... Even so no one knows the things of God except the Spirit of God” (1 Cor 2:10-12).

- **The Holy Spirit is Omnipresent** – present everywhere
 - o “Where can I go from Your Spirit? Or where can I flee from Your presence?” (Psalm 139:7)

- **The Holy Spirit is Omnipotent** – all powerful
 - o “Not by might nor by power, but by My Spirit,’ Says the Lord of hosts” (Zechariah 4:6).

Thomas: Now we know that The Holy Spirit is God. He is one of the Three Hypostases. How can I be filled with the Holy Spirit so I can be joyful?

Uncle Mark: Let me tell you.



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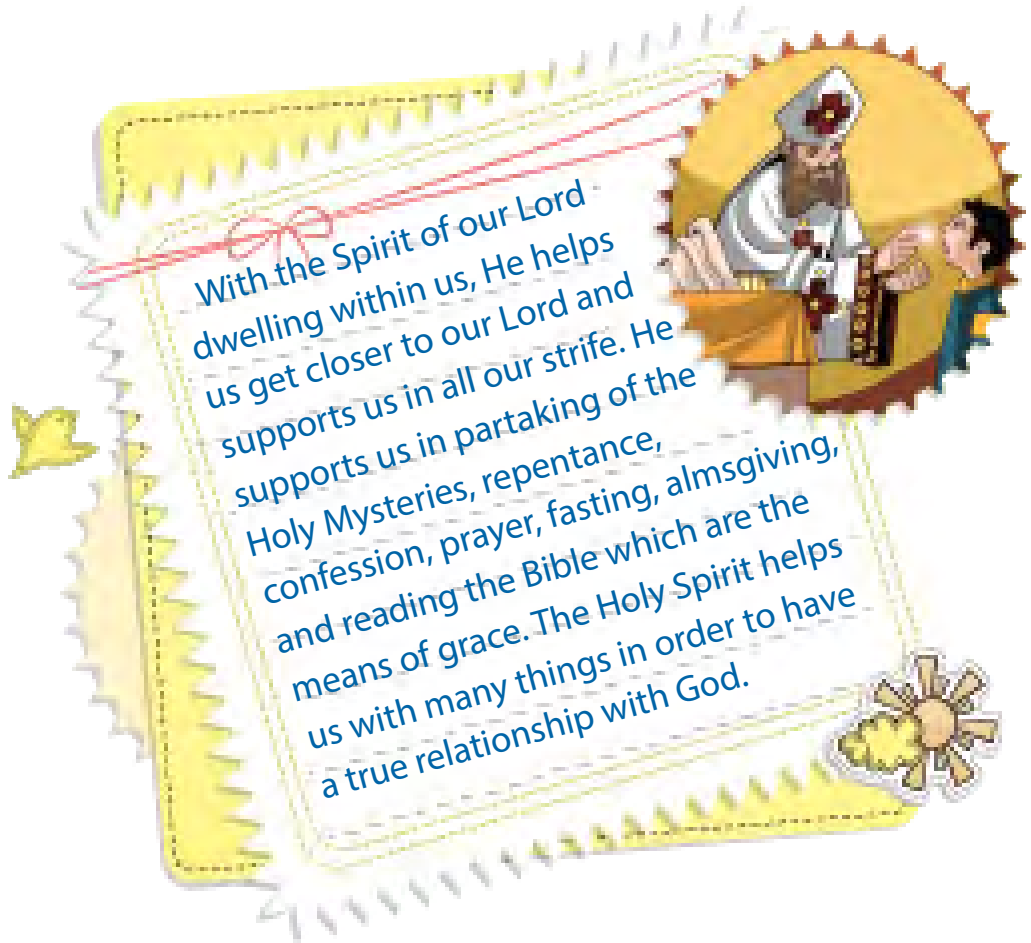
Each one of us believes in our Lord Jesus that He is God incarnate and we were baptized in the name of the Holy Trinity. We praise Him in the name of the Holy Trinity to become children child of God and receive the Holy Spirit through the sacrament of Baptism.



Once we are baptized, the Holy Spirit of God abides within us through the sacrament of Chrismation when Abouna anoints us with the Myron oil 36 times. This means that we are a temple for the dwelling of the Holy Spirit. We are sanctified and dedicated to our Lord, which means that we belong to Him. We must live in purity and virtue throughout our lives.

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Deuteronomy 16:15



With the Spirit of our Lord dwelling within us, He helps us get closer to our Lord and supports us in all our strife. He supports us in partaking of the Holy Mysteries, repentance, confession, prayer, fasting, almsgiving, and reading the Bible which are the means of grace. The Holy Spirit helps us with many things in order to have a true relationship with God.

Uncle Mark: There is another important point I'd like you to know.



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The more we continue to get closer to God, the more our spiritual life will grow, and be filled with the Holy Spirit and the fruits of the Holy Spirit will begin to appear in us.

"Be filled with the Spirit" (Ephesians 5:18)

If we neglect working on our relationship, then the Holy Spirit will not work within us.

The Bible said:

"Do not quench the Spirit" (1 Thessalonians 5:19).

We should take care not to become like the five foolish virgins.



17

Do you remember the parable that our Lord Jesus told us about the wise and foolish virgins?

Kristin: The five wise virgins were ready and they took oil in their vessels with their lamps, meaning their lamps were filled with oil, and they also stored oil in the vessels.



Uncle Mark: Good! This means being filled with the Holy Spirit. The oil symbolizes the work of the Holy Spirit in us.

Thomas: But the five foolish virgins were unprepared, because they took their lamps, but they did not bring extra oil with them. They were not ready with extra oil, and therefore their lamps were about to be extinguished.

Uncle Mark: Exactly! The intended meaning is that they did not strive, and therefore they extinguished the Holy Spirit of God in them.

I have an example to help you understand this; It's like when you have a cell phone, as long as you are connected to the electricity source, it will be charged. But when we disconnect it from the power source, and use it, the power will decrease. Then we will have to reconnect it to the charging source, so that it can be recharged.



If we compare the cell phone's connection to the electricity source to our permanent connection with Our Lord, then we can understand that we need to be constantly connected to God who is the source of our life. Therefore, every human being, in order to be like the wise virgins, needs to be in constant contact with the Lord via a permanent link. This link is our relationship. That is how the fruits of the Holy Spirit can shine within us.

Thomas: Now I understood how to be filled with the Holy Spirit and be joyful.



Kristin: You said that when we are full of the Holy Spirit, His fruits shine in us. I wonder, what are the fruits of the Holy Spirit in us?

Uncle Mark: When the Spirit of our Lord dwells in us, and we allow Him to work within us, the fruits of the Holy Spirit appear. They grow because of our fellowship with the Spirit of our Lord. God gave each one of us the freedom to willingly choose to respond and follow His voice. Our teacher Paul the Apostle explained to us the fruits of the Spirit in his letter to the Galatians;

Rejoice!

Deuteronomy 16:15

Memory Verse

“But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, long suffering, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, self-control.”
(Galatians 5:22-23)

Each fruit of the Holy Spirit is linked to other fruits because our spiritual life is all linked together. One of the fruits of the Holy Spirit is joy. When we are filled with the Holy Spirit, we will always be happy because true joy comes from the Holy Spirit. With God, we will have many reasons to be joyful and happy:

- We are joyful because of His sacrifice for us and His salvation.
- We are joyful with God’s open arms for every sinner who repents.
- We are joyful because He defeated Satan and gave us victory.
- We are joyful through the services God allows us to partake in.
- We are joyful with God’s words and promises in the Bible.
- We are joyful with Heaven and eternity at the end of our life on earth. Nothing can take away His joy from us.

Mar Isaac the Syrian said, “When the soul is filled with the fruits of the Spirit, it completely gets rid of depression and distress and puts on peace and joy in God.”

Kristin: I will do my best and try not to grieve (sadden) the Spirit of God by sin

20

or by disobeying His voice within me, so that I may be filled with the Holy Spirit and rejoice in the Lord. This way, I will always remain happy.

Thomas: Now, our job is to introduce all our friends to everything we learned through our new Joyful App. The first tab in the application will introduce the information. Uncle Mark, can we write all the information under the first tab? Then we will create an activity based on the information the users have read. I have an idea for the activity.

Kristin: The activity is so fun! I have updated the first tab in the game with it, it's all ready to go. The only thing we need to do now is give it a good title. Let's think together, what should we call it? This tab in the Joy App is about how to be filled with the Holy Spirit so that we can be happy.

Thomas: We know that true joy comes from our Lord. Can we name the first tab "My joy comes from God?"

Kristin: That's so perfect! But we need to add more content. It needs more than one activity to help the users learn that true joy comes from God.

Uncle Mark: That's a nice idea, but it will take a lot of time to collect more information.



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Deuteronomy 16:15

Thomas: We will try to ask our friends for help with searching appropriate information to fill in the tab.

Kristin: We can also ask our servants in the church to help us. I will send them an email immediately.



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Deuteronomy 16:15



Both Kristin and Thomas were very eager to finish making the new application. So, they agreed to meet after the Liturgy. They prayed asking for God's help and after the Liturgy they went to the technology room in the church to meet Uncle Mark.

Uncle Mark: Live and pray, Uncle Mark!

Thomas and **Kristin:** May you live and pray, Uncle Mark.

Thomas: I see you already started to work on the app.

Uncle Mark: I wanted to try it, to make sure that it's working well.

Kristin: I can tell from your smile that it's working great.

Uncle Mark: Unfortunately, we have a problem. I got an error message. There may be a problem with the coding. This might slow us down.

Kristin: What can we do now?

Uncle Mark: Don't worry, I will ask my friend Macarius. He is a programmer, and he will probably be able to solve the problem.



Kristin: How can you be so calm, Uncle Mark? How can you keep a smile in the midst of a problem?

Thomas: Why worry, Kristin? Every problem has a solution. The right thing to do is to keep our peace no matter what the circumstances are.

Kristin: How can we be calm and rejoice when we have a problem? That seems way too difficult!

Thomas: Kristin, in our lives, it is possible that God may allow us to go through hardships and problems. But everything that happens is allowed by Him and if for a good reason. Even the things that cause hardship for us, it will be for our good. We should always be happy in all circumstances. Our Bible, Kristin, is filled with examples of so many characters who lived through many tribulations and God carried them through.



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Deuteronomy 16:15

Kristin: Like who?

Thomas: One example is my intercessor, Saint Paul the Apostle.

. I will tell you all about him.



Saint Paul the Apostle and His Epistle to the Philippians

• He wrote more than **half the books** of the New Testament; **14 epistles**.

• **Christ** appeared to him personally and called him to the faith.

• Our church calls him "**The Philosopher of Christianity**" because he gave a clear explanation of our beliefs.

• **St. Paul the Apostle** is the first to preach to the gentiles. He introduced to them our Lord Jesus; that is why he is called "**The Apostle of to the Gentiles**."

Thomas: Saint Paul was born in Tarsus. St. Paul had a Greek education, and a Roman citizenship. His religion was Jewish.



He was from the tribe of Benjamin, from the sect of the Pharisees, a strict Jewish group. As is the custom of many Jews, he had two names: a Hebrew name, Saul, which means “asked” and a Greek name, Paul, which means “little/small.” He came to Jerusalem as a young man and he was taught by Gamaliel, the greatest Jewish teacher.



At the beginning, Saint Paul persecuted Christians. He believed that what he was doing was pleasing to God. At the time of the stoning of St. Stephen,

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Deuteronomy 16:15



He guarded the clothes of those who stoned him.

St. Paul continued in these ways until the most important day in the life of our teacher came. The Lord Jesus Himself

appeared to Paul while on his way to Damascus to arrest the Christians there. Paul heard a voice saying to him, "Saul, Saul, why are you persecuting me?" He answered him, "Who are you, my Lord?" And he said to him, "I am Jesus, whom you are persecuting." At that time, he said to him, "Lord, what do you want me to do?" (Acts:9 1-9).

Jesus told Paul to go to Ananias in Damascus and he would give him more instructions about what he should do. Indeed, Paul went to Ananias but he



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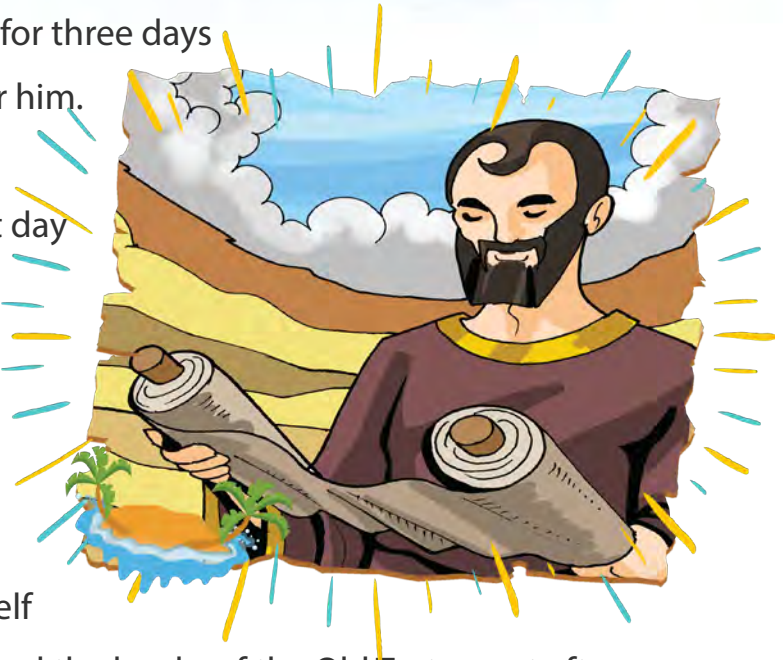
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could not see anything for three days until Ananias prayed for him.

Then Saint Paul was baptized, and from that day his whole life changed.

After St. Paul accepted the faith and before he began his service, he spent 3 years in the Arabian desert by himself

to re-read and understand the books of the Old Testament after knowing the Lord Christ (Galatians 1:16-17). After his retreat, he returned to Damascus and began preaching in the synagogues about



our Lord Jesus Christ, the Son of God.

He was subjected to persecution from the Jews, but he continued to serve the Lord. Our teacher Paul made three missionary trips during which he wrote 14 epistles for us in the New Testament.

During his ministry, Saint Paul was



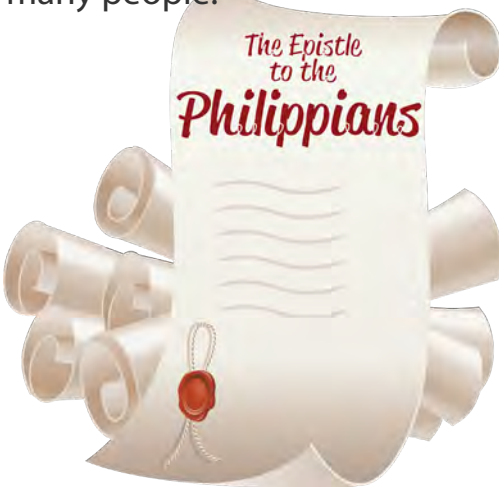
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Deuteronomy 16:15



arrested for preaching the name of Jesus. He went to Caesar of Rome for trial, where he was forced to stay alone with the soldier who was guarding him in a house that Paul rented for himself for two years (Acts 28:16-31). He was chained

with the soldier assigned to guard him, but he was allowed to receive people at his house. During his imprisonment, he preached and taught many people.



Despite the imprisonment of St. Paul, he was a role model for the Christian people as he always lived a life of true joy. During his imprisonment, he wrote 4 epistles: Ephesians, Philippians, Colossians, and Philemon. We call them Prison Epistles. He lived a joyful life regardless of what happened to him.

The Apostle Paul learned to always rejoice in the Lord. His letter to the Philippians had a very joyful tone. Our Lord commands us through Saint Paul's words,



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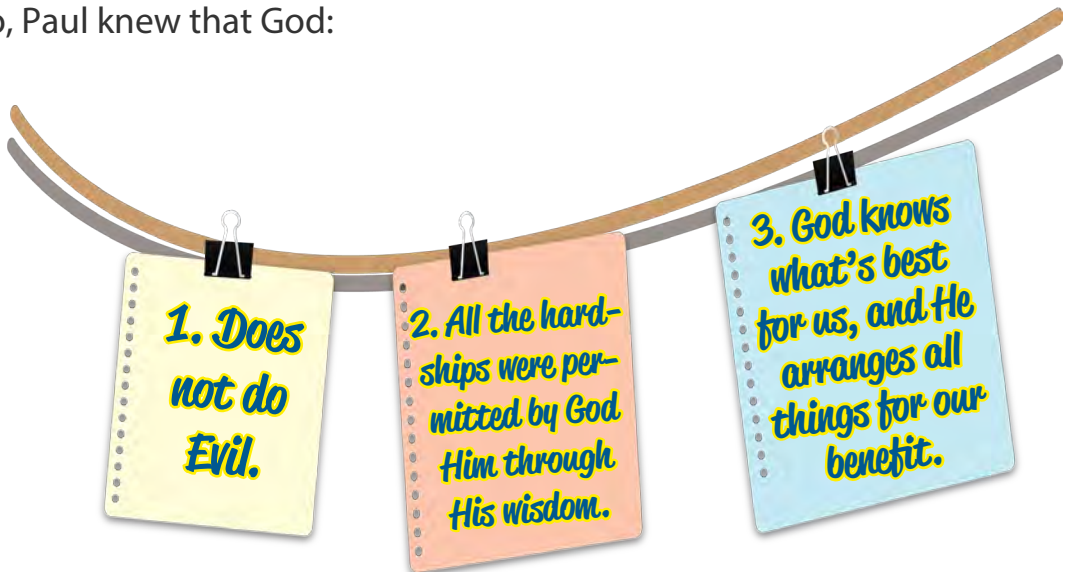
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Memory Verse

*"Rejoice in the Lord always. Again, I will say, rejoice!"
(Philippians 4:4)*

Kristin: Is it even possible that he was joyful while held captive and in prison?

Thomas: Yes! Because he knows that God is Almighty, the Pantocrator. Also, Paul knew that God:



Kristin: Now I understand why Uncle Mark was not upset about the error message on the app.

Thomas: Kristin, this is the way our Lord deals with us. He may allow us to go through tough times, but He gives us comfort during our troubles. He is with us through everything. Every true Christian is always joyful.

Kristin: Because we are confident that God is with us at all times, and that He is the Pantocrator.



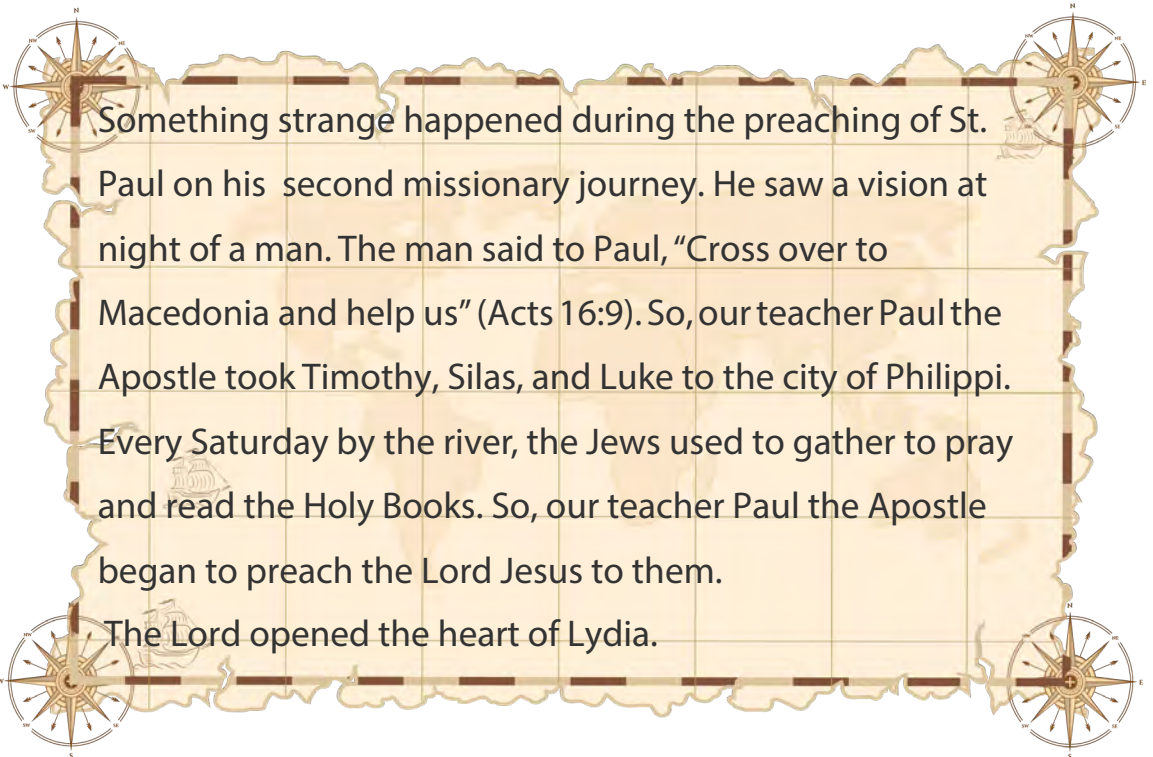
Thomas: Perfect! Kristin, If you read the epistle of our teacher Paul to the Philippians, you will find it full of the spirit of joy and happiness. The word “joy” with its many forms was repeated in the epistle about 16 times.

Kristin: Is that really true?

Thomas: Bring your Bible over, Kristin. Let’s read together, I will show you.

Kristin: What happened in the city of Philippi?

Thomas:



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Indeed, Lydia was the first woman in Philippi to believe in the Lord Jesus, and she and her whole household were baptized.



Lydia invited our teacher Paul the Apostle and those with him to enter her house and hosted them. Philippi became the first church established in Europe.

Kristin: But why did St. Paul the Apostle write his epistle to the Philippians?

Uncle Mark: When the Philippians heard of the imprisonment of Paul the Apostle in Rome, they sent him a servant from among them with gifts and supplies. The servant spent some time serving Saint Paul during his imprisonment in Rome. But something happened to this servant. Let's open the Epistle to Philippians 2:25-30. These verses will help you understand what happened.



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Deuteronomy 16:15

Help Kristin answer the following questions:

What is the name of the servant the Philippians sent to serve St Paul the Apostle?

How did Saint Paul describe him?

What happened to that servant?

Why did the Apostle Paul send him back?

Thomas: Great job, Kristin. St. Paul wrote this epistle to the Philipians in order to:

- **Thank them for their gifts.** (Philippians 1:3-5), (Philippians 4:10-19)
- **To send Epaphroditus back to assure them of his wellbeing.** (Philippians 2:25-30)
- **To reassure them of his own wellbeing.** (Philippians 1:12-26), (Philippians 4:11-13, 18)
- **To encourage them remain joyful in all circumstances.** (Philippians 3-to encourage them to joy in all. Circumstances (Philippians 1:27-30, 4:4)

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Kristin: Thomas, let's check all the verses that discuss joy in the epistle.

Thomas: Good idea!



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Deuteronomy 16:15



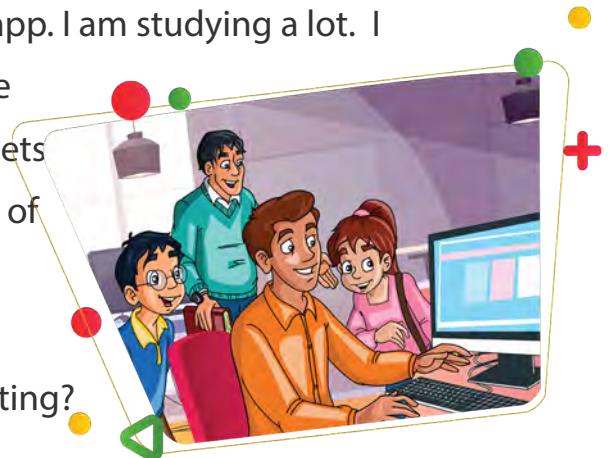
Uncle Mark returned with his friend Uncle Macarius, and they were able to identify the wrong code in the App. The problem was successfully resolved, and the work resumed with greater enthusiasm.

Kristin and Thomas asked Uncle Mark to add the third tab to the application, and they told him the reason for adding it was to learn how to stay joyful during hardships like Saint Paul. Uncle Mark agreed to the idea.

Thomas: I am so happy that we are going to continue our work. Thank you, Uncle Macarius for solving the problem. You are very smart. Thank you!

Uncle Macarius: I love working with programming and software. That is why I am enjoying the work on this app. I am studying a lot. I try to learn something every day. The smart man, Thomas, is the one who lets everything he does glorify the name of the Lord. This way his joy can be everlasting.

Thomas: What do you mean everlasting?



35

Kristin: Is there continuous joy and joy that is not complete?

Uncle Macarius: Of course! Any joy far from our Lord, will be a non-continuous joy. It will last for a short while and then it will end. There are examples of many people who thought that their joy would be away from God. After they tried everything, they discovered that true joy is in eternal life with our Lord. A good example is saint Moses the Strong. When he recognized the evil things he was doing, he changed his ways. He started to do good things to fill his heart with joy. When he changed his behavior, he made everyone else happy too. Let me read his wonderful story.



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Deuteronomy 16:15

Saint Moses the Strong Synaxarion July first

Macarius: At first, he did not know God. He was a slave to a family that worshiped the sun. Moses was a dark-skinned young man. He had a large and strong body. Moses used to do many bad things. No one was able to fight with him because he was very strong. Saint Moses, alongside his friends did evil things. Even though Moses was very strong, but he was not joyful. He wanted to know the True God. He used to pray saying, "O God, whom I do not know, show Yourself to me."



And one day he heard a voice saying, "If you want to know the true God, go to the monks in the wilderness of Scetis. The word Scetis is a Coptic word meaning

the "Scale of Hearts" it is the area of Valley of al-Natrun, Egypt.

Kristin: Did Moses go?

Macarius: Yes! Moses did. He left everything behind and went to the wilderness of Scetis to learn about who the True God is, and there he met Abba Isidore. Moses told him that he was coming to learn about the True God. Abba Isidore sent Moses to Abba Macarius the Great, who taught Moses about our Lord from His birth to His resurrection.

Moses found out that what he was doing was so evil and did not make God happy. Moses decided that he will never do these evil things ever again. Moses repented from all his heart and decided not to do it again. He confessed all his sins out loud in the church. At that time, Abba Macarius saw something amazing when Moses finished his confession.



Kristin: What did he see?



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Deuteronomy 16:15

Macarius: He saw a board with black writing on it. Each time Moses confessed a sin, the angel erased it from the board. When Moses finished his confession, the whole board became white.

Kristin: Does this mean that the Lord accepted his repentance. Could this be possible that after doing all these evil things, God accepted him, and forgave all his sins?

Macarius: Of course! God always accepts the repentance of anyone that admits his mistake, and asks Him to help him not to do it again. The whole heaven rejoices when a sinner comes back and confesses his sins. Just like what the verse says

Memory Verse

*“There will be more joy in heaven
over one sinner who repents”
(Luke 15:7).*

39

God forgives every sin we confess. He promised and said, "If we confess our sins, He is faithful and just to forgive us our sins..." (1John1:9).

Kristin: You mean, if anyone does something wrong, and apologizes for it, repents and confesses it, God will forgive him?

Macarius: of course! Our Lord, out of His great love, delights greatly when we confess our mistakes.

Kristin: Can you tell me what happened to Moses after that?

Macarius: After that, Moses was baptized and became a monk. Moses' whole life changed because he found the true joy that he was looking for. Through prayer, fasting and reading the Holy Bible, he developed a strong relationship with God.

As he got closer to Jesus, he started using his power to help everyone.



When the older monks go to sleep, Saint Moses took their water pots and filled it from the well which was very far away from the monastery. This made him happy and the people around him happy too.

Kristin: When Moses learned about the Lord Jesus, he used his strength to serve others instead of bullying other people.

Macarius: That is exactly what happened, Bibo. He was happy and made everyone happy too. Saint Moses was not just kind to his brothers the monks, but also to the people that were trying to hurt him.

One time Saint Moses was in his cell (room). A group of thieves came to attack him. Saint Moses took them and tied them together with a robe and led them to the church so the monks can punish them. The monks told him to deal with them.

Kristin: For sure Saint Moses punished them.



Macarius: If this had happened before he knew God, for sure he would have punished them. But as I told you, when we

live with God our hearts will be full of love and joy for everyone. That is why Saint Moses forgave them, and hosted them. When the thieves found out that he was Moses their friend, who was an evil thief before, they were very surprised at how his life has changed. This made them repent of all their evil deeds. Their whole life changed when they repented and tasted the meaning of true joy in knowing our Lord.

Saint Moses lived happily with his knowledge and with his life with our Lord who made him live in joy all the time.

Saint Moses the Strong lived his life joyful with the Lord and this made him rejoice all the time. Saint Moses took the crown of martyrdom, and the church celebrates his martyrdom day on July first. His Blessed body is in the monastery of the Virgin Mary, Al-Paramos, in Valley of Al-Natrun.



Rejoice!

Deuteronomy 16:15



With every progress in the implementation of this application, real joy is felt among the team. They all strived to reach the true meaning of joy for everyone who accesses this application. While they were working,

Thomas had an idea. They talked about all the previous tabs of joy in the app but they were missing one concept.

Thomas: We discussed joy in many aspects, but my idea is to include a tab about how to make others happy? And if I make others happy, as a result will I be happy too?

Kristin: Your idea is beautiful, Thomas, and it may help if our friends participate with us in making the application, so that the application will come out even better.

Thomas: We can think of role models of people who knew how to make others happy. And from them, we can learn how to make others happy.



Kristin: I know a story that can help explain the new tab for the users. Instead of reading the story, they can watch a video by clicking the tab.

Thomas: Whose story is it?

Kristin: The story of Tobias and the Archangel Raphael.

Uncle Mark: It's a really nice story!

Kristin: Tobit, whose name means "God is blessed", his wife Hannah, and their son Tobias.



Tobit and his family always obeyed God's commandments, and Tobit raised his son to follow God. He taught him to always carry out all of God's commandments. Tobit used to help all the people and make them happy. He and his family were living in safety until the captivity of the Assyrian kingdom happened. The Assyrians took Tobit and his family and moved them to Nineveh. Despite the fact that Tobit and his family were taken captive to a strange city that did not worship their God, they decided to live by the teachings of the Lord, and preserved their love for the Lord by following His commandments. The Lord gave Tobit grace in the eyes of the king of Assyria.

Rejoice!

Deuteronomy 16:15

The king gave him the freedom to do whatever he needed.



So, Tobit was helping the needy, and he taught the commandments of our Lord to his people.

Unfortunately, the king who loved Tobit died and his son came after him. The new king was persecuting the people of Israel and killing them. Tobit

performed many acts of charity among the people. He gave food to

the hungry and clothing to the naked, and if he saw the dead body of any of the people from his nation thrown out, he would bury it. Tobit helped many people and made their hearts rejoice.

One time, Tobit returned home tired after burying the dead, and laid down by the wall of the courtyard to rest; his face was uncovered because of the heat. He did not know that there were sparrows on the wall but while he was resting, their fresh droppings fell into his eyes and made him blind.

Tobit went to physicians to be healed, they treated him with ointments, but he became completely blind. Tobit was unable to work, so his wife Hanna began to work in sewing so that they could live.

Despite the problems that Tobit faced, he was blessed. Tobit continued to love our Lord and clung to Him. He also encouraged his son to obey the commandments of our Lord, and to care for his mother. Tobit taught



his son to love everyone and to serve them so that our Lord would rejoice. He instructed his son, Tobias, saying to him, "And all the days of your life have God in your heart" (Tobit 4:6). One day, Tobit sent his son on a special mission. He told him about how he loaned silver to a person from a far city named Gabael,

and took from him a receipt. Tobit wanted his son to go to him and recover the debt. Tobias said, "I will do all things, father, which you have commanded me." But Tobias was worried about how he would get Gabael to recognize him since he never met him. He was also worried about traveling to this city since he did not know the way.



Tobit the father said that Gabael would recognize him when he shows him the receipt, and he will immediately return the money.

Tobias also told his son to find a trustworthy man to travel with who could help him find the way.



The custom was during their time that when a person was traveling on an unfamiliar road that he took a paid guide with him, because there were no signs in the roads to guide people.

Tobias went out and God helped him find a young man that knows the way to the far city and knows Gabael. Tobias told his father that he found someone to be his guide and his father was surprised and asked to meet the young man to make sure he is a good guide to Tobias. When the young man met Tobit he greeted him and said,

Memory Verse

“May gladness be always with you.” (Tobit 5:11)

Tobit asked him, “Can you accompany my son and guide him? I will pay you your wages when you return, brother.” The young man answered, “I will go with him and return him to you safely, so do not fear. We shall leave in good health and return to you in good health because the way is safe.” Tobit asked him, “Brother, of what family are you and from what tribe? Tell me, brother.” The young man replied, “I am Azariah, the son of Hananiah, one of your relatives.”

Rejoice!

Deuteronomy 16:15



Azariah means God helps, and Hananiah means God is gracious. From the name we understand his message to mean that our Lord God is gracious towards Tobit, so he sent the young man to help him on his journey.

Tobias and Azariah took everything they needed for their journey. Tobias said farewell to his family, and they traveled. So, they both journeyed along, and on the first night, they camped by river. Tobias went down to wash his feet in the river, but a large fish leaped up from the water and tried to bite his foot, and he cried out.

Azariah said to Tobias, "Hold unto the fish and hang



.....So that you surely

Rejoice!



on to it!" So, Tobias grasped the fish and drew it up on the land. Then Azariah said to him, "Cut open the fish and take out its gall, heart, and liver. Keep them with you but throw away the intestines. For its gall, heart, and liver are useful as medicine."

Azariah later told Tobias, "We must stay this night in the home of Raguel, who is your relative, and he has a daughter named Sarah." Tobias thought of marrying Sarah. However, she already had been married to seven husbands, and they all died on the wedding night. Since Tobias was the only son of his parents, he was afraid to die and bring his father's and mother's lives down to their graves, grieving for him.



Azariah reassured Tobias and said to him that the Lord will protect him and Sarah and keep the devil away from them, if they committed their life to the Lord, and devoted the first 3 days of their marriage to Him. Tobias and Azariah went to her father, who was very happy when he learned that Tobias was the son of Tobit. Her father asked them to stay with him and made a big feast for them. But Tobias refused to eat before he agreed to his request to marry his daughter Sarah. At that time, the father was afraid for Tobias. But Azariah said to him, "Tobias fears the Lord, and our Lord will protect them from any harm." The Father agreed and said that surely our Lord answered his prayers that his

daughter is marrying one of their relatives. So, Tobias married Sarah, and he asked Sarah that they dedicate the first 3 days of their marriage to pray, so that God may bless their life together and keep them.



.....So that you surely

Rejoice!



Sarah agreed to Tobias' words so God blessed their marriage. Sarah's parents thanked God for His work with their daughter, and prepared a feast for all the neighbors and friends. They rejoiced at his daughter's marriage. The father asked Tobias to stay with him for a while. He gave Tobias half of his wealth

and he promised to give him the remaining half after his death. As for Gabael, whom they were going to get the money from, Tobias asked Azariah to go to Gabael by himself. Tobias gave Azariah the receipt and asked him to bring the silver. He asked Azariah to invite Gabael to attend his wedding celebration. So, Azariah fulfilled Tobias's request. He returned the silver and Gabael attended Tobias's wedding celebration, and he was very happy. The wedding days passed peacefully.

Raguel asked Tobias if he and Sarah would like to live with him. Tobias refused because his parents were certainly very worried about him. So,

Rejoice!

Deuteronomy 16:15

Raguel let Tobias and Sarah go, and he gave them half of his money, animals, and servants. He sent them in peace, and blessed them. He was happy for his daughter. Raguel instructed his daughter Sarah, to honor Tobit and his wife, and to love them. He commanded her to take good care of her own family.

Sarah, Tobias and Azariah left, and halfway there, Azariah suggested to Tobias and said, "Surely your parents are worried about you because you are late. Let's hurry up".



Azariah told Tobias, "Take with you the gall that you took from the fish because we need it. When you enter your house, kneel to our Lord and thank Him. Then go to your father, kiss him, and put the gall of the fish on his eyes; the medicine will

make your father regain his sight and see the light." So, Tobias did what Azariah said. Tobit and Hannah knew that Tobias was on his way back, so they ran to welcome him with joy.

Tobias went up to his father with the gall of the fish in his hand, and blew it into his eyes, then took hold of him, saying, "Take courage, father." With this, he applied the medicine on his eyes. Next, with both his hands he peeled off the white films from the corners of his eyes. Then Tobit threw his arms around Tobias, and he wept and said to him, "I see you, my son, the light of my eyes!" So, they glorified our Lord and rejoiced in all his work. Tobias told his family of all the kindness of our Lord upon him. They all made a feast for several days to celebrate. They rejoiced with great joy. Tobit and Tobias wanted to reward Azariah for all that he had done for them. So, they offered him to take half of the money that Tobias had brought back.

Azariah surprised them as he said to them, "Bless God and acknowledge Him in the presence of all the living for the good things he has done for you. O blessed Tobit, our Lord saw your prayers and your service to His children. I used to raise all your prayers before our Lord, and because our Lord loves you, He sent me to you to heal you from your illness. He also saved Sarah".

"I am **Raphael**, the angel, one of the seven standing before the Lord" (Tobias 12:15).

Both Tobit and Tobias were shaken and threw themselves face down because they were afraid. Archangel Raphael said to them, "Do not be afraid; peace be with you. Bless God forevermore. Bless him each and every day; sing his praises. When you were watching me, I was not really eating anything, but what you saw was a vision. So now, bless the Lord on the earth and acknowledge God" (Tobit 12:17-20).

Archangel Raphael disappeared, then they stood up and could see him no more. They kept blessing God and singing his praises, and they acknowledged God for these marvelous deeds of his, that an angel of God had appeared to them.

Tobit lived the rest of his life in the fear of our Lord. After his death, Tobias and his wife returned to her family, and lived with them a life full of joy in the fear of God.

Uncle Mark: Bravo Kristin, you know the whole story. Do you know where to find the story of Tobias in the Bible?

Kristin: In the Book of Tobit, which is one of the deuterocanonical books.



.....So that you surely

Rejoice!

Uncle Mark: Exactly. This story is about a family that felt the power of the Lord among them despite all the problems they encountered. Our Lord gave them great joy during their hardships. Our church reads for us the Book of Tobit on the sixth Friday of Great Lent.



Rejoice!

Deuteronomy 16:15

My Joy in Prayer

Joy of the righteous

Uncle Mark: Let's add the Agpeya Prayer tab to the application. Praying unites us with God, the source of our joy. I love praying with the Agpeya.

Thomas: Uncle Mark, can you explain for us some of the agpeya prayers? So, we can understand it and pray it from our hearts.

Uncle Mark: Let us start with the prayer of **"Hail to St Mary."**

Thomas started reading: *Hail to you. We ask you, O saint, full of glory, the ever virgin, the Mother of God (Theotokos), the Mother of Christ, lift up our prayers unto your beloved Son, that He may forgive us our sins. Hail to the Holy Virgin, who bore for us the true Light, Christ our God. Ask the Lord on our behalf, that He may have mercy on our souls, and forgive us our sins.*

Kristen: Why do we say, "Hail to you"?

Uncle Mark: We learned it from Archangel Gabriel when he greeted her saying "Hail to you O full of grace."

Thomas continued: *O Virgin Mary, the holy Mother of God (Theotokos), the trusted advocate of the human race, intercede on our behalf before Christ, Whom you bore, that He may grant us the forgiveness of our sins.*

Kristen: What does Theotokos mean?

Uncle Mark: St. Cyril of Alexandria has always emphasized that St. Mary is the (Theotokos) which means the Mother of God. We also heard Elizabeth calling St. Mary, the "mother of my Lord" (Luke 1:43).

Thomas concluded: *Hail to you, O Virgin, the right and true queen. Hail to the pride of our race, you bore for us Emmanuel. We ask you, remember us, our trusted advocate, before our Lord Jesus Christ, that He may forgive us our sins.*

Kristen: Why do we call her pride of our race?

Uncle Mark: This is made clear by the part we sing in Midnight Praises: "The Father looked from heaven and found no one like you. He sent His only-begotten who came and took flesh from you." She was so holy and humble that God chose her. And through her Son Jesus, the whole human race was saved.



Thomas: I got that, but what does it mean that St. Mary is our trusted advocate?

Uncle Mark: It means that she faithfully prays on our behalf before Christ her son.

Thomas: Lets go to the prayer following it, the **“Introduction of the Creed”**

Kristen: When do we pray the introduction of the Creed?

Uncle Mark: We usually pray it before the creed of faith.

Thomas started reading this time: *We exalt you, the Mother of the true Light. We glorify you, O Saint, the Theotokos, for you brought forth unto us the Savior of the whole world; He came and saved our souls.*

Kristen: Why do we exalt St. Mary?

Uncle Mark: We hold St. Mary in high regard because she is the mother of our God, Christ, the True Light of the world.

Thomas: Why do we glorify St Mary?

Uncle Mark: Again, we praise and honor this saint because she is the mother of God, our Savior. St. Mary herself told Elizabeth that all the coming generations will call her blessed because her Son Jesus, the Savior of the world. “For behold, henceforth all generations will call me blessed” (Luke 1:48).

Thomas continued: *Glory to You, our Master, our King, Christ, the pride of the apostles, the crown of the martyrs, the joy of the righteous, the firmness of the churches, the forgiveness of sins.*

Kristen: Now the rest of the prayer is about our Master and our King Christ

Thomas: Why do we call Christ the pride of the apostles and crown of martyrs?

Uncle Mark: When all the world humiliated the apostles with persecutions, Christ was their source of pride. Similarly, many offered their lives and became martyrs. Christ was the crown of glory on their heads.

Thomas: Why do we call Him the **joy of the righteous**, the firmness of the churches, the forgiveness of sins?

Uncle Mark: Everyone that follows God is joyful. Christ is the reason our church is firm in the face of all the attacks of Satan because He protects her. Christ is the only one that grants us forgiveness of sins

Thomas concluded: *We proclaim the Holy Trinity in One Godhead. We worship Him. We glorify Him. Lord have mercy. Lord have mercy. Lord bless. Amen.*

Kristen: What should be our response to God’s wonderful salvation?

Uncle Mark: We should offer him all our lives to glorify His name and worship Him. We should proclaim and tell everyone about our loving God, our Holy Trinity (The Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit), One God.

Kristen: May God always have mercy on us and bless us all. Amen



Rejoice!

Deuteronomy 16:15

Thomas: My turn to read, I will read the prayer of **Holy Holy Holy**. She got the correct page and started reading: *Holy Holy Holy. Lord of hosts. Heaven and earth are full of Your glory and honor. Have mercy on us, O God the Father, the Pantocrator, O Holy Trinity, have mercy on us.*

Kristen: When do we pray Holy Holy Holy?

Uncle Mark: We pray it after praying Lord have mercy 41 times.

Thomas: Where did we learn to praise God and say Holy Holy Holy?

Uncle Mark: We learned it from the bible. Isaiah saw a vision and the angles were praising God saying: Holy Holy Holy, Lord of hosts. Heaven and Earth are full of your glory and honor (Isaiah 6). Also, John the Evangelist when he was taken up to the heaven, he heard the angles praising God with the same praise. Hence, our church taught us how to praise God like angles.

Thomas continued: *O Lord, God of hosts, be with us. For we have no helper in our hardships and tribulations but You.*

Kristen: In hard times, I feel I am alone! Many times, my good friends leave me as well, what should I do?

Uncle Mark: You should pray to God, the Lord of all the hosts of angels to help you. Tell him God, You alone are my supporter and true friend in my tough times.

Thomas concluded: *Absolve, forgive, and remit, O God, our transgressions; those which we have committed willingly and those we have committed unwillingly, those which we have committed knowingly and those which we have committed unknowingly, the hidden and manifest, O Lord forgive us, for the sake of Your Holy name which is called upon us. Let is be according to Your mercy O Lord and not according to our sins .*

Kristen: Which sins should we ask God to forgive us?

Uncle Mark: All sins, whether big or small, whether we have done them fully aware they are wrong or not, whether we have done them intentionally or not, and finally whether people can see them or know about them or not.

Thomas: Sometimes, I doubt that God will forgive me my sins?

Uncle Mark: Always remember that His love is bigger than our sins, and He deals with us according to His mercy and never according to our sins.

Kristen: What an honor to be called after Christ and be called Christians!

Uncle Mark: I agree. That is why we should pray to God to make us live worthy His Holy name, to live like him and talk like Him.



Rejoice!

Deuteronomy 16:15

Kristen: I guess it is my turn, **I will read the conclusion of every hour.**

Thomas: When do we pray the conclusion of every hour prayer?

Uncle Mark: We pray this beautiful prayer at the end of every Agpeya prayer. Hence, we say, "Lord receive from us our prayers in this hour and in every hour." Kristen your turn.

Kristen started reading: *Have mercy on us, O God, and have mercy on us, who, at all times and in every hour, in heaven and on earth, is worshiped and glorified*

Uncle Mark: We start this prayer by asking God to continue having mercy on us.

Thomas: Who worships God?

Uncle Mark: All the creation on the earth and the angles in heaven worship our God all the times. St. Paul commanded us to "pray unceasingly," *which means always pray to Him.*

Kristen continued: *Christ our God, the good, the long suffering, the abundant in mercy, and the great in compassion, who loves the righteous and has mercy on the sinners of whom I am chief; who does not wish the death of the sinner but rather that he returns and lives, who calls all to salvation for the promise of the blessings to come*

Uncle Mark: If I ask you to describe God, what would you say?

Thomas: He is Christ who was crucified for my sake. He is my God who created me. He is exceptionally good and does not deal with me according to my sins. He is long suffering, which means he is patient and bears with me. His mercy is great and plentiful, and His compassion surrounds me everywhere I go and in everything I do.

Kristen: How does God look on the ones who do well and the ones who do evil things?

Uncle Mark: He loves the righteous and He has mercy on the sinners. A great example is St Paul. God had mercy on him when he was persecuting Christians to the point that he called himself "chief of sinners" (1 Tim 1:12-17), but God turned him into a great apostle.

Thomas: God does not wish to destroy the sinners, instead to save them and grant them life. He wants them to enjoy the blessings of heavenly life.



Kristen: Sometimes, I feel I do not know what to pray to God about?

Uncle Mark: That takes us to the next section. Kristen please read.

Kristen continued reading: *Lord receive from us our prayers in this hour and in every hour. Ease our life and guide us to fulfill Your commandments. Sanctify our spirits. Cleanse our bodies. Conduct our thoughts. Purify our intentions. Heal our diseases. Forgive our sins. Deliver us from every evil grief and distress of heart.*

Uncle Mark: I pray to God about everything in my life. I want him to walk with me and guide me to keep all his words and commandments in the bible.

Thomas: How can we become holy temples for God?

Uncle Mark: We pray to him to make our bodies clean, make all the thoughts of our minds holy and make all the intentions of our heart pure.

Kristen: I feel sad because of my many sins. What should I do?

Uncle Mark: As we sin, we must pray to God to forgive us and be sure of his love and mercy. However, Satan tries to make us lose hope in God's abundant mercy and unconditional love and be upset. So, we ought to pray to God to deliver us from this evil grief that can destroy us.

Kristen concluded the reading: *Surround us by Your holy angels, that, by their camp, we may be guarded and guided, and attain the unity of faith, and the knowledge of Your imperceptible and infinite glory. For You are blessed forever. Amen.*

Thomas: What do angles do other than praising God?

Uncle Mark: Angels guard us. One time the King of Syria went to attack Elisha the prophet. When his servants saw the army, he was terrified and ran to his master. However, Elisha was not moved by the big army. He believed that the camp of the army surrounding him is more than all the army of the enemy. He then prayed to God to open the eyes of the servant that he may see. When his eyes were open, he saw the mountains filled with fiery chariots and camps of angels to protect him (2 Kings 6:8-23).

Kristen: God may use angles to guide us. I heard the story of Tobit who lost his eyesight. He could not work and provide for his family. His son then went to get back his money from one of his friends, who lived far away. God, in his love, sent Archangel Raphael to guide Tobias in his journey to get back his father's money.

Thomas: How can we describe the glory awaiting us in heaven?

Uncle Mark: It is imperceptible, which means cannot be described in a way that our senses will fully understand. Hence, Paul said: "No eye has seen, no ear has heard, no heart has imagined, what God has prepared for those who love Him" (1 Cor 2:9). It is also infinite, which means it has no limits. There are no limits for joy in the glories of heaven.

Thomas: Oh, what an amazing God! I will bless and praise him all my life and in heaven. Amen.



Rejoice!

Deuteronomy 16:15

Memorization

Hail to St. Mary

Hail to you. We ask you, O saint, full of glory, the ever virgin, the Mother of God (Theotokos), the Mother of Christ, lift up our prayers unto your beloved Son, that He may forgive us our sins.

Hail to the Holy Virgin, who bore for us the true Light, Christ our God. Ask the Lord on our behalf, that He may have mercy on our souls, and forgive us our sins.

O Virgin Mary, the holy Mother of God (Theotokos), the trusted advocate of the human race, intercede on our behalf before Christ, Whom you bore, that He may grant us the forgiveness of our sins.

Hail to you, O Virgin, the right and true queen. Hail to the pride of our race, you bore for us Emmanuel. We ask you, remember us, our trusted advocate, before our Lord Jesus Christ, that He may forgive us our sins.

62

.....So that you surely

Rejoice!

Memorization

Introduction to the Creed

We exalt you, the Mother of the true Light. We glorify you, O Saint, the Theotokos, for you brought forth unto us the Savior of the whole world; He came and saved our souls.

Glory to You, our Master, our King, Christ, the pride of the apostles, the crown of the martyrs, the joy of the righteous, the firmness of the churches, the forgiveness of sins.

We proclaim the Holy Trinity in One Godhead. We worship Him. We glorify Him.

Lord have mercy. Lord have mercy. Lord bless. Amen.



.....So that you surely

Rejoice!

Memorization

Holy, Holy, Holy

Holy Holy Holy. Lord of hosts. Heaven and earth are full of Your glory and honor. Have mercy on us, O God the Father, the Almighty O Holy Trinity, have mercy on us. O Lord, God of hosts, be with us. For we have no helper in our hardships and tribulations but You.

Absolve, forgive, and remit, O God, our transgressions; those which we have committed willingly and those we have committed unwillingly, those which we have committed knowingly and those which we have committed unknowingly, the hidden and manifest, O Lord forgive us, for the sake of Your Holy name which is called upon us.

Let it be according to Your mercy, O Lord, and not according to our sins.

Make us worthy to pray thankfully:
Our Father Who art in heaven ...

Rejoice!

Deuteronomy 16:15

Memorization

Conclusion of Every Hour

Have mercy on us, O God, and have mercy on us, who, at all times and in every hour, in heaven and on earth, is worshipped and glorified, Christ our God, the good, the long suffering, the abundant in mercy, and the great in compassion, who loves the righteous and has mercy on the sinners of whom I am chief; who does not wish the death of the sinner but rather that he returns and lives, who calls all to salvation for the promise of the blessings to come.

Lord receive from us our prayers in this hour and in every hour. Ease our life and guide us to fulfill Your commandments. Sanctify our spirits. Cleanse our bodies. Conduct our thoughts. Purify our intentions. Heal our diseases. Forgive our sins. Deliver us from every evil grief and distress of heart. Surround us by Your holy angels, that, by their camp, we may be guarded and guided, and attain the unity of faith, and the knowledge of Your imperceptible and infinite glory. For You are blessed forever. Amen.



Coptic Language & Hymns



Lesson 1: Letters similar in look and sound to English Alphabet

Letter	Name	Pronunciation
Αα	Alpha	A (as in Art)
Εε	Ei	E (as in pen)
Ζζ	Zeeta	Z
Ιι	Iota (Yota)	I or Y (as in sit or yam)
Κκ	Kappa (Kabba)	K
Μμ	Mei	M
Νν	Nei	N
Οο	O	Short O (as in look or book)
Ττ	Tav	T

Examples:

ΑΝΟΚ	Anok	I
ΑΝΟΝ	Anon	We
Ζαζ	Zaz	Asphodel (plant)
Ναν	Nan	us
Κε (και)	Ke	And (Greek)
Τοτε	Tote	Then

Homework: Pronounce each word/phrase out loud & write the pronunciation

Υοι		Give (v)
Νακ		Your /To you
Κατα		According
Μευ		And (Coptic)
Μιυ		Who
Ζε		Truly
Ναι ναν		Have mercy on us
Ταιο		Honor



Lesson 2: Letters that sound different than English (part 1)

Letter	Name	Pronunciation
Ββ	Veta (beta)	V if followed by a vowel (except in names)* B everywhere else
Ηη	Eeta	EE (as in seek)
Ρρ	Rho	R
ϸϸ	Sima (sigma)	S

Examples:

ΑΒΒΑ	Avva	Father
ΑΒΡΑΑΜ	Abra-am	Abraham
ΙΣΑΑΚ	Isa-ac	Isaac
ΗΕΝΝΟΒΙ	Nen-Novii	Our sins
ΜΑΡΕ	Mare	Let or may
ΝΑΙ ΝΗ	Nai Nee-i	Have mercy on me
ΣΑΒΕ	Sa-ve	Wise

Homework: Pronounce each word/phrase out loud & write the pronunciation

ϮΗΡϸ		All
ΜΙΣΑΗΛ		Mishael
ΑΖΑΡΙΑϸ		Azaria
ϸΕ		Yes
ΜΑΪΑϸ		Messiah
ΑΝΑΝΙΑϸ		Hananiah
ΠΙΒΕΝ		Every
ΠΙΕΒΙΑΙΚ		The servants

* Some sources state that Β should also be pronounced 'V' when followed by the letters β, υ or ϯ.

Examples: ΑΒΒΑ (avva), υβϯ (Shivti), εβυι (evshi)



Lesson 3: Letters that sound different than English (part 2)

Letter	Name	Pronunciation
Ωω	Oo (Omega in Greek)	Long O (oa) (as in boat or board)
Χχ	Key (ki)	1. In words of Egyptian/Coptic origin: K 2. In words of Greek origin: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sh if followed by e-vowel (ε, Ι, Η) • Kh everywhere else
Ττ	Ti (Tee)	Ti or Tee (as in Teepee)

Examples:

ΣΙΩΝ	Si-oan	Zion
ΔΙΣΩΡΕΥ	Ai-soa-rem	I have strayed/ I have gone astray
ΚΩΤ	Koati	To turn or seek
ΧΕΡΕ	Shere	Hail
ΟΝΤΩΣ	On-toas	In Truth
ΙΩΑΝΝΗΣ	Yo-an-nees	John
ΣΩΤΗΡ	Soa-teer	Savior
ΣΩΤΕΥ	Soatem	Listen
ΧΗΜΙ	Kee-mi	Egypt
ΣΗΩΝ	See - oan	Sihon (king of Ammorites)
χωρίς (Greek)	Khoa-ris	without

Homework: Pronounce each word/phrase out loud & write the pronunciation

ΧΑΚΙ(Coptic)		Darkness
ΧΙΩΝ (Greek)		Ice
ΧΩΛΕΥ (Coptic)		Hurry
ΜΕΤΟΧΟΣ (Greek)		Sharing in
ΡΩΜΙ		Human/man/people
ΔΙΚΩΤ(Coptic)		You have saved
ΖΗΛΩΤΕ		Zealot
ΚΑΤ		To know or understand



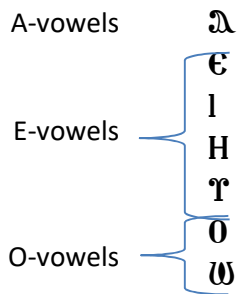
Lesson 4: Vowels and the vowel point

New symbols	Name	Pronunciation
`	Jenkem	Vowel point: 1. Adds an 'e' sound if placed on a constant (example: c̣ is read as 'ES') 2. When placed over a vowel, generally either elongates or stresses the vowel (splits the word).
Ⲑⲣ	Epsilon	1. Pronounced V after ⲗ or ⲉ 2. Ⲑⲣ is pronounced oo as in shoot or root 3. ⲣ is pronounced as i or y everywhere else

Special Two-letter vowels:

Vowel	Pronunciation
Ⲑⲣ	oo/ou as in shoot or root
ⲗⲣ	av
ⲉⲣ	ev

All single vowels:



Examples:

Ⲯⲁⲙⲁⲩ		My mother
Ⲓⲥⲟⲩⲥ		Jesus
Ⲭⲟⲩ		Glory
̀ⲎⲦⲈ		Of
ⲘⲒⲎⲬⲟⲛⲓⲁ		Communal Life
̀ⲎⲟⲩⲈⲥⲬⲟⲩ		Lost or astray
ⲈⲕⲈⲗⲟⲩⲟⲩⲬⲎ		You open
Ⲉⲩⲭⲏ *		Pray (Greek)
Ⲙⲩⲣⲓⲟⲥ		Lord
Ⲯⲏⲣⲟⲩ		All
̀ⲥⲙⲟⲩ		Praise
̀ⲎⲤⲞⲩⲟⲩ ⲛⲒⲐⲈⲛ		At every time (at all times)
Ⲣⲟⲩ		Mouths
ⲛⲒⲥⲁⲐⲈⲩ		The wise people
ⲘⲈⲙⲁⲣⲟⲩⲦ		Blessed are you
ⲦⲟⲒⲘⲞⲞⲙⲓⲁ		The Economy
ⲟⲩ-		Indefinite article

* There are currently two acceptable ways to pronounce this word (Evshi and Evki)

Homework:

Read the following sentences out loud. **Underline** words you understand. **Circle** words that you don't know.

1. ⲘⲈ ⲛⲦⲏ ⲕⲈ ⲁ̀ⲓ ⲕⲈ Ⲓⲥ Ⲧⲟⲩⲥ Ⲉ̀ⲬⲎⲁⲥ ⲦⲬⲎ Ⲉ̀ⲬⲎⲬⲎ ⲁⲙⲈⲛ.
2. ⲬⲈⲣⲈ ⲛⲈ Ⲭⲁⲣⲓⲁ ⲭⲁⲣⲓⲥ Ⲧⲟⲩ ⲘⲁⲛⲏⲒⲗ (Daniel)
3. ⲘⲈ ⲐⲎⲦⲟⲥ ⲦⲈⲛⲈⲙⲟⲩ Ⲉ̀ⲣⲟⲕ: ⲘⲈ ⲐⲎⲦⲟⲥ ⲦⲈⲛⲦⲟⲩ ⲛⲁⲕ.
4. ⲘⲥⲈⲣⲐⲟⲕⲒ ⲁⲥⲙⲒⲥⲒ ⲭⲟⲣⲓⲥ ⲥⲦⲛⲟⲩⲥⲓⲁ.
5. ⲈⲩⲭⲁⲣⲓⲦⲓⲦⲏⲥⲟⲩⲙⲈⲛ Ⲧⲟ Ⲙⲩⲣⲓⲟ.



Lesson 5: Letters similar to Greek (part 1)

Letter	Name	Pronunciation
ΔΔ	Delta	1. D in names as in David 2. Everywhere else, rough Th as in The or There
Θθ	Theta	Soft Th as in Three **
Ππ	Pi	P
Φφ	Fi	F or Ph as in phone

Examples:

Υεϥϣⲏ		Truth
Ϣεβε		Because of
Δικεον		Just/right
Πιστος		Faithful
Θωουϥ		Gather
ⲛⲓⲠⲏⲟⲩ		The heavens
Διακονος		Deacon
Ϣⲏⲟⲩϥ		God (Coptic)
Πουρο		The king/ O king
Παχⲏ		Snow
Πιθρονος		The thrones
Δωρον		Gift
Θεου		God (Greek)
Δαⲩⲁ		David

** Some sources state that the letter **θ** is pronounced as T when the letter before it is **Ϣ, ϣ** or **ϣ**.

Examples: **Υαⲩⲏⲁⲥ** (Mattias) and **Προϣⲉⲩⲁⲥⲟⲩ** (Pros-ev-xaste), **ϣⲉⲩⲏ** (eshteh)



Homework:

Read the following sentences out loud. **Underline** words you understand. **Circle** words that you don't know.

1. Δνω ἔμωv τας καρδιας. Εχομεν ἔρος τον Κυριον
2. Πυκτες κε ημερε ρω πε: φωσκε ἔσκοτος κε αστραπε
3. Ιρηνη πασι. Κε τω πνευματι σου
4. Παι ναν Φνοϋτ Φιωτ Ππαντοκρατωρ. Παι ναν Φνοϋτ πενσωτηρ
5. Σταθητε μετα φοβοϋ Θεου



Lesson 6: Letters similar to Greek (part 2)

Letter	Name	Pronunciation
Λλ	Lavla (Lola, Lambda)	L
Ϛϛ	Ghamma	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. G as in Go when followed by e vowel 2. N when followed by Ϛ or ϛ 3. Gh (ϥ) (as in oghnia) everywhere else
Ξξ	Exi	X
Ψψ	Epsi	PS (as in Psalmody)

Examples:

Προσευχαοε		Pray (Greek)
Κυριε ελεησον		Lord have mercy
Πιερωψαλτης		The Psalmist (hymist)
Μιασσελος		The angels
Αγαθος		Good
Αγιος		Holy
Πεκμονοσενης		Your only-begotten
Αξιος		Worthy
Μιεζογρια		The authorities
Αλληλογρια		Alleluia
Ευλοσσητος		Blessed
Αριψαλιν		O sing
Ψυχος (Greek)		Coolness
πιαθλοφορος		Struggle-mantled/ struggle-bearer



Homework:

Read the following sentences out loud. **Underline** words you understand. **Circle** words that you don't know.

1. Κἄρωτ ἀληθως: νεμ Πεκιωτ ἰάσαθος: νεμ Πίπνευμα εθοῦαβ
2. Ἰκαθημενι ἀνασῆτε: Ἰς ἀνατολας βλεψατε.
3. ἄσιος ἄσιος ἄσιος Κυριος σαβαωθ: πλήρις ὁ οὐρανός κε ἡ γῆ τῆς ἄσιας σου Δοζης.
4. Ἀζια ἴαγια Ἡαρια ἴπαρθενος. Ἀζιος Ἀββα Ἡαρκος πιαποστολος.
5. Προσευεζασθε ὑπερ τῶν ἄσιων τιμιῶν δωρῶν τοῦτων κε ἁγίων ἡμῶν κε προσφεροντων: Κυριε ἐλεησον.
6. Δοξα Πατρι κε Υἱω κε ἁγιῶ Πνευματι: Κε νῦν κε ἀϊ κε ἰς τοῦς ἑῶνας τῶν ἑῶνων ἀμην.
6. Σταθετε μετα Φοβοῦ Θεοῦ ἀκοιτωμεν τοῦ ἁγιο εἰαγγελιοῦ



Lesson 7: Ancient Egyptian Letters (part 1)

Letter	Name	Pronunciation
Ⲫⲱ	Shai (Shy)	Sh as in short
Ⲙⲓ	Fai	F
Ⲭⲃ	Khai	Kh (خ) as in Khalifa

Examples:

Ⲫⲗⲏⲗ		Pray (Coptic)
Ⲙⲓⲩⲉⲛⲁⲩ		He ascended
Ⲭⲉⲛ		In
ⲉⲛⲟⲩ		Blood
Ⲫⲱⲟⲩⲣⲏ		The censer
Ⲙⲓⲩⲱⲧ		He saved
Ⲡⲉⲛⲉⲁⲃ		Our teacher
Ⲡⲱⲛⲃ		The Life

Homework: **Read** the following sentences out loud. **Underline** words you understand. **Circle** words that you don't know.

- Ⲫⲱⲟⲩⲣⲏ ⲏⲛⲟⲩⲃ ⲧⲉ ⲧⲡⲁⲣⲑⲉⲛⲟⲩ: ⲡⲉⲥⲁⲣⲱⲙⲁⲧⲁ ⲡⲉ ⲡⲉⲛⲉⲱⲧⲏⲣ: ⲁⲥⲙⲓⲥⲓ ⲙⲓⲟⲩⲩ ⲁⲩⲩⲱⲧ ⲙⲓⲟⲩ: ⲟⲩⲟⲩ (ou-oh) ⲁⲩⲩⲁ ⲛⲉⲛⲛⲟⲩⲃ ⲛⲁⲛ ⲉ̀ⲃⲟⲗ.
- Ⲑⲱⲱⲧ ⲙⲓⲡⲓⲉⲧⲁⲥⲥⲉⲗⲓⲟⲛ ⲏⲧⲉ Ⲓⲏⲥⲟⲩⲥ Ⲡⲓⲕⲣⲓⲥⲟⲩ Ⲡⲱⲏⲣⲓ ⲙ̀Ⲣⲏⲟⲩⲧ ⲉⲧⲟⲛⲃ
- Ⲡⲓⲛⲓⲱⲧ ⲁⲃⲃⲁ Ⲙⲏⲧⲱⲛⲓ: ⲛⲉⲙ ⲡⲓⲑⲙⲏⲓ ⲁⲃⲃⲁ Ⲡⲁⲧⲗⲉ: ⲛⲉⲙ ⲡⲓⲱⲟⲙⲧ ⲉⲑⲟⲩⲁⲃ Ⲥⲁⲕⲁⲣⲓⲟⲩ: ⲁⲃⲃⲁ Ⲓⲱⲁⲛⲏⲏⲥ ⲡⲓⲕⲟⲗⲟⲃⲟⲩ: ⲁⲃⲃⲁ Ⲡⲓⲱⲟⲓ ⲁⲃⲃⲁ Ⲡⲁⲧⲗⲉ: ⲛⲉⲛⲓⲟⲧ ⲉⲑⲟⲩⲁⲃ ⲏⲣⲱⲙⲉⲟⲩ Ⲥⲁⲗⲓⲙⲟⲩ ⲛⲉⲙ Ⲙⲟⲙⲉⲧⲓⲟⲩ: ⲁⲃⲃⲁ Ⲥⲱⲥⲏ: ⲁⲃⲃⲁ Ⲓⲱⲁⲛⲏⲏⲥ ⲧⲁⲙⲏ: ⲁⲃⲃⲁ Ⲙⲁⲛⲏⲏⲗ: ⲁⲃⲃⲁ ⲒⲓⲥⲓⲘⲱⲣⲟⲩ ⲁⲃⲃⲁ ⲡⲁⲃⲱⲙ: ⲁⲃⲃⲁ Ⲥⲉⲛⲟⲩⲧ: ⲕⲉ ⲁⲃⲃⲁ ⲠⲁⲢⲏⲟⲩⲧ: ⲁⲃⲃⲁ Ⲡⲁⲣⲥⲱⲙⲁ: ⲁⲃⲃⲁ Ⲥⲉⲧⲓ (Teji).
- Ⲉⲣⲉ ⲡⲟⲧⲥⲓⲟⲩ ⲉⲑⲟⲩⲁⲃ ⲱⲱⲡⲓ ⲛⲉⲙⲁⲛ ⲁ̀ⲙⲏⲏ. Ⲙⲟⲗⲁ ⲥⲓ ⲕⲏⲣⲓⲉ: ⲕⲏⲣⲓⲉ ⲉ̀ⲗⲉⲏⲥⲟⲛ: ⲕⲏⲣⲓⲉ ⲉ̀ⲗⲉⲏⲥⲟⲛ: ⲕⲏⲣⲓⲉ ⲉ̀ⲗⲟⲥⲓⲟⲩⲥⲟⲛ: ⲕⲏⲣⲓⲉ ⲁ̀ⲛⲁⲡⲁⲧⲥⲟⲛ: ⲁ̀ⲙⲏⲏ.
- Ⲉⲧⲁⲩⲕⲏⲏ ⲁⲛ ⲉⲩⲟⲓ ⲏⲏⲏⲟⲩⲧ: ⲁⲩⲓ ⲁⲩⲩⲱⲱⲡⲓ ⲏⲏⲏⲟⲩⲧ ⲏⲣⲱⲙⲓ: ⲁⲗⲗⲁ ⲏⲏⲟⲩⲩ ⲡⲉ Ⲣⲏⲟⲩⲧ ⲙⲓⲟⲩ: ⲁⲩⲓ ⲟⲩⲟⲩ (ou-oh) ⲁⲩⲩⲱⲧ ⲙⲓⲟⲩ



Lesson 8: Ancient Egyptian Letters (part 2)

Letter	Name	Pronunciation
ϪϪ	Hori	H
Ϫϫ	Jinja	J when followed by e vowels (ε, ι, η) G (as in Go) everywhere else
Ϫϫ	Cheema	Ch as in choice or church

Examples:

ϪΙΧΕΝ		On, upon, over
ϪΗΤ		(n) Heart
ΠϪοιϫ		Lord
ΔΥϫΑΧΙ		Spoke
ΠϪιϫι		The highest
Ϫεϫιρηνη		Your peace
Ϫενϫητ		Have compassion
Πιτωϫε		The prayers (Coptic)
Υαρουϫαϫ		Let them exalt him
ΔΒΒα Ϫεϫι		St. Rouis

Homework: **Read** the following sentences out loud. **Underline** words you understand. **Circle** words that you don't know.

1. Δ ΠενϪοιϫ Ιηϫουϫ Πιϫριϫτοϫ ερηνιϫτεϫιν εϫρηι εϫων ηϫμε ηϫουϫτ νεμ ϫμε ηϫωρη γα ητεϫ ϫωτεη ϫεν νενηνοβι
2. Ϫιτεη ηιπεϫβια ητε ϫεϫτοϫοϫ εϫογαβ Υαρια: ΠϪοιϫ αριϫμοτ ηαν ηπιϫω εβολ ητε νενηνοβι
3. Δλληλοηια Φαι πε πιεϫουϫ ετα ΠϪοιϫ θαμιοϫ: μαρενηεληη ητενηνοϫ ημοη ηϫητηϫ: η ΠϪοιϫ εκεναϫμεη: η ΠϪοιϫ εκεϫοϫτεη νενημωιτ: ηϫμαρωϫτ ηϫε φηϫενηοη ϫεν φραη ηΠϪοιϫ: αλληλοηια.
4. ϫμαρωϫτ ΠϪοιϫ Φνοϫτ ητε νενηοϫτ: κεϫουϫο ϫμαρωϫτ κεϫουϫο βιϫι γα ηιεηεϫ. ηϫμαρωϫτ ηϫε πιραη εϫογαβ ητε πεϫωϫ: ηεϫουϫο ϫμαρωϫτ ηεϫουϫο βιϫι γα ηιεηεϫ.



5. Ἀλληλοῖα Ἰε φμεῖτὶ νὸτρωμῖ εἰεὸτῶνῃ, νακ ἐβολ Πῆοις: οτοῃ πῶωπ ἵτε ὀτμεῖτὶ εἰεῖρωγαι νακ. Πιῆτσια νιῖπροσφορα ὡποῖν ἐροκ: ἀλληλοῖα.
6. Ἀκβὶ τῆχαρις ἠωῖνῃς: ἴμετοῖνῃ ἵτε ἠελχιεδεκ: ἴμετῆελλο ἵτε Ιακωβ: πινοχ ἵὰζι ἵτε ἠαθουσαλα: πικαἴ ετσωπ ἵτε Δαυιδ: ἴσοφια ἵτε Σολομων: Πιῖνευμα ἠπαρακλητον φηῖταῖ ἐχεν νιῖποστολοσ.
7. Ἀριῖρεβεῖν ἐῖρηι ἐχων ὠ τενῆοις ἵνηνῃ τῆρεν ἴθεὸτοκοσ ἠαρια ἠμαρ ἠπενσωτηρ ἵτεῖχα νενοβὶ ναν ἐβολ.



Lesson 9: Abbreviations

original	abbreviation	English
Ιησοϋς	Ιη̅ς	Jesus
Πιχριστος	Πχ̅ς	Christ
Φηοϋϯ	Φϯ	God
πνευμα	π̅να	spirit
εθοϋαβ	ε̅θϯ	Holy

Homework: Read the following sentences out loud. **Underline** words you understand. **Circle** words that you don't know.

Χε̅ πενωτ̅ ετ̅δεν̅ νιφ̅νοϋ̅ μαρεϋτοϋβο̅ η̅ζε̅ πεκραν̅: μαρεϋ̅ η̅ζε̅ τεκμετοϋρο̅ πετεϋνακ̅
 μαρεϋωπι̅ μ̅φρη̅ϯ̅ δ̅εν̅ τ̅φε̅ νεμ̅ ριζεν̅ πικαϋ̅: πενωικ̅ η̅τε̅ ραϋ̅ϯ̅ μηιϋ̅ ναν̅ μ̅φοοϯ̅ οτοϋ̅
 χα̅ νηετερ̅ον̅ ναν̅ εβολ̅: μ̅φρη̅ϯ̅ ρων̅ η̅τενχ̅ω̅ εβολ̅ η̅νηε̅τε̅ οτο̅ν̅ η̅ταν̅ ε̅ρωοϯ̅: οτοϋ̅
 μ̅περε̅ντε̅ν̅ ε̅δο̅τη̅ ε̅πι̅ρα̅ςμο̅ς̅ α̅λλα̅ να̅ρ̅με̅ν̅ ε̅βο̅λ̅ ρα̅ πι̅πε̅τ̅ρω̅ϯ̅. δ̅εν̅ Π̅χ̅ς̅ Ι̅η̅ς̅ πε̅νο̅ς̅:
 ρε̅ θω̅κ̅ τε̅ ϯ̅με̅το̅ϋρο̅ νεμ̅ ϯ̅χομ̅ νεμ̅ πι̅ωοϯ̅ ω̅α̅ ε̅νε̅ς̅ λ̅μ̅η̅ν̅.



Read the following sentences out loud. **Underline** words you understand. **Circle** words that you don't know.

1. Πευ βολδεν ρωοτ ἔπι τι ἡ ἔτατθωοτθδεν Πικεὰ νευ πι ρη̄ ἔτε Κωσταντινοῦπολης νευ πι ḥ ἔτε Ἐφεσοσ
2. ḗ ἔσοπ ἔμηνι ἔβολ ḗ δεν παθῆτ τηρϥ ἑναδμοῦ ἔπεκραν Ποσ ἔπιέπτηρϥ
3. Ἀριπρεσβετιν ἔρρη ἔχων νιογηβ ἔτε ἑμεθμῆ πικδ̄ ἔπρεσβυτεροσ ἔτεϥχα νενοβι ναν ἔβολ
4. Ἀριπρεσβετιν ἔρρη ἔχων ἔ πιρμδ̄ ἔγω νευ πιπαρθενοσ ἔνεταστελιστησ ἔτεϥχα νεννοβι ναν ἔβολ
5. Ἰωβδ ἔΠοσ ἔρρη ἔχων πισ̄ ἔοτ Ἀββα Ἰακαρι νευ νοτωμηρι ἔστατροφοροσ ἔτεϥχα νεννοβι ναν ἔβολ



Lesson 10: Demonstrative Pronouns

- ❖ Demonstrative pronouns are used to point to something specific within a sentence. Pronouns can be specific to time or place.
- ❖ Demonstrative pronouns used to point to something near in time or distance: this, these
- ❖ Demonstrative pronouns used to point to something far in time or distance: that, those
- ❖ A few English examples:
 - This is a book.
 - These children are going to class.
 - That car is driving fast.
 - Those apples are delicious.

- ❖ In Coptic, the demonstrative pronouns exist in the near and far forms for the masculine and feminine forms.

- ❖ Demonstrative pronouns of the near form

Single masculine	ⲡⲁⲓ	This
Single feminine	Ⲛⲁⲓ	This
Plural	ⲡⲁⲓ	These

- ❖ Demonstrative pronouns of the far form

Single masculine	ⲡⲏ or ⲡⲉ	That
Single feminine	Ⲛⲏ or Ⲛⲉ	That
Plural	ⲡⲏ or ⲡⲉ	Those

- ❖ Examples:

This censer (f)	Ⲛⲁⲓ Ⲙⲟⲩⲣⲏ
This day (m)	ⲡⲁⲓ ⲉⲑⲟⲟⲩ
This table (f)	Ⲛⲁⲓ ⲧⲣⲁⲡⲉⲗⲁ
This place (m)	ⲡⲁⲓ ⲙⲁ
These gifts	ⲡⲁⲓ ⲗⲱⲣⲟⲛ
That land (m)	ⲡⲉ Ⲙⲁⲗⲓ
That woman (f)	Ⲛⲉ Ⲙⲁⲙⲉ
Those things	ⲡⲏ ⲉⲧⲉⲣⲛⲟⲩⲣⲓ
Those who handle	ⲡⲏ ⲉⲧⲱⲱⲧ

- ❖ Note how in the plural form no differentiation is made between male or female.



❖ Exercise:

This man	
This mother	
These priests	
That church	
Those deacons	
These censers	
That bread	
This virgin	

Footnote:

The near forms of the demonstrative pronouns exist in two forms. The one mentioned above is the absolute form which is used as a substantive (e.g. this is the day which the lord has made). The other form is the constructive form which is used immediately before the noun (e.g. this land). However, for our purposes we will only use absolute form.



In — **ⲄⲈⲚ**
The name — **Ⲫⲣⲁⲛ**
Of the father — **ⲓⲪⲓⲱⲧ**
(In the name of
the Father)

God — **Ⲑⲣⲛⲟⲩⲧ**
One — **ⲛⲟⲩⲱⲧ**
Amen — **ⲁⲙⲛⲛ**
(One God,
Amen)

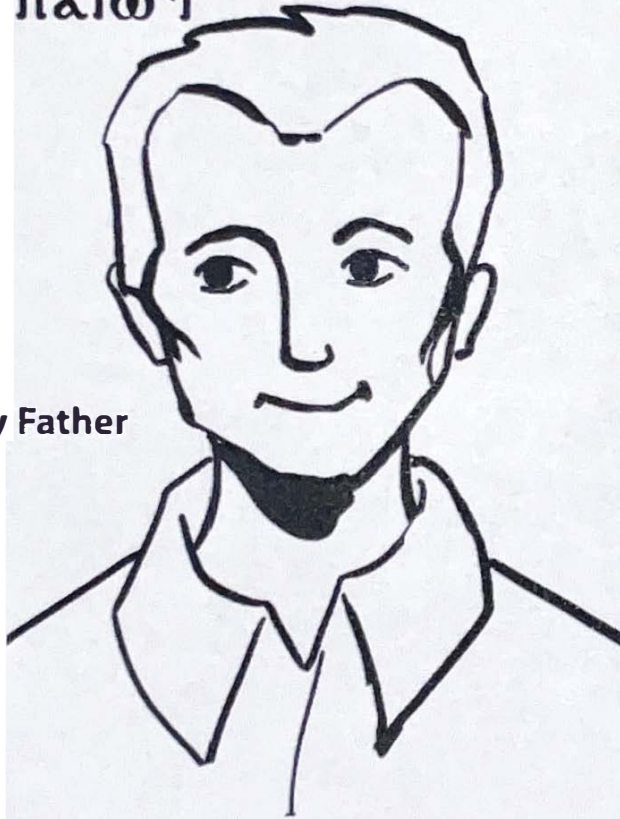
and — **ⲚⲈⲘ**
the son — **ⲛⲱⲛⲣⲓ**
(and the son)

ⲚⲈⲘ — and
ⲛⲓⲛⲛⲉⲩⲙⲁ — the spirit
Ⲉⲑⲟⲩⲁⲃ — Holy
(and the Holy
Spirit)



ΠΑΙΩΤ

My Father



ΤΑΛΛΑΤ

My Mother



9





ΠΑΔΟΝ
My Brother

ΤΑΔΩΝΙ

My Sister



10

Coptic Vocabulary



ἀποστολος=Apostle



σωτηρ = Savior



ψογρι =Censer



Ψηηλ = Pray



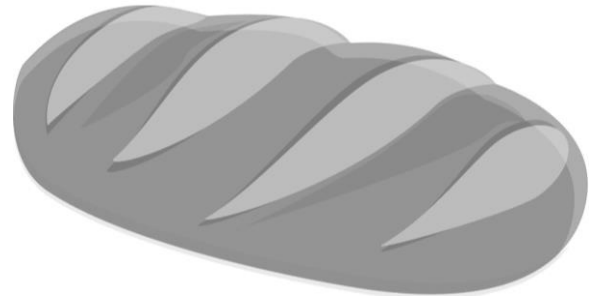
αψτωνψ = He rose



Διακον=Deacon



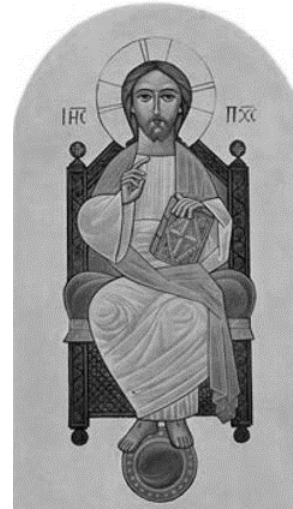
ΟΥΩΙΝΙ=Light



ΠΩΙΚ = The Bread



Ἰπαρθένος =The Virgin



Ἰφνοῦς = God





5th and 6th Grade Hymns

1. Tai Shori (Prayed in Coptic):

<p>This censer of pure gold, bearing the aroma, is in the hands of Aaron the priest, offering up incense upon the altar.</p>	<p>Παιγοτηρ ηνουβ ηκαθαρος ετχαι δα παρωματα: ετδεν nenxiχ ηδλων πιονηβ εχταλε ουεθουνοχη επωω ενεν πιμα ηερωωουχι.</p>	<p>Tay-shory ennob enka- tharos etfai kha pi-aro- mata, etkhen nen-jeeg en-A-aron pi-oweeb eftale oo-estoi-nofi e- epshoi ejen pima en- ersho-oshi.</p>
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2. Amen Amen (Prayed in Coptic)

<p>Amen. Amen. Amen. Your Death, O Lord, we proclaim; Your holy Resurrection and Ascension into the heavens, we confess.</p> <p>We praise You, we bless You, we thank You, O Lord, and we entreat You, O our God.</p>	<p>Αμην αμην αμην: τον θανατον σου Κυριε κατασσελλομεν: κε την ασιαν σου αναστασιν κε την αναληψιν σου ητης ουρανις σε ομολοσομεν.</p> <p>σε ενομεν σε ευλοσομεν σι ευχαριστομεν Κυριε: κε δεομεθα σου ο θεος ημων.</p>	<p>Amen Amen Amen: Ton Thanaton Coo Keria katangelomen Ke teen Again coo A- nactacin ke teen anale-ep-sin Soo En- tees Ooranis se Oo- mologhomen Ce E-noomen Ce Evloghomen Ci efkharictomen Kyria: Ke theometha Soo O Theos Eemon.</p>
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Midnight Praises:

3. Arise O children of the Light (Prayed in English):

Arise O you children of the light, let us praise the Lord of hosts.
+ That He may grant us the salvation of our souls.
Whenever we stand before You in the flesh.
+ Cast away from our minds the slumber of sleep.
Grant us sobriety O Lord, that we may know how to stand before You at times of prayer.
+ And ascribe unto You the befitting glorification, and win the forgiveness of our many sins. Glory be to You O Lover of Mankind.
Behold bless the Lord all you servants of the Lord. Glory be to You O Lover of Mankind.
+ You who stand in the house of the Lord, in the courts of the house of our God. Glory be to You O Lover of Mankind.
By night lift up your hands O you saints and bless the Lord. Glory be to You O Lover of Mankind.
+ The Lord bless you from Zion, who made heaven and earth. Glory be to You O Lover of Mankind.
Let my cry come near before You O Lord, give me understanding according to Your word. Glory be to You O Lover of Mankind.
+ Let my supplication come before You, deliver me according to Your word. Glory be to You O Lover of Mankind.
My lips shall utter praise, for you teach me Your statutes. Glory be to You O Lover of Mankind.
+ My tongue shall speak of Your words for all Your commandments are righteousness. Glory be to You O Lover of Mankind.
Let Your hand become my help for I have chosen Your precepts. Glory be to You O Lover of Mankind.
+ I longed for Your salvation O Lord, and Your Law is my delight. Glory be to You O Lover of Mankind.
Let my soul live and it shall praise You, and let Your judgments help me. Glory be to You O Lover of Mankind.
+ I have gone astray like a lost sheep, seek Your servant for I do not forget Your commandments. Glory be to You O Lover of Mankind.
Glory to the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit. Glory be to You O Lover of Mankind.
+ Now and ever and unto the ages of the ages Amen. Glory be to You O Lover of Mankind.
Glory to the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit, now and forever and unto all the ages Amen. Glory be to You O Lover of Mankind.
+ Glory be to You O good One the Lover of Mankind, glory be to Your Mother the Virgin and all Your saints. Glory be to You O Lover of Mankind.



Glory be to You O only-begotten One, O holy Trinity have mercy upon us. Glory be to You O Lover of Mankind.

+ Let God arise and let all His enemies be scattered and let all that hate His holy name flee from before His face. Glory be to You O Lover of Mankind.

As for Your people let them be blessed, a thousand thousand fold and ten thousand ten thousand fold, doing Your will.

+ O Lord open my lips, and my mouth shall declare Your praise.

Explanation of Hymns

Tai Shory

We pray this hymn while Abouna is raising incense with the censer. The Censer reminds of the Saint Mary who carried the fire of Divinity of Christ in her womb. The sweet smell (aroma) that come forth is Jesus Christ himself that filled the whole earth. In his vision of heaven, John saw the twenty four priests carrying bowls and raising incense. Also, the incense was prayer of the saints. As abouna passes next to everyone of us, we should pray from our hearts and ask God to forgive us our sins.

Amen, Amen, Amen

During the liturgy, Abouna prays the Institution prayers, when Christ established Eucharist and gave communion to the apostles. We pray this beautiful hymns taken from the words of St Paul himself (1 Corinthians 11:23-27). As we take communion, we unite with Christ and a reflection of Light. We ought to preach the love of God shown in his death on the cross. We should preach about the victory that God give to us through His resurrection. We have to keep our eyes up towards heaven and make it our most important goal.

Arise Children of the Light

We pray this wonderful hymn from psalm 119 at the beginning of Midnight praises. Our church is encouraging us to stay up and praise the Lord. Even though the darkness of the night surround us, we should be get our Light from the True light and shine all around us. We are asking God to grant us sobriety, meaning to be awake and pray with focus. Moreover, we are praying that God will make our tongues speak His holy words to everyone. In the final verse, we ask the Lord to open our mouth with praise so that we may rejoice with our Beloved.



.....So that you surely

Rejoice!

THE LORD
YOUR
GOD
WILL BLESS YOU
IN ALL YOUR PRODUCE
and in all the work of your hands,
SO THAT YOU SURELY
Rejoice
DEUTERONOMY 16:15



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