



ON THE PATH OF SALVATION

# PEOPLE WHO EXPERIENCED JESUS

GRADE 6

**TEACHERS GUIDE**  
**QUESTIONS & ANSWERS**  
**BIBLIOGRAPHY**



# How to use the book?

## Driving Questions

The teacher asks the question and listens to the response of the students

## Simulation Activity

Once the lesson is complete, the teacher reads the simulation question to students and asks them to circle their responses. Ask one or two students what their rating is and "why" they have chosen that rating for that question.

## My decision

The teacher should explain to the student the "why" and "how" of "my decision." Please encourage them to act on it faithfully. If that decision requires parents' assistance, please give a corresponding message to the parents' group.



## Prayer

The teacher and students pray together at the beginning of the lesson.

## Activities within the lesson

Activities are meant to ensure that the student understands the covered portion. There is a minimum of 4 and a maximum of 6 activities in a lesson. It is recommended to complete the activities in the class. Crosswords and acronym poems are to be completed as home work.

## Word of God for our guidance

The teacher and students recite the Word of God together at the beginning of the class or the end. Place a challenge for students to memorise it before the lesson is complete. Teachers can follow up or give gifts to those who memorise the "Word of God for our guidance."

## Check your understanding

There are direct and application questions in this section. Direct questions are easy to learn by students. Application questions need more high-order thinking skills (Analyse, evaluate, and create). Hence, teachers are to use both direct and application questions proportionately for assessing their children.

## Activity 1

Complete the prayer of Angelus from your memory.

The angel of the lord declared unto Mary: **and she conceived of the holy spirit** (Hail Mary...

Behold the handmaid of the lord: **and be it done unto me according to thy word** (Hail Mary)...

And the word was made flesh: **and dwelt among us** (Hail Mary)

Let's pray: pour forth we beseech you o lord **thy grace into our hearts; that we, to whom the incarnation of Christ, Thy Son, was made known by the message of an angel, may by His Passion and Cross be brought to the glory of His Resurrection, through the same Christ Our Lord. Amen**

## Activity 2

Name three challenges Mary and Joseph faced while they journeyed to Bethlehem and explain why

1. Joseph and Mary expected their baby to be born in Nazareth. But the Romans ordered a census and so they had to travel to Bethlehem to register.
2. Hundreds had arrived to register for the census. Wherever they looked for accommodation, it was full and there was no place for them in the inn
3. They stayed in a barn. Mary gave birth to baby Jesus in the barn.

## Activity 3

Read the Announcements by an Angel to the Shepherds from the Gospel of Luke (Lk 2: 8-14) and fill in the passage with the right words

And an angel of the Lord appeared to them, and the **glory** of the Lord shone around them, and they were filled with **fear** And the angel said to them, "Be not **afraid**; for behold, I bring you **good news** of a great **joy** which will come to all the people; for to you is **born** is day in the city of David a **saviour**, who is Christ the Lord. And this will be a **sign** for you: you will find a baby **wrapped** in swaddling clothes and lying in a **manger**." And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host **praising** God and saying, "**Glory** to God in the highest, and on earth **peace** among men with whom he is pleased!

## Activity 4

Jesus' birth was the fulfilment of prophecies. The incidents associated with the birth of Jesus fulfilled many Old Testament prophecies given centuries ago. How do you think these prophecies were fulfilled in the birth of Jesus or in Jesus' role in salvation history?

"But you, Bethlehem, in the land of Judah, are not the least among the rulers of Judah; for out of you shall come a Ruler, who will shepherd My people Israel" (Micah5:2).

Write your answer: **Jesus was born in Bethlehem and was known as the Good Shepherd.**

“The virgin is with child and shall bear a son, and shall name him Immanuel” (Isa. 7:14).

Write your answer: **The Virgin Mary gave birth to the Son of God Jesus and the name Immanuel means “God is with us”.**

### **Did You Know?**

The three traditional colours used for most Christmas decorations have religious significance. Red is for the blood of Jesus Christ, green symbolises His resurrection, and gold His status as the King of kings. Can you find out the meaning of the gifts that the Magi offered to Jesus?

Gold stands for **kingship**. Frankincense stands for **divinity**. Myrrh stands for **mortality**.

### **Activity 5**

Let the children reflect in silence “The people living in darkness have seen a great light; on those living in the land of the shadow of death, a light has dawned” (Mat 4:16). Have a class discussion on how can we give of ourselves to bring joy to others? Write down your answer.

Have a class discussion on how we can give of ourselves to bring joy to others?

Answers will vary. Living by the commandments of God and doing acts of kindness like volunteering are some examples.



### **Simulation Activity**

This activity relates to how the student experiences the topic. The teacher can ask “why” to these simulation questions. (Circle your answer on a scale 0 to 5 (0 = I do not agree, 5= I strongly agree)

1. ⑤ 2. ⑤ 3. ⑤



### **Let Us Do**

Write an acrostic (each letter of the word is the first letter of another word) poem using the letters in the word **CHRISTMAS**.

Answers will vary but an example is given below.

**C**elebrating the Savior’s birth,  
**H**eralding joy and peace to earth.  
**R**ejoice, for Christ has come,  
**I**n a humble Bethlehem home.  
**S**hepherds in fields, angels sing,  
**T**idings of hope, to all they bring.  
**M**anger scene, a holy night,  
**A**doring hearts, bathed in light,  
**S**tar above, guiding the way.



## Check Your Understanding

### 1. What was the song of the angels at the time of Jesus' birth?

Glory to God in the Highest.

### 2. Christmas is the central event of the liturgical seasons of Annunciation-Nativity. True or False? Why?

True. In the Syro-Malabar Catholic Church, Christmas is indeed considered the central event of the liturgical seasons of Annunciation-Nativity marking the fulfillment of the promise of salvation. The liturgical year of Syro- Malabar church starts with the season of annunciation which consists of four weeks in preparation for Christmas (Mangalavarthakalam). The two weeks following Christmas is called the season of nativity (Piravikalam or Yalda). The liturgical year in the Syro-Malabar Church is structured around the major events of salvation history, and the Annunciation. (when the angel Gabriel announced to Mary that she would conceive Jesus) and Nativity (the birth of Jesus) are significant aspects of this liturgical cycle.

### 3. What was the sign given by the angel to the shepherds to identify the newborn Saviour?

The angels said they would find Him wrapped in swaddling clothes and lying in a manger.

### 4. Explain the self- giving love revealed in the Christmas story with reference to God the Father and God the Son.

The Christmas story is a powerful revelation of self-giving love within the Trinity—God the Father sending His Son out of love for the world, and God the Son willingly coming into the world to offer salvation through His life, death, and resurrection. It is a story of divine love manifested in humility, vulnerability, and sacrifice for the sake of humanity.

### 5. During Christmas, you go shopping to buy a Christmas card for your friend. All you see is cards with pictures of Santa and "Seasons Greetings." You are not happy and you decide to make a Christmas card all by yourself. Answer the following questions: (A) Why did you choose to make a card of your own? (B) Share whose pictures you would want on your card that gives the real meaning of Christmas. (C) Write a message of salvation that Christ brings to you and your friend.

(A) The store bought card does not express my faith and values and the true meaning of Christmas which is that our Saviour was born.

(B)The Nativity Scene, The angels, shepherds and magi, the Star over Bethlehem

(C) Dear [Friend's Name],

As we celebrate this Christmas season, I wanted to share with you the profound message of salvation that Christ brings. In the humble town of Bethlehem, our Savior was born - Jesus Christ, the embodiment of God's love and redemption for humanity. His birth marks the beginning of a journey that leads to salvation, hope, and everlasting joy. In a world sometimes filled with challenges, the message of Christmas reminds us that God is with us, offering grace, forgiveness, and the promise of eternal life. May this Christmas be a time of reflection, gratitude, and a renewed sense of hope as we contemplate the incredible gift of salvation brought to us through the birth of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ. Wishing you a blessed and joyous Christmas!

With love, [Your Name]

## Crossword

**Across:** 2. Anno Domini 3. Roman 4. Nazareth 5. Elizabeth 6. Twenty-Five 8. Saviour

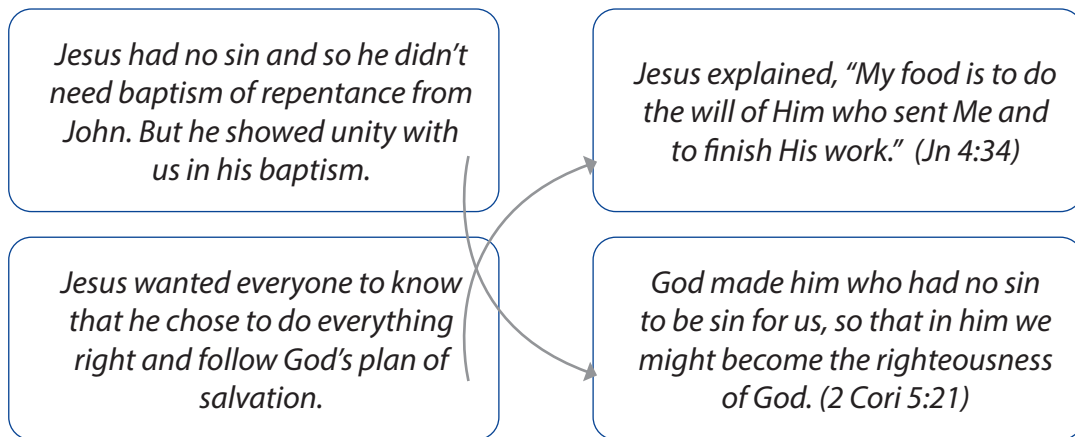
**Down:** 1. David 2. Annunciation 7. Mary

# Lesson 2

## The lamb of God who takes away the sins of the world

### Activity 1

Reflecting on the lesson, students should match the following statements with the corresponding Bible verse.



### Activity 2

How was the Holy Trinity revealed at the Baptism? Fill in the column with the right choice of words: Jesus, a Voice from heaven, a Dove descending.

God the Father	A voice from heaven
God the Son	Jesus
God the Holy Spirit	A dove descending

### Activity 3

Match the phrases below to their corresponding titles of Jesus: The anointed one, sacrifice on the cross, Voice from the Father

The Messiah/Christ	The Anointed one
Son of God	Voice from the Father
Lamb of God	Sacrifice on the cross

## Activity 4

Teacher and Students sing together Udhana Geetham (*Sarvadhanama Karthave*)

Sarvadhanam Karthave

Nin sthuthi njangal padunnu

Eeso nadha vinayamode

Ninne namichu pukazhthunnu

Marthyanu nithya mahonathamam

Udhanam nee arulunnu

Akshayamavanude athmavinu

Uthama rakshayumekunnu.

## Activity 5

Fill in the Boxes.

<i>Deneha- Culturally specific</i>	<i>Mention the ritual here</i>	<i>Meaning</i>
<i>Raakkuli Perunnal</i>	<b>In certain places, this feast was celebrated with a Holy Qurbana during the night, towards the dawn, preceded by a ritual bath to commemorate Jesus' baptism; hence the name, Raakulipperunnal.</b>	<i>Jesus being baptised in Jordan</i>
<i>Pindikuthi Perunnal</i>	<b>In other places it was a family celebration of lighting a large number of oil lamps on the cores of a cut banana plant. This was followed by traditional dancing, whilst singing in Syriac language, "God is light" or "El Payya."</b>	<i>The 'Great Light' the world waited for has come.</i>



## Simulation Activity

This activity relates to how the student experiences the topic. The teacher can ask “why” to these simulation questions. (Circle your answer on a scale 0 to 5 ((0 = Not much, 5 = very much)

1. ⑤ 2. ⑤ 3. ⑤



## Check Your Understanding

### 1. Explain how God reveals Himself in three persons during the baptism of Jesus.

We find all three persons of the Trinity at the baptism of Jesus. Father, Son and Spirit. The Holy Spirit descended in the form of a dove and rested on Jesus, symbolising the anointing of the Spirit. Thus, Jesus was revealed to the world as the Messiah, or the Christ, meaning “the anointed one.” The Father in Heaven proclaimed; “This is my beloved Son, with whom I am well pleased” (Mt 3:17).

### 2. Explain the witnessing of John the Baptist in terms of the titles he used to address Jesus.

Son of God

Lamb of God

One who baptizes with Holy Spirit

John revealed to his disciples the mission of Jesus. One day, John was with his disciples and he saw Jesus, walking towards him. John witnessed to Jesus like this; “Here is the Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world!” “The Lamb of God” means that God’s Son, our Lord Jesus Christ, is the perfect and complete sacrifice for our sins. There is no need now for anyone to ever offer an animal as a sacrifice for his sins. (This was the custom in the former days. See Lev 17:11). John revealed that Jesus Christ, the Son of God, is going to die for the sins of all people, for all time.

### 3. Name the feast and the day on which we commemorate the baptism of Jesus.

The Baptism of Jesus is celebrated as a major feast called the Epiphany or Deneha thirunnal on the 6th of January.

### 4. Only with baptism, we are entitled to receive other sacraments. Identify at least two effects that baptism has on our spiritual living.

Baptism enables us to pass on our faith to our children, and their children, for generations to come. It is the faith of the Church. The sacrament of baptism takes the believer from the simple repentance, belief and profession of faith into a more profound identification with Christ. All of us who were baptized into Christ Jesus were baptized into his death. Through Baptism we are integrated into Christ and His eternal life.

### 5. What is the most beautiful inheritance that parents will leave to their children?

Faith is the most beautiful inheritance parents will leave to their children.

### 6. The Messiah or the Christ is the word used by John the Baptist and by Peter to witness Jesus. What does this word signify?

It means the Anointed one.

### 7. Outline how the baptism of Jesus revealed the Holy Trinity.

(same as question 1)

## Crossword

**Across:** 3. Salvation 6. Sandals 8. Epiphany 9. Jordan 10. Denaha

**Down:** 1. Son 2. Jesus 3. Spirit 4. Lamb 5. Innocence 7. Death

## Additional Activity

Match the following: In the first column, there are some phrases or sentences used in Baptism in the Syro-Malabar rite. In the second column, impacts of baptism are given. What you need to do match them.

1 Lord God, may this child become worthy to call you "Father."	1 We receive a sign of immortality in our souls
2 Lord, you have enabled this child to a new life by a spiritual birth.	2 We receive royal priesthood
3 Do you accept Jesus Christ as your Saviour? Yes, I do.	3 We become members of the Church
4 We pray that this child be a member of the Church, be adorned with all spiritual and earthly blessings.	4 Our duty to live a life of sanctity
5 Lord God, bless your servant to be sanctified by the Holy Spirit and to partake in the royal priesthood of Christ.	5 We are entering into the road of salvation
6 Those who are baptised in this water may attain salvation.	6 We become the children of God
7 May our Lord Jesus adorn you with the robe of sanctity and help you to a life of innocence.	7 We accept Jesus as our saviour
8 This oil becomes the sign of immortality in the baptism for the forgiveness of sins.	8 We are given a new life

1-6 2-8 3-7 4-3 5-2 6-5 7-4 8-1

## Activity 1

Hunger is a human craving. Every human craving is designed by God in body and it has a purpose. But these cravings can be a temptation to sin because we may try to satisfy them with excess, inappropriate actions or without any consideration of others. This may enclose us in a situation of selfishness, distancing us from God. Some human cravings that can become a sin are listed below. Please find out the temptations associated with each that leads us to sin.

Human cravings	How do they become sin?
<i>Hunger</i>	Gluttony
<i>Thirst</i>	Alcohol consumption
<i>Sleep</i>	Sloth
<i>Sex</i>	Lust
<i>Bodily comfort</i>	Laziness
<i>Appearance of body</i>	immodest dressing

## Activity 2

Carefully go through the questions and write down your answers.

### 1. What is wrong about the devil's offer?

He was testing God and trying to get Jesus to fall into temptation.

### 2. Why is the choice attractive?

The choice was attractive because it was easy and Jesus was tired and hungry.

### 3. How does Jesus respond?

Jesus is the Son of God. Jesus denied the devil's temptations using scripture. Jesus knew it was wrong to test God and answered the Devil "Do not put the Lord your God to the test". and Jesus did the right thing each time.

## Activity 3

A lot of people undergo the same temptation to possess everything without God. Others believe that "to be good, you don't need God." Write two arguments which prove the passage that we should worship the Lord 'Worship the Lord your God, and serve him only;' and explain your views.

Answers will vary.

## Activity 4

Complete these sentences by picking the right word to make it a meaningful thought.

- We are tempted by the **lies** of satan and therefore the Bible helps us to rely on the **truth** of God's Word.
- We are tempted by our inner **weakness**. Prayer helps us overcome temptations by unleashing the **power** of God in us.
- Wrong things sometimes look **really good** to us and therefore they can tempt us to walk away from our commitments. Fasting or abstinence is a way of growing in one's level of **commitment**.
- **Temptations** are sometimes pervasive illusions of self-fulfillment, self-power and self-advancement. Acts of **mercy** and **sharing** our wealth, time and other resources help us to grow in selfless love.



Make an acrostic (each letter of the word is the first letter of another word) using the letters in the word **TEMPTATION**. Write the letters on the whiteboard and let your students discuss answers.

Examples: **T**=television, **E**=evil words, **M**=money, etc.

Answers will vary but an example is given below.

**T** - Television

**E** - Evil words

**M** - Materialism

**P** - Procrastination

**T** - Tribulations

**A** - Anger

**T** - Trials

**I** - Insensitive

**O** - Overeating

**N** - Neglectful



### Check Your Understanding

#### 1. What does it mean to be tempted?

The Catechism of the Catholic Church defines temptation as "an attraction, either from outside oneself or from within, to act contrary to right reason and the commandments of God" (CCC 538).

It can happen to us in many ways such as:

- Sometimes when we want to do the wrong thing.
- When we don't feel like doing something that we know is good, that is also temptation.
- Sometimes temptation can occur when bad things look really good to us. Satan tempts us. He hates it when we are good, so he tries to make bad things seem good to us. Sometimes he makes them look so good that we forget what God says and just do the bad thing.

#### 2. Where was Jesus when He was tempted?

The Judean Wilderness

**3. What did Jesus do every time Satan tried to get Him to do wrong?**

He denied the temptation and quoted scripture.

**4. Write down at least three Lenten activities that the Catholics learnt to do from Jesus' wilderness experience.**

Fasting, abstinence, prayer, and be informed and empowered by the Word of God.

**5. How do you think fasting and abstinence help a person to overcome temptation?**

Fasting and abstinence accompany fervent prayer to God. Fasting and abstinence makes one's prayer more acceptable to God. It is a way of demonstrating one's level of commitment before the Lord and the internal promise to battle against temptations.

**6. You are stressed in your study room because of a pending assignment and an upcoming exam. Seeing this, your mum has asked you to read your Bible for fifteen minutes and start your study with a Hail Holy Queen. How do you respond to her request? Why?**

I accept my mums advise because I understand that the Scripture provides us the wisdom of God. Reading the Bible and reflecting on Gods wisdom enables me to walk by the Spirit. The Bible throws light on to the will of God and helps me to make right choices.

Jesus reminds us of the importance of prayer in times of trials. Prayer unleashes the power of God and channels His grace into our life. Through the Hail Holy Queen prayer mother Mary intercedes for us.

**7. Just because we can do something, it doesn't always make it the right thing to do. Can you explain this statement using any incidents from your school life or from life with your friends or family?**

Answers will vary.

## Lesson

# 4

# Jesus who proclaims the good news of the Kingdom of God

## Activity 1

Read: Luke 4:16–21

Children are to create a cartoon strip of the 5 main points of Jesus's proclamation. Why to draw? Images are one of the ways God is revealed to us. Images are called "windows to the kingdom of heaven" because they represent the spiritual world and the Kingdom of God that is within us. Your cartoon strip should reveal the idea as well as how it is realised in today's world. Use your own paper.

*Good News to the Poor*



*Liberation of those in  
bondage*



*Sight for the blind*



*Freedom for the oppressed*



*The Year acceptable to the Lord*



## Extension Activity

How does Jesus's proclamation (Lk 4:16-21) tell us what the Kingdom of God is like?

Jesus's proclamations inform us that attaining the Kingdom of God is similar to attaining liberation from all our worldly struggles and reaching eternal peace. Through the proclamation, Jesus presents hope to humanity to be removed of their present sorrows and afflictions and guides those have strayed in the path of righteousness.

## Activity 2

**Complete the sentences below:** Answers can vary. Below are few examples only

I help to build the kingdom of God in my family by **helping my parents with households chores.**

I help to build the kingdom of God in my school by **taking my studies seriously and applying my God-given gifts.**

I help to build the kingdom of God with my friends by **always supporting and advising them.**

I help to build the kingdom of God in my parish by **assisting the parish community.**



### Simulation Activity

This activity relates to how the student experiences the topic. The teacher can ask “why” to these simulation questions. (0 = I do not agree, 5= I strongly agree)

1. ⑤ 2. ⑤ 3. ⑤ 4. ⑤

*This can be a self-reflection activity – ask the kids to rate themselves based on how much they follow the actions required to attain the Kingdom of God.*



### Check Your Understanding

1. **Complete the sentence (Remember).**

The time is fulfilled, and the kingdom of God is at hand: **Repent** and believe in the gospel (Mark 1:15). “Tell us in your own words what you think that verse means?”

(Comprehend). It means being aware of our wrongdoings and turning to God to be cleansed, and taking action to amend ourselves.

2. **Mention the 5 points in Jesus’s proclamation of the Kingdom from his Synagogue preaching in Nazareth. (Luke 4:14-30). Fill in the statements below:**

3. **Good News** to the Poor; **Liberation** of those in bondage; **Sight** for the blind. **Freedom** for the oppressed; The Year **acceptable** to the Lord.

4. **How might this teaching affect a Christian’s actions and choices? (Apply).**

To act in accordance to the Word of God to reach the Kingdom of Heaven.

4. **“How can you use The Parable of the Mustard Seed from Matthew 13:31-32 in your daily life as an example to establish the kingdom of God (Apply).**

Doing small acts of kindness like helping your parents, caring for your siblings, and listening to teachers can go a long way to form our character and live in a way pleasing to God.

5. **Design a children’s ministry to meet the needs of younger children (years 1 and 2) in your church? (Analyse).**

Answers will vary.

What are the needs of younger children in your church?

- How to pray
- Learn the life of Jesus to imitate Him
- How to act like God’s children ( Eg: obeying parents, no stealing, no fighting) and understanding the meaning behind each action

## Activity 1

The Prodigal Son - A Class Skit.

## Activity 2

**Class Discussion:** Teacher to lead the discussion and let students share their responses. Teacher to make a debrief at the end to correct incorrect responses.

**What did you learn from the Parable of the Prodigal son?**

**About the nature of God:** That the prodigal son and his self-righteous brother both made mistakes, however the father loved them both. In the same way, God loves us and promises to forgive us when we repent.

**About repentance:** We are all sinners and God promises to forgive us when we repent.

## Activity 3

**Class discussion:** Teacher to lead the discussion and let students share their responses. Teacher to debrief at the end to correct the incorrect responses.

**Topic 1: What is God's attitude when we repent over our sins and start to follow Jesus?**

If we truly repent, God neither keeps account nor judges us. Christ's love is shown in the fact that he seeks the lost and heals the sick. That is why he gave us the sacraments of healing and restoration, in which we are freed from sin and strengthened in our physical and spiritual weaknesses.

**Topic 2: In the parable of the lost sheep and the lost coin, the people who lost their valuables did look for them high and low. What should we do with people who are lost in sin or those who do not believe in Jesus?**

We need to search for lost sinners and help them turn to Jesus. Jesus asks us to teach everyone to obey His commandments. As children of God, we need to search for the lost and tell them about Jesus. Every baptized person is called to be a missionary and witness to Christ.

**Topic 3: The Word of God tells: "for everyone has sinned; we all fall short of God's glorious standard." Hence, identify the attitudes with which we should approach God?**

We should approach God with the aim to seek his kindness and mercy revealed through Jesus Christ, and truly asking pardon of our sins.

## Activity 4

**Class discussion:** Teacher to lead the discussion and let students share their responses. Teacher a debrief at the end to correct the incorrect responses.

**One of your friends ignored you while you were playing football/netball. You felt excluded in your heart and wanted to ignore him/her too. What are the ways you could possibly respond to this situation? Answers can vary.**

## What is the right way of responding?

- Assume it was not intentionally and treat them kindly
- Speak to them and inform them you felt this way
- If they intentionally ignored you for a reason, understand their reasoning and seek forgiveness if you hurt them
- If their reasoning is not justified, still forgive them and treat them with respect

## Which is the right way of response of your choice?

Speak to them, inform them you felt this way and seek clarification. If they intentionally ignored you for a reason, understand their reasoning and seek forgiveness if you hurt them. Even if their reasoning is not justified, still forgive them and treat them with respect, as Jesus states ““You have heard that it was said, ‘Eye for eye, and tooth for tooth.’ But I tell you, do not resist an evil person. If anyone slaps you on the right cheek, turn to them the other cheek also. And if anyone wants to sue you and take your shirt, hand over your coat as well (Matthew 5:38-48)”.



## Simulation Activity

This activity relates to how the student experiences the topic. The teacher can ask “why” to these simulation questions. (0 = I do not agree, 5= I strongly agree)

1. ⑤ 2. ⑤ 3. ⑤



## Check Your Understanding

1. What did the Prodigal son ask from his father?

His inheritance

2. What was the decision of the prodigal son who repented for his sins?

He left to reunite with his father and seek forgiveness for his wrongdoing.

3. Before the feast, the father adorned his repenting son with **a robe, ring and sandals.**

4. What is God’s attitude when we repent over our sins and start to follow Jesus?

(Repeated question in activity 3) If we truly repents, God neither keeps account nor judges us. Christ’s love is shown in the fact that he seeks the lost and heals the sick. That is why he gave us the sacraments of healing and restoration, in which we are freed from sin and strengthened in our physical and spiritual weaknesses

5. In your opinion, why did Jesus not judge the sinful woman?

This is because Jesus knew that He would die to pay for the sins of this woman and the sins of the entire world (John 3:16), which is the same thing he would do for us.

6. What does Jesus demand from those who are forgiven from their sins?

He demands us to not sin again and return with a true heart of repentance and true faith in His salvation.

7. What is the meaning of the word Metanoia?

Metanoia = conversion, repentance, penance.

8. One cannot be a **Christian** if one continues to be “immoral or greedy, an idolater or slanderer, a drunkard or swindler.” (1 Cor 5,11).

# Jesus who took our wounds upon Himself

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## Activity 1

Jesus is my Super Hero. Write down the strengths that you see in Jesus and why you like Him the most?

Jesus is my superhero because He is kind, strong, humble, wise, generous and sacrificed himself to save humanity.

## Activity 2

Reflect and write - Think about instances in your life where you were fatigued or stressed out to do something which finally ended up in joy. Hints: exam, sports practise.

Answers will vary.

Example: I was very stressed for my final exam and spent so much time studying that I became so tired. I prayed very hard during the studies and before the exam. When my results came back I saw that I got full marks and I was in joy.

## Activity 3

Read, reflect and write.

Jesus still endured the suffering even though He could make it stop because He loved us so much that he was willing to do anything for us. He took up our pain and bore our suffering. By his wounds we are healed. Each of us has turned away from God. Jesus was pierced for our transgressions, He was crushed for our inequalities. He bore the sin of many and forgave us

## Activity 4

Reflect on Christian suffering deeper: Fill in the statements with the right choice of words below: [conversion, worship, gradually, love, conform, following].

1. The Meaning of human suffering can only be understood **gradually**.
2. Patient suffering is **following** the Master.
3. Sufferings, if well received can be transformed into act of **worship** and act of **love** for God.
4. Suffering has the potential to **conform** us to Jesus.
5. The story of prodigal son tells us that sufferings lead to **conversion**.

## Activity 5

Read the passage and write down an explanation of the statement that Jesus made to Peter. Focus your content on what was in Jesus' mind when He corrected Peter.

Jesus was trying to tell Peter that his sacrifice was necessary for eternal life not earthly life and that any hindrances to this was a temptation to not follow God.



### Simulation Activity

This activity relates to how the student experiences the topic. The teacher can ask “why” to these simulation questions. (0 = I do not agree, 5= I strongly agree)

1. ⑤ 2. ⑤ 3. ⑤ 4. ⑤



### Let Us Do

Here is a list of some important Messianic prophecies that Jesus fulfilled. You can complete the prophecy with the right word from the scriptures quoted.

- The Messiah is to be betrayed by a **Close Friend** (See Psalms 41:9; 55:12-14; fulfilled in Matthew 10:4; 26:49-50; John 13:21)
- The Messiah is to be sold for **thirty** pieces of silver. (See Zechariah 11:12; fulfilled in Matthew 26:15; 27:3)
- The Messiah is to be executed by crucifixion, by having His hands and feet **Pierced/Nailed** (See Psalm 22:16; fulfilled in John 19:28)
- The Messiah is to be executed without having a **one bone** broken. (See Exodus 12:46; Psalm 34:21; fulfilled in John 19:33-36)



### Check Your Understanding

#### 1. Why did Jesus have to suffer and die in His earthly life to save humanity from sins?

Jesus was well aware that He was the suffering servant chosen by Father and foretold by the prophets. He came with the mission to undo everything that Satan did to the world. Jesus had to follow the plan of God. Jesus came to save us. For this, Jesus had to take our place and accept the punishments we deserve for our wrong choices. He didn't deserve to be punished. He is sinless. Jesus knew that saving God's people from sin could only come through suffering and pain..

#### 2. “He was pierced for our transgressions; he was crushed for our iniquities” (Isaiah 53:5). Describe the Lord's passion in a paragraph

Mark's Gospel depicts the passion. “The Son of Man will be handed over to the chief priests and the scribes, and they will condemn him to death; then they will hand him over to the Gentiles; they will mock him, and spit upon him, and flog him and kill him; and after three days he will rise again” (Mk 10:33-34). Jesus was well aware that his life was going to be “given as a ransom for many” (Mt 20:28)

#### 3. Write a letter to your friend who is sad because he or she is taking a rest at home after a fall and a fracture. How will you inspire your friend to find meaning in his/her suffering?

Dear Friend,

I'm sorry to hear about your fracture and hope you have a speedy recovery. It's not all bad though! Jesus says to us, whoever wants to be my disciple must deny themselves and take up their cross and follow me. This means that we need to bear our crosses with patience and humility in obedience with God's will. Sufferings will actually lead us to experience God's kingdom. When done through Jesus, it can actually be transformed into an act of worship, and thus an act of love for God, which in turn, will be rewarded with eternal life in heaven. Any innocent suffering is related to Christ's suffering and can bring the saving power of God into the lives of many. The suffering of Jesus is proof of it. So you will be

okay! Realise that this experience brings you a step closer to God.

Love, (me)

**4. Give an example and explain how suffering can produce joy, hope or success.**

Suffering through extensive study and stress before exams can produce successful and joyous results. Suffering through rigorous training and practice can make us hopeful for winning sports and eventually have joyful success.

Suffering will lead us to experience Gods kingdom. When done through Jesus, it can be transformed into an act of worship, and thus an act of Love for God which in turn will be rewarded with eternal life in heaven.

**Crossword**

**Across:** 2. Conversion 4. Flogging 5. Love 7. Isaiah 8. Punishment

**Down:** 1. Transgressions 3. Ransom 6. Three

## Activity 1

Four supernatural events occurred when Jesus died. Discuss as a group and write down their significance.

1. **Jesus hung on the cross from 9 AM to 3 PM before he died (Mark 15:25). There was a total solar eclipse during the last three hours of Jesus' life. Total darkness was a sign of judgment, used as one of the plagues in Egypt (Ex 10:21-22).**

Right before the deliverance of Israel from Egyptian captivity, the world was submerged in complete darkness for three days. This was the 10th plague. This is used as a sign of Judgement. Similarly Right before Jesus' death on the cross, the whole land suddenly submerged in darkness. The world was in darkness when the Passover Lamb that takes away the sins of the world was dying on the cross.

2. **When Jesus died, the curtain veil in the Temple tore from top to bottom (Matt 27:51). This thick woven curtain separated the Holy of Holies. It split from top to bottom, not from the bottom up where man could have torn it.**

The tearing of the veil symbolizes that Jesus sacrifice on the cross was sufficient for atonement of our sins. The event signifies that now the way to Holy of Holies is open for all people. The veil was symbolic of Christ as the only way to Father. Jesus flesh is being torn for our sins just as the veil of the temple got torn. The veil was a constant reminder that sin renders humanity unfit for the presence of God. The tearing of the veil symbolizes that Jesus sacrifice on the cross was sufficient for atonement of our sins. We can enter the Most Holy place through the body and blood of Jesus Christ.

3. **At the same time, there was a massive earthquake (Matt 27:51). In the history of the Old Testament, earthquakes accompanied special, divine acts of God like when God gave His Law to Moses on Mt. Sinai. (Ex 19:18).**

Earthquakes in the Bible often accompanied divine revelation or a unique act of God. When God appeared to Moses on Sinai to give His law, "the whole mountain shook violently" (Ex. 19:18). The earthquake at Jesus' death at Calvary can be connected to the Sinai event, signifying that suggesting that the demands of the law were fulfilled in Christ. The earthquake is a sign of God's divine intervention and presence at the moment of Jesus' death. It emphasises the divine significance of the crucifixion and confirms Jesus' messianic identity. It emphasises that Jesus is the long-awaited Messiah.

4. **As the earthquake occurred, ancient Jewish saints came walking out of their graves (Matt 27:52).**

God-honoring Jewish people were resurrected, seen as a symbol of Jesus' victory over death. It emphasizes the power of Christ's sacrifice and the hope of resurrection for believers. It further foreshadows Christ's resurrection itself. It emphasises that Jesus is the long-awaited Messiah.

## Activity 2

Write an acrostic poem (each letter of the word is the first letter of another word) using the letters in the word **CROSS**.

**C**hrist, **R**isen

**O**vercoming sin

**S**acrifice

**S**alvation

### Activity 3

Paraphrase in three sentences the meaning of Jesus' death on the Cross from the Parish priest's answer.

1. Jesus' crucifixion was not a random event but a pivotal part of God's mysterious plan
2. Jesus' death, foretold in scriptures, symbolised the substitution of his obedience for our disobedience.
3. There is a redemptive significance of Jesus' death, it highlights the preciousness of his sacrifice for the forgiveness of our sins.

### Activity 4

The seven sayings on the Cross: Find the seven sayings on the Cross which Jesus spoke, as recorded in the gospels. Fill in the right choice of words or phrases from the context. Once all students finish their work, all the class should stand up and read all the 7 sayings in a loud voice.

1. About the ninth hour, Jesus cried out, "My God, my God, why have you **forsaken** me?" (Matthew 27:46)
2. "Father, **forgive** them, for they do not know what they are doing" (Luke 23:34).
3. "I tell you the truth, today you will be with me in **paradise**" (Luke 23:43).
4. "Woman, here is your **son!**" and "Here is your **mother!**" He said, when Jesus recognized His mother standing near the cross with the Apostle John. (John 19:26-27).
5. Later, knowing that everything had now been finished, and so that Scripture would be fulfilled, Jesus said, "I am **thirsty**" (Jn 19:28).
6. Jesus said, **it is finished**. With that, he bowed his head and gave up his spirit (John 19:30).
7. "Father, into your hands I **commend** my spirit!" (Luke 23:46).



### Simulation Activity

This activity relates to how the student experiences the topic. The teacher can ask "why" to these simulation questions. (0 = I do not agree, 5= I strongly agree)

1. ⑤
2. ⑤
3. ⑤
4. ⑤
5. ⑤



### Check Your Understanding

1. The Son of Man came to give his life as a **ransom** for many" (Mt 20:28)
2. When Jesus was betrayed and arrested, he offered no resistance. In your opinion, why didn't Jesus resist?

Jesus didn't resist because he knew his death would be the fulfilment of the prophecy, he was submitting to God's will and accepting how his death is for love and forgiveness.

3. It was now about noon, and **darkness** came over the whole land until three in the afternoon.
4. Write down the four supernatural events that occurred when Jesus died?
  1. Earthquake

2. Darkness
3. Veil torn from top to bottom
4. Ancient Jewish saints were risen

**5. Jesus died for our sins. However, could Jesus have opted for another kind of death other than crucifixion? No**

**6. How do we understand and explain that it was not the Jews, but we who crucified Jesus?**

Jesus died because we couldn't make ourselves right with God on our own — only the sacrifice of God's perfect Son could do that. No man, not even the holiest, was ever able to take on himself the sins of all men and offer himself as a sacrifice for all. So it was our sins and actions that led Jesus to be crucified so that we could be forgiven.

**7. Covering the sacred mysteries of bread and wine with the Sosappa is a reminder of Jesus' burial.**

## Activity 1

Jesus' prayer "Father, forgive them" was answered in the lives of many people. Discuss in the class the amazing effect of Jesus' forgiveness prayer in the lives of:

1. The Roman centurion at the foot of the cross
2. One of the two thieves crucified with Jesus
3. Three thousand people in Jerusalem
4. For all those who would ever believe in Him, and for me personally

## Activity 2

**What do you think Peter understood from the parable that Jesus told him about forgiveness?**

"Forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who have trespassed us" is the main lesson from the parable told by Jesus. Just as how Jesus was willing to die to seek forgiveness of our sins from the Father, we must also do the same to our neighbour. Only then when will God forgive us on Judgement day of the many sins we commit in our daily lives. This is also in line with Jesus' command "Love one another as I have loved you".

## Activity 3

**Let the class sing together the Anna Pesaha song and discuss how it is connected to Mt 5:24: "When you are offering your gift at the altar, if you remember that your brother or sister has something against you, leave your gift there before the altar and go; first be reconciled to your brother or sister, and then come and offer your gift". Write your findings.**

Anna Pesaha Thirunalil,  
 karthavaruliya Kalpana pol  
 Thirunamathil cherneedam  
 Orumayodeebali arpikam.  
 Anuranjitharayi theernedam  
 Navamoru peedmoru keedam  
 Guruvin snehamodeeyagam  
 Thirumunpake anacheedam

*This song has great significance at the start of Syro- Malabar Holy Qurbana asking for forgiveness and reconciliation.*

### **Meaning or translation:**

As our Lord commanded  
 On the feast of Passover  
 Let us gather in His holy name  
 In unity, let us offer this sacrifice.  
 Let us be reconciled  
 And prepare a new altar  
 With the love of the Lord Jesus  
 Let us offer this Qurbana.



## Simulation Activity

This activity relates to how the student experiences the topic. The teacher can ask “why” to these simulation questions. (0 = I do not agree, 5= I strongly agree)

1. ⑤ 2. ⑤ 3. ⑤ 4. ⑤



## Check Your Understanding

### 1. Why should we de-escalate our anger or a situation of conflict with our efforts of forgiveness?

Jesus on the cross tells us that we have to forgive regardless of other persons response. We need to let our feeling of anger fade and move on with life. Starting point in forgiving others begins not with anyone else but with our own relationship with God and our own forgiveness.

If we do not de-escalate our anger and forgive others/seek forgiveness, we will be contagious carriers of the offenses we have suffered and can lead to sins like resentment and hostility. This can impact our everyday activities and our relationship with others as well as with the Lord.

### 2. Forgiveness is not really something about whether the wrongdoer deserves it or not. How do you explain this truth from the perspective of Jesus on the cross?

Jesus taught us about the merciful heart of God through his forgiveness on the cross. He asked the Father to forgive those who committed many wrongdoings such as the Roman soldiers who spat him, mocked him and brutally nailed Him to the cross, the angry mob that shouted for His Crucifixion and the thieves on either side of Him who teased Him. Hence, this portrays that it does not matter the sin or the severity, as everyone is deserving of forgiveness.

### 3. What are three actions involved in loving our enemies that Jesus taught us?

- “do good to those who hate you.”
- “bless those who curse you.”
- “pray for those who mistreat you” (Lk 6: 27- 28).

### 4. Let’s be reconciled and prepare a new altar. Every Syro-Malabar Holy Qurbana begins with this song (As our Lord commanded on the feast of Passover). How does the Holy Qurbana call us to forgive our neighbours?

The Holy Qurbana calls us to forgive our neighbours through the Anna Pesaha, where we are asked to be reconciled with our brothers and sisters before coming to offer our gifts at the altar. The Holy Qurbana contains its rite of reconciliation before Holy Communion which consists of recitation of Psalm 51, incensing, prayers of the faithful (karosusa), and sealing prayer of priests. Additionally, the Holy Qurbana begins with the Lord’s command to forgive one another before offering sacrifice and the exchange of peace, testifying that the worshipping community has forgiven one another.

### 5. Jesus asks us to pray for those who mistreat us (Lk 6:27-28). Write your opinion on how your prayer can gradually influence your resentment and lead to love and positivity. Demonstrate your point with an example from your life.

It is important to forgive others to ensure your heart is not filled with resentment and hostility. For example, if my brother has hurt me with his words, instead of fighting back, I choose to remain calm and hear out his point of view. I then forgive him, regardless of whether he asked for forgiveness or not, because I remember the mercy of God and Jesus’ command of loving one another. As a result, this creates a stronger relationship between myself and my brother as well as our relationship with God.

## Activity 1

Who were these people of Easter?

1. I went to the tomb to find Jesus. He wasn't there. I asked the gardener where he was and it turned out to be Jesus. Who am I? **Mary Magdalene (Jn 20:11-18)**
2. A friend and I went to the tomb. I got there second but went in first. Who am I? **Simon Peter (Jn 20:3-5)**
3. I was not there when Jesus appeared to the others. I would not believe it until I had proof. Who am I? **St Thomas (Jn 20:24-25)**
4. We were out fishing. I recognised Jesus on the shore. Who am I? **St John (Jn 21:7)**
5. We had just finished our meal. Then Jesus said to me, "Do you love me more than the others?" Who am I? **Simon Peter (Jn 21:15)**

## Activity 2

Fill in the blanks with your conviction that matches closely with the Resurrection of Jesus.

1. The Resurrection of Jesus is hope for all who continue to suffer because, I believe, **His light illuminates the dark moments of our existence and we are able to share it with others.'**
2. Everything passes, but, after death, I believe, **We shall be forever with the Lord.**
3. I trust that Jesus understands us, forgives us, embraces us and loves us because He is risen and is present in His **CHURCH**, and its **SACRAMENTS**.
4. By His resurrection, I believe Jesus defeated **SIN, SATAN** and **DEATH**.

## Activity 3

Write the meaning of symbols

1. Dove descending: Holy Spirit
2. Empty Cross: Resurrection
3. Blooming buds at the end of the four arms: Fruits of resurrection
4. Lotus: Divine birth, purity



## Activity 4

From the table below, pair which sacrament is alluded to each post resurrection command of Jesus Christ.

Post resurrection command of Jesus Christ	Which sacrament is this alluded to?
<i>"Therefore, go and make disciples of all nations, baptising them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit ....." (Matthew 28:19).</i>	<b>Baptism</b>

<i>"Then the two told what had happened on the road [to Emmaus], and how they had recognized Jesus in the breaking of the bread" (Luke 24:35)</i>	<b>Eucharist</b>
<i>"Receive the Holy Spirit. If you forgive the sins of any, they are forgiven: if you retain the sins of any, they are retained" (John 20: 22-23).</i>	<b>Confession</b>
<i>"Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, even so I send you. And when he said this, he breathed on them, and said to them, "Receive the Holy Spirit" (John 20: 21-22).</i>	<b>Confirmation</b>
<i>Simon, son of John, do you love me more than these?" "Yes, Lord," he said, "you know that I love you." Jesus said, "Feed my lambs" (John 21: 15 ).</i>	<b>Holy Orders</b>
<i>"In my name, ..... they will place their hands on sick people, and they will get well" (Mark 16:18).</i>	<b>Anointing of the Sick</b>
<i>"Husbands, love your wives, as Christ loved the Church. .... This is a great mystery, and I mean in reference to Christ and the Church" – St Paul says in Eph 5:25, 32.</i>	<b>Matrimony</b>



### Simulation Activity

This activity relates to how the student experiences the topic. The teacher can ask "why" to these simulation questions. (0 = I do not agree, 5= I strongly agree)

1. ⑤ 2. ⑤ 3. ⑤ 4. ⑤



### Check Your Understanding

1. Which is the day of resurrection?

Easter Sunday: The day Jesus defeated death and restored to us the most important privileges lost by sin.

2. Jesus rose on the third day after His death on the cross. Name "the three days reference" from any of Jesus' prophecies of His death and resurrection.

"Destroy this temple, and in three days I will raise it up (Jn 2:13-22)"

3. My sacramental life is witness to Jesus' resurrection and my participation in salvation. How do you explain this?

My sacramental life bears witness to Jesus' resurrection and active participation in salvation. By sharing in the various sacraments such as Communion and confession, I am able to build a profound connection with God and facilitate a transformative journey toward salvation. This perspective acts as the foundation of spiritual practices in daily life, reinforcing a dynamic relationship with the core principles of the Catholic faith.

**4. Mention three pieces of evidence of Jesus' resurrection.**

1. Empty tomb & linen garments signifying the absence of Jesus' body
2. Testimony of Apostles that they had touched Him, talked to Him and eaten with Him.
3. Jesus is risen is attested by more than 500 eye witnesses.

**5. One of your friends at school has told you that Jesus only died, but was not risen from the dead. How do you make it clear to him/her that Jesus is truly risen?**

Jesus is truly risen, as it says in the scriptures that "The Son of Man is going to be betrayed into the hands of men. They will kill him, and after three days he will rise" (Mark 9:30-32). This is the foundation of the Christian faith, as Saint Paul writes "If Christ has not been raised, our preaching is useless and so is your faith" (1 Corinthians 15:14). Additionally, Jesus has risen to fulfil the prophecies of the Old Testament which state that the Messiah would see death, but His body would not decay, because He would rise again.

There are evidences that Jesus is risen.

- Empty tomb & linen garments signifying the absence of Jesus' body.
- Testimony of Apostles that they had touched Him, talked to Him and eaten with Him.
- Jesus is risen is attested by more than 500 eye witnesses.

**6. Write a letter to one of your friends who lost his/her grandparent, or a close relative. In the letter, assure him/her of the hope in Christ's resurrection in this world and the next.**

Include statements similar to "Although we grieve the death of our loved ones, it is important to remember that we were not born for death, but for resurrection. In this world, everything passes, but, after death, we shall be forever with the Lord. It is the total certainty of hope. Similarly, when our loved ones pass away, they enter eternal peace and are with Jesus in Heaven".

**7. How does my Sunday obligation testify that "Jesus is risen"?**

Sunday is the day of resurrection. By attending Holy Qurbana on Sunday, we are celebrating the power, presence and reality of the risen Christ.

 Activity 1

1. Two disciples were walking, one is named Cleopas and the other is unnamed. Why is one of them left unnamed in the story?

So we could place ourselves in the shoes of the unnamed disciple.

2. They are on the road, walking in..... Can you describe their mood and attitude while travelling to Emmaus?

Great disappointment and confused after their master had been put to a cruel and horrible death.

3. But Jesus is walking with them in a discrete manner, He is able to restore hope. He speaks and listens to them. What should we do if we come to know that one of our friends, or someone in our family, is sad?

Always try to spend time with them, hear out their worries, guide them towards prayer and seeking console in the Lord by going with them to attend Holy Qurbana, and praying for them.

4. Is it possible that the resurrected Saviour, Jesus Christ, has visited you but you didn't recognise Him?

Yes, it is possible that Jesus has visited me and assisted me during times of distress without realising. For example, as a teacher or someone who helped me during my distress.

5. "The road" is a profound metaphor. They encounter their Lord while on the journey. Moreover, the road leads them towards meaning and understanding. How do you connect the metaphor of "the road" and the saying of Jesus: "I am the way" (Jn 14:6).

We must follow the road that leads us to Christ. Jesus becomes the ultimate goal: God the salvation. In the Acts of the Apostles the Way becomes the name of early Church. The Way is following the ways of the Church. This includes obeying the ten commandments, keeping the sacraments, as well as praying, attending Holy Qurbana and reading the Bible to grow closer to Christ and emulate His footsteps.



## Simulation Activity

This activity relates to how the student experiences the topic. The teacher can ask "why" to these simulation questions. (0 = I do not agree, 5= I strongly agree)

1. ⑤
2. ⑤
3. ⑤
4. ⑤



## Check Your Understanding

1. On their journey to Emmaus, how did the disciples realise that it was Jesus walking with them?

Jesus started explaining the prophecies concerning the Messiah and how they were fulfilled by His death and resurrection. While they were eating, Jesus took bread, blessed it, broke it and gave it to them. It was then their eyes were opened and they recognised Him.

2. "There was sadness written across their faces." This was true about the disciples on the Emmaus Road. How can you identify if your friend or a family member is going through a deep grief or sadness?

They will be sad, talk less, smile less, act distant, attend less social functions.

**3. Find out from the Emmaus story the different means to identify Jesus, who walks with us in a discrete manner. Examine each means to see how it was useful for you in your difficult times.**

In the Emmaus story, Jesus is identified through companionship, scriptural wisdom, communal meals, and actions. The disciples recognize him as their hearts burn within. Through this story, we recognize that during difficult times, we must find support in companionship of Jesus, seek wisdom in the Bible, embrace communal experiences with friends and family, and listen to your inner convictions through prayer. The story inspires receptivity to the various forms through which support manifests, echoing the universal human experience of finding solace in the companionship of Jesus Christ our Saviour.

**4. "The road" is a profound metaphor in the Emmaus story. Explain how this metaphor of a road or journey is applied to your life. Find out how the journey symbolism is applied in the Syro-Malabar Qurbana.**

The metaphor of the road symbolises our journey on Earth as we navigate towards living a life with Jesus in Heaven. While celebrating the Anaphora part of the Syro- Malabar Holy Qurbana, the priests and the community faces the altar. When the community and priest face the same direction symbolizes journeying together. Thus, the Holy Qurbana becomes symbolic of the journey of life. The Holy Qurbana becomes a journey of Hope because Jesus is walking with us.

**5. How is the Emmaus Journey reflected in the Liturgy of the Word during Holy Qurbana?**

Similar to how Jesus explained the Old Testament to the disciples including the writings of Moses and the Prophets, in the Syro-Malabar Qurbana, the first reading is from Moses (first five books or the Pentateuch) and the second reading is from the Prophets. The third reading is an epistle, reminding us of the apostolic conversations. Finally, the Gospel and homily symbolise Jesus talking to them, similar to how Jesus talks to them after He reveals Himself.

**6. One day, when you come home from school, you find your mum downcast and looking troubled. She has not told you anything. But you know she is not ok. Create a plan to comfort her, keeping in mind Jesus' experience on the road to Emmaus.**

Go up to her, ask her if everything is ok, listen to her, give her a hug, help her with chores around the house, pray for her.

**7. Which symbol do you identify in the Emmaus story that can reveal the risen Lord in our present journey of life?**

Breaking of the Bread which we witness during Holy Qurbana

### **Crossword**

**Across:** 5.Cleopas 6.Prophets 8.Jerusalem

**Down:** 1. Journey 2. Village 3. Dialogues 4. Moses 7. Bread



## Simulation Activity

This activity relates to how the student experiences the topic. The teacher can ask “why” to these simulation questions. (0 = I do not agree, 5= I strongly agree)

1. ⑤ 2. ⑤ 3. ⑤



## Check Your Understanding

### 1. What were the three things Jesus told His disciples to do in the Great Commission?

- I. “It is not for you to know the times or periods that the Father has set by his own authority.” But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you; and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, all Judea Samaria and to the ends of the earth”
- II. “I have been given all authority in heaven and on earth. Therefore “Go and make disciples of all the nations, baptising them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit”. Teach these new disciples to obey all the commands I have given you.
- III. “I am with you always, even to the end of the age.”

### 2. Describe what happened to Jesus, right after He gave the Great Commission to the disciples?

He ascended into heaven.

### 3. What does it mean to call a disciple of Jesus “sleeha”?

Sleeha means “one who is sent” in Syriac and is equivalent to an apostle.

### 4. One of your friends stopped coming for catechism classes. How can you explain to them that by attending catechism classes, we are obeying Christ’s Great Commission?

We can explain that one of the commands from the Great Commission is to make disciples of all nations and that by attending catechism class we given the opportunity to learn more about Jesus and strengthen our spiritual growth, which can allow us to spread His Gospel to those around us including others in the community, class mates and family members, and strengthen their relationship with God.

### 5. What is your experience with social media as an evangelisation tool? How do you think we can best serve “the Great Commission of Jesus” through the content we offer?

Social media, when used appropriately, is a great medium to inform others all over the globe of the Catholic faith and spread the message of the Gospel. Social media can be used as evangelisation tool by sharing or producing posts that glorify God. It can also be used as a tool to spread awareness on humanitarian crisis to allow users to find ways to help those in dire need.

## Additional Activity 1

Complete the sentences with the relevant choice of words to show the significance of the Ascension. (*Returning, second, received up, King of Kings, names, prepare, Lord of Lords, pattern, seated, head*)

- God the Father had lovingly sent His Son into the world at Bethlehem, and now the Son, completing His saving Mission, was **returning** to the Father.
- The One with whom the Father is well pleased (Mt 17:5) was **exalted** in honour and given a name above all **names** (Phil 2:9).
- Jesus loves us so much that He went to **prepare** a place for us (Jn 14:2)
- The Ascension marks the moment when Jesus returned to His Father in heaven, where He reigns as **King of Kings** and **eternal high priest**
- The Ascension sets the **pattern** for His return. When Jesus comes for the second time, He will return just as He left - literally, bodily and visibly into the clouds.
- Jesus is **seated** at the right hand of the Father (Heb 8:1); Jesus is the **head** of the Church (Colo 1: 18).
- The Ascension is the **second** glorious mystery in the rosary.

## Additional Activity 2

Let us read together the Great Commission narrative (Acts 1:6-8; Mt 28:16-20) and tick your answer, when you have reflected on the reading.

- |   |  |   |
|---|--|---|
| Jesus revealed the exact time of his second coming.   | <input type="checkbox"/> True            | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> False |
| The Holy Spirit will give you the power to witness Jesus.   | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> True | <input type="checkbox"/> False            |
| Your witnessing starts within your own home, your own hometown and then it gradually spreads to the ends of the earth.  | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> True | <input type="checkbox"/> False            |
| We are sent by Jesus and therefore we need to “go,” or reach out to others and tell them about Jesus.   | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> True | <input type="checkbox"/> False            |
| Baptising our children in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit is not a choice, but a command of Jesus.   | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> True | <input type="checkbox"/> False            |
| If you witness Jesus with your words, deeds and life, He will be with you always.   | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> True | <input type="checkbox"/> False            |
| Only a selected few are called to missionary discipleship.  | <input type="checkbox"/> True            | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> False |
| Teaching catechism classes and learning from catechism classes are responses from our side to Christ’s command, “teach them to obey all the commands I have given you.” | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> True | <input type="checkbox"/> False            |

## Additional Activity 3

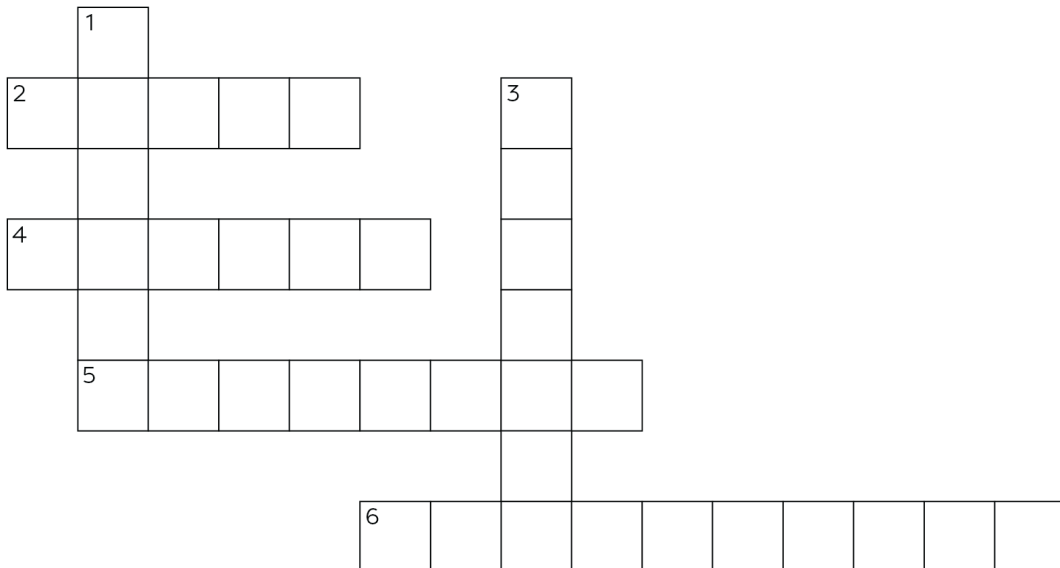
### Crossword

#### Across:

2. What covered Jesus from the view of the disciples?
4. "Jesus ascended into heaven" means He .....
5. 40 days after resurrection, Jesus .....
6. Pope Francis says that all Christians are ..... disciples.

#### Down:

1. What is the Syriac equivalent for the word "Apostle"?
3. The Great Commission reminds us that we must be His ..... in all the earth.



**Across:** 2. Cloud 4. Reigns 5. Ascended 6. missionary

**Down:** 1. Sleeha 3. Witness

## Activity 1

Find the contrast of the events narrated and explore the deeper meanings of Pentecost.

For the Jews, Pentecost was originally a harvest feast; a festive and joyful celebration of the end of the barley harvest and the beginning of the wheat harvest, called Shavu'ot. "You shall observe the Feast of Weeks, of the first fruits of wheat harvest, and the Feast of Ingathering at the year's end" (Ex 34:22).

In the New Testament, Pentecost became a harvest of souls. How many people became followers of Jesus on the day of Pentecost?

**3000 people were baptised and became followers of Jesus on the day of Pentecost.**

50 days earlier, Peter said on different occasions that not only was he not a follower of Jesus, but that he did not even know Jesus (Mt 26:69–74). How many times did Peter deny Jesus?

**3 times**

On the day of Pentecost, Peter boldly declared the message about Jesus in front of the same crowd of people to whom he had previously been afraid of even speaking Jesus' name (Acts 2:14–40). Peter goes from being cowardly to **courageous and a man filled with faith as he addressed the crowd.**

Remember the confusion of languages that was associated with the Tower of Babel in Genesis 11:1–9. **The whole world had one language. Lord confused the language of whole world and scattered them over the face of the earth.**

The Power of Pentecost was that people from all over the known world were able to hear the message of the gospel in their own language.

This is called the gift of **Tongues**.

In Old Testament times, Pentecost commemorated God writing His Commandments on tablets of stone inaugurating a nation as the people of God.

The Old Covenant was given on Mount **Sinai**.

On Pentecost, God wrote his Law "not with ink but by the Spirit of the living God, not on tablets of stone but on tablets of flesh, that is, of the heart" (2 Cori 3:3) inaugurating the Church, the new people of God. The New Covenant was given and the Holy Spirit descended in the **Upper** Room!

## Activity 2

Find out the seven church communities that the Apostle Thomas founded on the Malabar coast. Ask your parents which part of Kerala they are from and identify the nearest of the seven churches you could possibly be related to, from two thousand years ago.

1. Kodungallur 2. Kollam 3. Palayoor 4. Kottakkavu (Paravoor) 5. Kokkamangalam (South Pallippuram) 6. Niranam 7. Nilackal (Chayal).



## Simulation Activity

This activity relates to how the student experiences the topic. The teacher can ask "why" to these simulation questions. (0 = I do not agree, 5 = I strongly agree)

1. ⑤ 2. ⑤ 3. ⑤



## Check Your Understanding

- 1. The Holy spirit wants to convey a message when He assumes a form. What do you understand as the meaning and message that the Holy Spirit wanted to communicate when the Holy Spirit assumed the form of tongues of fire upon each apostle?**

All the Apostles were filled with the power of the Holy Spirit and began to speak in other languages. Holy Spirit empowered the Apostles. They stood courageously and proclaimed to the world that Jesus is the Son of God. They preached the Gospel of the Lord and His message of salvation to everyone.

The tongues of fire represent the presence of God and the flames represent great zeal and growth in faith.

- 2. All of us have received the Holy Spirit through baptism. But how do we experience the Holy Spirit in the life of the Church?**

- Sacred Scripture
- Sacred Tradition
- Magisterium of the Church
- Liturgy
- Prayer
- Charisms and ministries
- Apostolic and missionary life
- Taking inspiration from the lives of saints

- 3. How do you visualise the missionary journey of St Thomas the Apostle and his ministry and martyrdom in India? Write this as a speech for July 3rd for the feast of Dukhrana.**

- Left his life as a fisherman in Galilea
- Set out on a 3000 mile journey to the East
- First evangelized Syria and Persia
- Arrived in Musiris (today known as Kodungalloor) in AD 52
- Preached the Gospel to the Jews settled there
- Preached along the Malabar Coast and converted both Jews and natives
- He preached along the Malabar coast of Southwestern India (presently known as Kerala)
- Established 7 Christian communities or seven churches in Kerala
- Martyred on AD 72, 3rd July, while praying on Chinnai Mala near Chennai (Dukhrana)

## Additional Activity 1

What happened in Jerusalem on the day of the First Pentecost? Let's read together from the Book of Acts (Acts 2: 1-18)? "Fill in the blanks with the right choice of words.

1. Pentecost was on the fiftieth day after the resurrection.
2. The advent of the Holy Spirit was indicated by the sound of a mighty wind.
3. The Holy Spirit rested on each of them in the form of tongue of fire.
4. The Holy Spirit gave them the ability to speak in foreign tongues.
5. The disciples filled with the Holy Spirit were speaking about Gods deed of power.
6. Peter was the Apostle who stood up and addressed the crowd.
7. The prophet who foresaw the outpouring of the Holy Spirit was Joel.

## Additional Activity 2

Discuss the description with the right column in your class and find the name of the "gift" of the Holy Spirit. A hint of the name is given as its first letter!.

W <u>Wisdom</u>	to see the world as God sees it (not from our own perspective).
U <u>Understanding</u>	to recognise that what lies below the surface is sometimes more important than what is obvious.
C <u>Council</u>	to know the difference between right and wrong.
K <u>Knowledge</u>	to always seek the truth.
F <u>Fortitude</u>	to stand up for what is right in the eyes of God.
P <u>Piety</u>	to recognize what is holy, sacred and the divine presence of God.
F <u>Fear of God</u>	to fill us with a sense of wonder and awe at how great God is; to appreciate the mysteries of life.

## Additional Activity 3

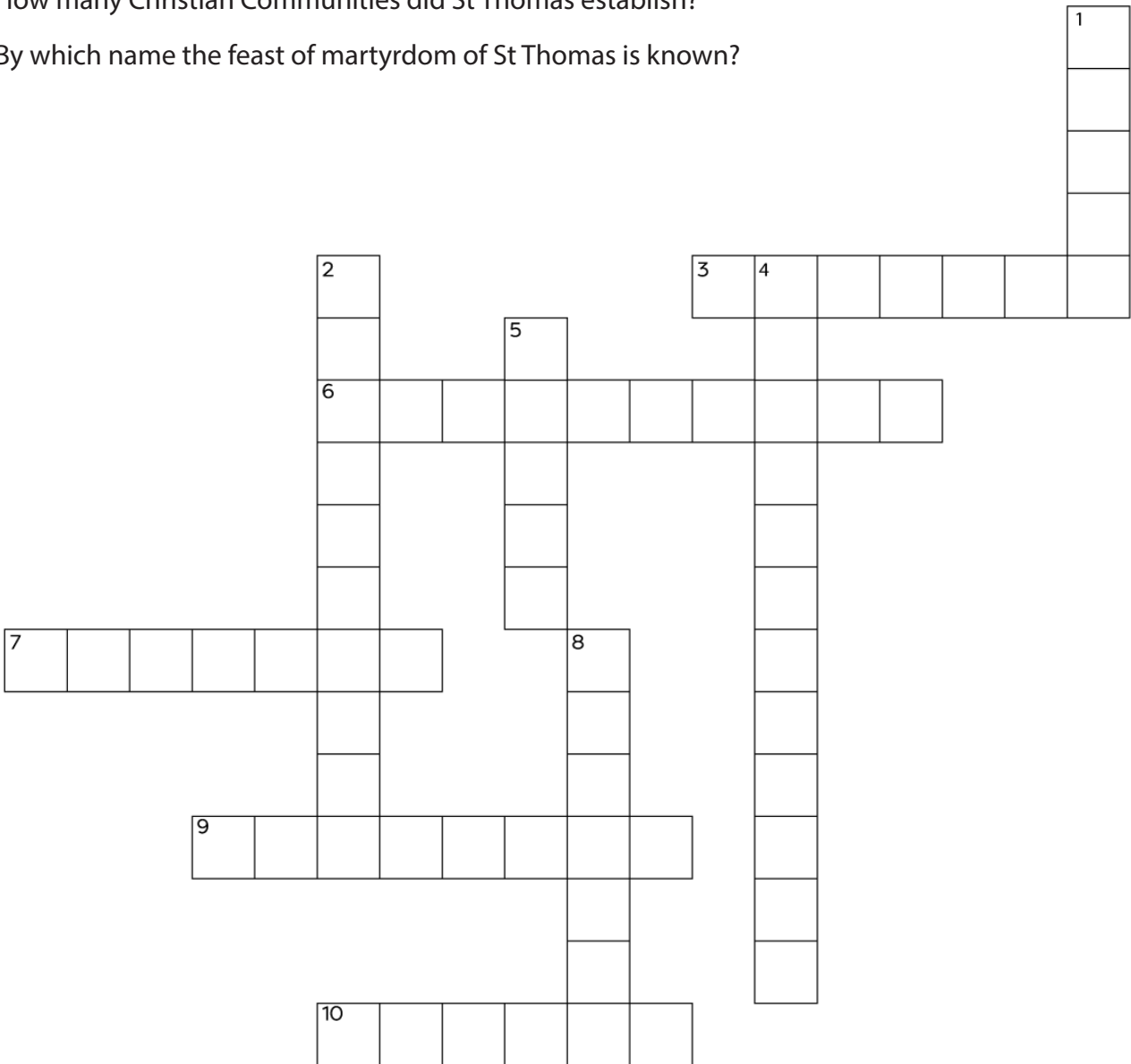
### Crossword

Across:

3. St Thomas preached along the ..... coast of South-Western India.
6. In which year did St Thomas die?
7. Kodungalloor is the present name of this place where St Thomas landed in India.
9. Name the place where the tomb of St Thomas is located?
10. By which name the feast of martyrdom of St Thomas is known?

**Down:**

1. St Thomas was martyred by being by .....
2. St Thomas Christians are also known by the name Mar Thoma .....
4. Which is the ancient text that describes the mission and martyrdom of St Thomas?
5. How many Christian Communities did St Thomas establish?
8. By which name the feast of martyrdom of St Thomas is known?



**Across:** 3. Malabar 6. Seventy-two 7. Musiris 9. Mylapore 10. Syriac

**Down:** 1. Spear 2. Mar Thoma Nasranikal 4. The Acts of Thomas 5. Seven 8. Dukrana



## Additional Questions

**1. Can you mention at least three take-aways from the Apostolic preaching of Peter on the Day of Pentecost? How can you relate them to the life experience of Peter the disciple?**

Any three from page 142 under the heading content of the first Apostolic teaching

- Teaching from the sacred scriptures
- Reminding the sinfulness of humanity
- The passion, death, resurrection and ascension of Jesus of Nazerath is for the forgiveness of sins and our salvation.
- Invitation to repent and to be baptized for the forgiveness of sins

Peter was an ordinary fisherman who doubted, who denied and who sometimes spoke without understanding now stood courageously in front of the crowd and proclaimed Jesus is the Son of God.

**2. The Holy Spirit gives different gifts to different people to make them docile when making choices. Illustrate how the apostles Peter and Thomas were gifted with Courage to witness Christ. Can you tell a story of when you were given the gift of courage to witness Jesus or to make a right choice?**

St Peter was given the gift of Courage on the day of Pentecost, where he went from someone who doubted and denied Jesus to a disciple who courageously stood in front of a crowd and proclaimed Jesus to be the Son of God. Similarly, St Thomas was given the gift of Courage as he gave up his life to proclaim Jesus to other nations including Syria, Persia and India (a journey which covered 3000 miles). Personally, I am given the gift of courage to witness Jesus when I choose to vocalise my opinions on certain topics such as abortion, even though they are controversial topics which contradict the views of the modern world.

# Lesson 13

# Glorified Christ and His Second Coming

## Activity 1

Write down how we can purify these human acts in view of the love of God and the love of our fellow beings. In what way could we spice them up to make them more worthy?

Deeds	Perform deeds by reflecting on Jesus' actions or turning to the example of saints. This includes acting being charitable, helping others, and having a virtuous behaviour.
Thoughts	Examine one's conscience and reflect on one's thoughts to ensure it is in line with teachings of the Bible.
Intentions	Always consider whether the action performed is in the best interest of all parties.
Choices	Always consider whether the choices made are in line with the teachings of Jesus Christ and in accordance with the sacred scripture and your choices don't hurt others around you.
Conversations	Speak to others with kindness and emulate the gentleness of Jesus.

## Activity 2

The Second Vatican Council's "Dogmatic Constitution on the Church" states, "Already the final age of the world is with us and the renewal of the world is irrevocably under way". Let us analyse the signs of The Second Coming to understand that we are living in an extended period of the final age. Let's look at these three areas, discuss your ideas in groups and write down your findings.

Signs	Answer here
<b>In nature:</b> <i>List all the natural disasters or pandemics in the last 3 years.</i>	COVID19 2023 Hawaii wildfires Hurricane Otis (2023)

**In society/nations:**

*Name the countries that have been affected by wars in the past three years.*

Ukraine/Russia  
Palestine/Israel  
Myanmar civil war

**In the Church:**

*List some countries where Christianity is persecuted or apostasy is held in honour.*

North Korea  
Afghanistan  
Iran  
Pakistan  
Libya

 **Activity 3**

**Teacher and student sing the final blessing prayer of the Syro- Malabar Holy Qurbana.**

Kartahavam Misiha vazhiyay..... Divyathamavin danangal.....  
Snehapithavam Sakalesan..... Viravodu nammil varshichu.....  
Swarlokathin mahimaykay..... Daivam name vilichallo.....  
Akshaya Soubhagamarnneedan..... Daivam name nayichallo.....

Amen

Ente sareeram bhakshikum..... En raktham paanam cheyyum.....  
Manavanennil nivasikum..... Avanil njanum nischayamay.....

Vishiyil veezhathavane njan..... Anthima divasamuyarpikum.....  
Nithyayussavanekum njan..... Evam nadhanarul cheythu.....

Amen

Aruliyapolinnee baliyil..... Pankalikalamakhilarkum.....  
Daivam kanivarnnarulatte..... Divyanugrahmennenum.....

Nammude jeeviatha pathakalil..... Avasyakamam daanangal.....  
Nalkiyanugrahamarulatte..... Daivam karunayodennenum.....

Amen

Jeevan nalkum daivikamam..... Sudhiyehunna rahasyangal.....  
Kaikkondavaramakhilarilum..... Daivam vara nira choriyatte.....

Kurisadayalam vazhiyay nam..... Samrakshitharay theerate.....  
Mudritharay bhavikkatte..... Ippozhumepozhu mennekkum.....

Amen..... Amen.....



## Simulation Activity

This activity relates to how the student experiences the topic. The teacher can ask “why” to these simulation questions. (0 = I do not agree, 5= I strongly agree)

1. ⑤ 2. ⑤ 3. ⑤ 4. ①



## Check Your Understanding

1. **What are the human acts that will be judged by God during the last judgement? Explain your answer.**

From the words of Jesus, it is known that the following human acts will be judged by God during the last judgement:

**Deeds right or wrong** - essential to conduct actions pleasing to God. As Christians, we must strive to live virtuously and act charitably.

**Thoughts good or bad** - important to examine one’s conscience to foster spiritual growth and avoid temptations.

**Intentions hidden or revealed** - refers to the morality behind actions. It is important to act in the best interest of others.

**Choices right or wrong** - encouraged to seek guidance from the Bible and pray before taking actions to ensure it is the will of God and make morally upright decisions.

**Words good or bad** - important to not to misuse the gift of speech by partaking in gossip and calumny.

2. **The Catholic church teaches us that the final age of the world is with us. However, we find that Christ has not come back even after 2000 years. Analyse why there is a delay?**

With the Lord, thousand years are like a day. The delay of the Second Coming is not because Jesus is slow in keeping his promise but rather he is patient with each of his children, to come to repentance, as he does not want anyone to perish, but everyone to join Him in Heaven.

3. **Which are the two liturgical seasons signifying the second coming of Jesus?**

Seasons of Elijah-Holy Cross-Moses and Pallikoodasa kaalam ( Dedication of the Church)

## Additional Activity 1

It has been a while since He left, roughly about two thousand years. So, what is the holdup? Why has He not come back? Read from Peter's Letter and answer the questions.

1. Why has Jesus not yet come back? To give everyone a chance of **repentance**
2. Since there is an end to everything and you should face the judgement, what sort of person ought you be to be as Peter exhorts? A person living in **holiness** and **Godliness**
3. Who is going to dwell in a new heaven and a new earth? The **righteous**

## Additional Activity 2

Create a story board about the various types of fulfilment of Jesus' promise of His Second Coming. (12 minutes).

### Holy Qurbana

Create a picture of Holy Qurbana where Jesus, the Angels and Saints are present.



### Death

Draw a picture of the death of St Joseph, in the hands of Jesus, with Mary beside him.



### Final Judgement

Draw a picture of the Second Coming of Jesus in all His glory.



## Additional Activity 3

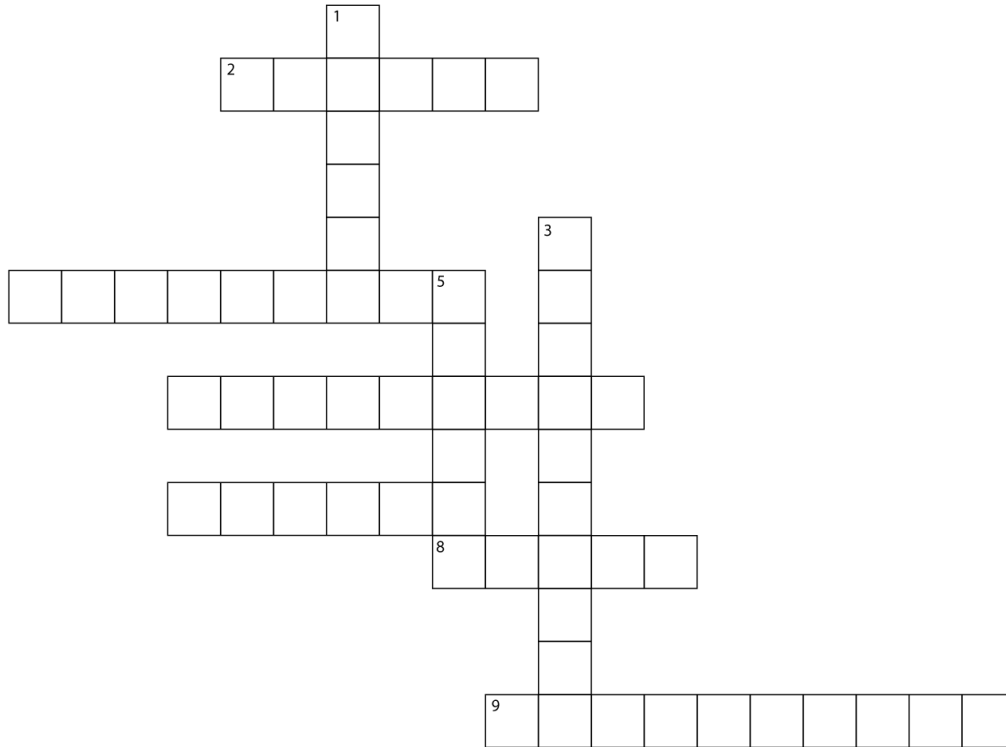
### Crossword

#### Across:

2. Through His death and Resurrection, Jesus Christ made it possible for us to enter .....
4. Then I will tell them plainly, 'I never knew you. Away from me, you .....!' (Mt 7: 21-23).
6. Name of this city with an adjective "heavenly" is used to signify heaven.
7. Every ..... we take will make a difference in how we will experience our eternity.
8. .... is our personal encounter with the Risen Lord.
9. .... of the Church is the liturgical season that marks the completion of the pilgrimage of God's people.

**Down:**

- 1. Mankind would suffer from ....., pestilence and natural disasters before the Second Coming.
- 3. The delay of His promise of the Second Coming is explained in terms of giving everyone a chance of .....
- 5. Jesus ascended into heaven and is ..... at the right hand of the Father.



**Across:** 2. Heaven 4. Evildoers 6. Jerusalem 7. Choice 8. Death 9. Pallikudasa

**Down:** 1. Famine 3. Repentance 5. Seated



**Additional Question**

1. **“He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead.” Find the biblical concepts of how Jesus appears for a second time. What are the signs associated with His Second Coming?**

Mt 24:30 states “At that time the sign of the Son of Man will appear in heaven, and all the tribes of the earth will mourn. They will see the Son of Man coming on the clouds of heaven with power and great glory.”

Acts 1:11 states “This same Jesus, which is taken up from you into heaven, shall so come in like manner as you have seen him go into heaven”.

The time before Jesus Christ’s glorious coming will be a time of great trial for humanity and especially for His church. There will be signs in the Sun, the moon and the stars and on earth nations will be in dismay, perplexed by the roaring of the sea and the waves. People will die of fright in anticipation of what is coming upon the world. (Lk 21: 25-27)

## Additional Lesson 1

# Jesus who revealed the glory of God



### Let us begin our class with this prayer



Let the earth “be filled with the knowledge of the glory of the Lord, as the waters cover the sea” (Hab 2:14). Help me, dear Lord, to see more of Your glory, that my mind and heart may be filled with awe and wonder! Help us to reflect Your glory in this world, through our life in the church, through our forgiveness and kindness in deeds. Lord, we know one day, as You have told us, that glory will be a reality in our lives. Help us to focus on that wonderful hope, that we have in You. Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit, as it was in the beginning is now, and ever shall be world without end. Amen.



## Driving Question

*(Give the students time to give a quick feedback)*

**Explain how would you support the parent in the given scenario.**

I have been teaching my 6-year-old son catechism at home, however I am having a hard time explaining to him what it means to “glorify God.”

## Introduction

The idea of “glory” and the “glory of God” occurs throughout the Bible. It’s the way God reveals Himself to us. Often, understanding God’s glory can be a hard concept for us to grasp.

The apostle Paul says in his letter to Corinthians that “God’s glory displayed in the face of Christ” is made to shine in our hearts (2 Cori 4:6). Here the apostle says two things about glory:

1. Jesus revealed God’s glory to the world;
2. The same glory is made to shine in the hearts of those who believe in Him.

In this chapter we will go through the life of Jesus to find how He revealed God’s glory to us.



In the Old Testament, God manifests His Glory in two ways:

1. By His Lofty deeds. For example; the creation (Gen 1) or the miracle of parting the Red Sea (Ex 14:18).
2. By His appearances. For example; God spoke to Moses from a burning bush (Exod 3:1-4: 23).

## Jesus revealed God’s glory through His lofty deeds of miracles

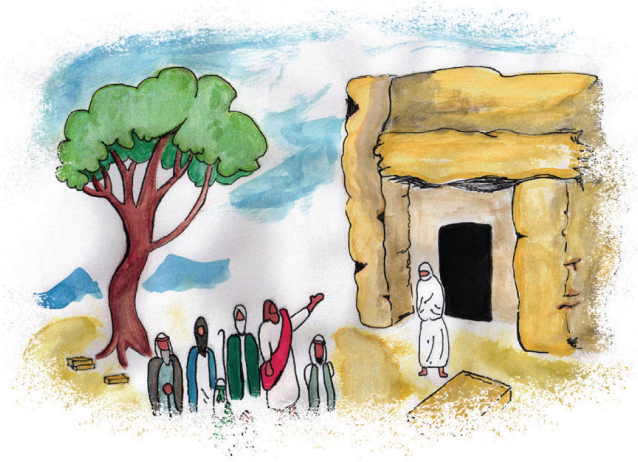
The miracles of Jesus were amazing true events. In the New Testament, they were the lofty deeds of God. Therefore, they manifested God’s glory. “What Jesus did here in Cana of Galilee was the first of the signs through which He revealed His glory” (Jn 2:11); John says.

Sometimes, the disciples were not able

to consider Jesus as an ordinary human being although “the Son of God worked with human hands, thought with a human mind, acted by human choice, and loved with a human heart” (Gaudium et spes, 22). When Jesus rebuked the storm and calmed the sea, those in the boat were filled with great awe and said to one another; “Who then is this, that even the wind and

the sea obey him?” (Mk 4:35-41). Jesus was revealing the power and glory of God over nature.

At the tomb closed by a huge stone, Jesus said to Lazarus’ sister; “Did I not tell you that if you believe, you will see the glory of God?” Then Jesus called the dead man and he came out alive! (Jn 11: 17-44). God’s power over death was visible to people. They glorified God.14:17).



**Activity 1**

Miracles of Jesus proved God’s glory. They can be divided into four fairly distinct groupings: Discuss and tick the right column to see how God’s glory was revealed in Jesus.

<i>Miracles Jesus performed</i>	<i>Healing miracles</i>	<i>Exorcisms (Casting out demons)</i>	<i>Nature miracles (Jesus exercised his power over nature, number, distance etc.)</i>	<i>Restoration miracles (Raising the dead)</i>
<i>Lazarus event; Daughter of Jairus</i>				
<i>Calms the storm and sea; Walking on the water</i>				
<i>Blind man at Bethzatha; 10 men of leprosy</i>				
<i>Multiplying 5 loaves of bread; Catching numerous fish</i>				
<i>Demon possessed man at the region of the Gerasenes</i>				

We know from the Gospel that every miracle was a demonstration of God's glory and might among His people. At the same time, He did them to meet people's needs for food, healing and safety. People turned to him in faith, bore witness that Jesus is the Son of God and gave glory to God (CCC 547, 548).

Jesus' miracles have been made visible in various lives far and wide, even after His death and resurrection. They continue in the life of the Church today. We must also be ready to carry on His miracles by our forgiveness, compassionate giving and joyful communion in His church. This will reveal God's glory in our times too.

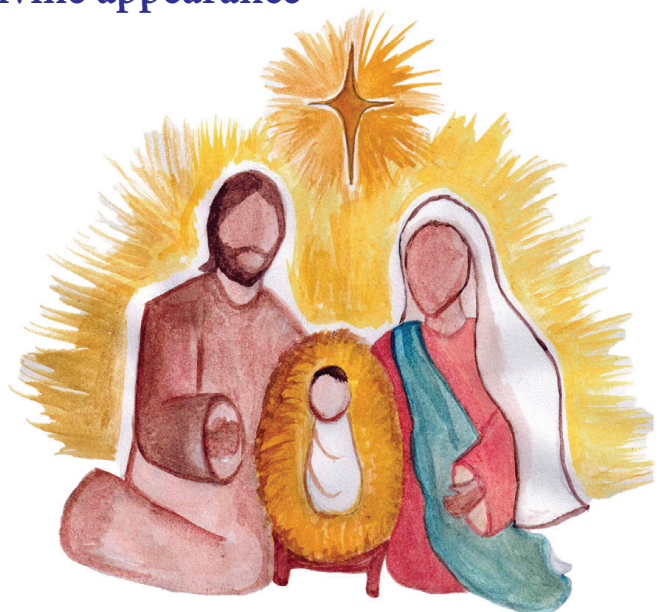


## Activity 2

Find out how you can do a simple, yet lofty deed that glorifies God. It should aim to meet a need of a person/church; it should be an act of self-giving; that means giving up your time, money or comfort. It should be an act that brings joy to another's life. Write your answer here and explain how it glorifies God.

## Jesus revealed God's glory through divine appearance

The way Virgin Mary conceived Jesus was a moment of revealing God's glory. A virgin conceived without human intervention and gave birth to God in flesh on earth! The events which followed were - the star at his birth, the appearance of angels, the visit of the Magi to a humble baby in a manger - "everything gave rise to awe among people, and they started glorifying God," (Lk 2:20). His baptism became a majestic appearance of the Trinity to the world. After His resurrection,



“Jesus rose up to heaven in glory,” (Acts 1:9; 1 Timothy 3:16). “Christ is now exalted in glory” (Revelation 5:12-13) and will one day return “on the clouds of the sky, with power and great glory” (Matthew 25:31; Mark 14:62; 1 Thessalonians 4:17).

The gospels speak of an astonishing moment in the life of Jesus that revealed God’s glory to the disciples in a special way - the transfiguration of Jesus (Mk 9:2-13 and Lk 9: 28-36). Jesus took Peter, James and John up onto a mountain to pray. As these disciples watched in awe, Jesus transfigured. His face shone like the

sun and his clothes became as white as the light. Incredibly, Jesus was joined by the long-dead Moses and Elijah.

And Peter said to Jesus, “Lord, it is good that we are here; let us make three booths, one for you and one for Moses and one for Elijah.” For he did not know what to say, for they were exceedingly afraid.

And a cloud overshadowed them, and a voice came out of the cloud, “This is my beloved Son; listen to him.” And suddenly looking around they no longer saw any one with them but only Jesus.

### Activity 3

#### “Post-Transfiguration Press Conference”

Assign each child a part as one of the characters in the Transfiguration story. You can hold a pretend microphone and ask each person what happened up there on the mountain. Be sure to ask who and what they saw and what they heard. Ask them if it was true that they had been sleeping. Ask them if they were afraid about the glory of God and finally, ask them what it means to them?

## Does Jesus perform still miracles to Glorify God?

The answer is Yes! The Lord has promised the continuity of miracles for those who believe.

“I tell you the truth, anyone who believes in me will do the same works I have done, and even greater works, because I am going to be with the Father.” (Jn 14: 12). As we go through the Acts of the Apostles, we see that miracles were continually happening in the early Church after the resurrection and ascension of Jesus. In fact, those miracles were the



signs of confirmation for the Apostolic preaching. “The Lord worked with them and confirmed the message by the signs” (Mk 16:20).

For example, a narrative from the Acts: The Apostles Peter and John said to a man with crippled legs, who had never walked in his whole life: “Look at me.” So, the man looked up at him. “I don’t have any silver or gold but I have something much better.” Peter grabbed the man by the right hand and said, “In the name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth, walk!” All of a sudden the man’s feet and ankles started to feel stronger. He couldn’t believe it. The man was so excited that he kept walking and jumping and calling out praises to God. And the miracles continued to happen in the Church guided by the Holy Spirit.

The same Holy Spirit continues to lead the journey of the Church through centuries. The same Christ confirms with miracles the preaching of the Word of God or a life of a saint or a martyr who gave witness to God’s Word. In every miracle, God’s glory is revealed.

### Why would God perform miracles?

A miracle is a discernible, divine act in the world, - outside, above or beyond the natural order of things, - which manifests some aspect of God’s power and love. Miracles are signs to strengthen our faith by reinforcing divine revelation (CCC 156) and are given for the common good (CCC 2003).



### Activity 4



Share with the class a miracle that the teacher experienced, heard of, that happened in a retreat centre or else where the Word of God is preached or a saint’s intercession, which the teacher miraculously received.



### How can I glorify God?

Like Jesus, we are to reflect God’s glory into the dark world around us. In this attempt, we may not be able to perform miracles as Jesus did. But we can reveal God’s glory through our lofty deeds. As we communicate God’s truth, as we reach out with His love, as we offer forgiveness and compassion, people will see God’s glory through us. They will start glorifying Him.

Jesus continues to do His miracles every day. Sometimes it happens through the humble hands and generosity of His present-day disciples. Other times through His mighty and saving interventions, as an answer to a prayer or as a sign of preaching God's word. Jesus also does his miracles among his people through the life of a saint or his/her intercessions.

**Q: Do you know what is the purpose of man?**

A: The purpose of man is to glorify God and to enjoy him forever. (Ref CCC 293, 294.) "So, whether you eat or drink, or whatever you do, do all to the glory of God" (1 Cor. 10:31)

## How is the God's glory represented and experienced in the Syro-Malabar liturgy?

Holy Qurbana is the one of the greatest ways for giving glory to God by where grace is poured forth and people are sanctified (SC 10). St Alphonse Ligouri said; "One single Mass gives more honour to God than all the penances of the saints." We hear the priest saying, "the adorable name of your most blessed Trinity is worthy of honour from every mouth, thanksgiving from every tongue and praise from every creature."

In the Syro-Malabar Qurbana, there is a sealing prayer like this: "We give you glory and honour, thanksgiving and adoration for all your favours and graces you have granted us, now, always and for ever." Also, whenever 'the Our Father' prayer is recited, it accompanies the glorifying formula; "for Thine is the kingdom, the might, the power and dominion in heaven and on earth."



### Conclusion

**Now we come to the answer to our driving question at the beginning of the lesson; what does it mean to glorify God?**

The word "glorify" is not like the word "beautify." Why? When you beautify a room, you make it more beautiful. But when you glorify God, you do not make him more glorious. Therefore, glorify must be distinguished from any idea of making God glorious.

When we glorify God, we see Him as glorious. We love what we see. We help others see Him and love Him the same way. This may be with acclamations like "Blessed be . . . God" for He is merciful as in 1 Pet 1:3 or it may be with demonstrations in words or deeds or our way of life (1 Pet 2:12).



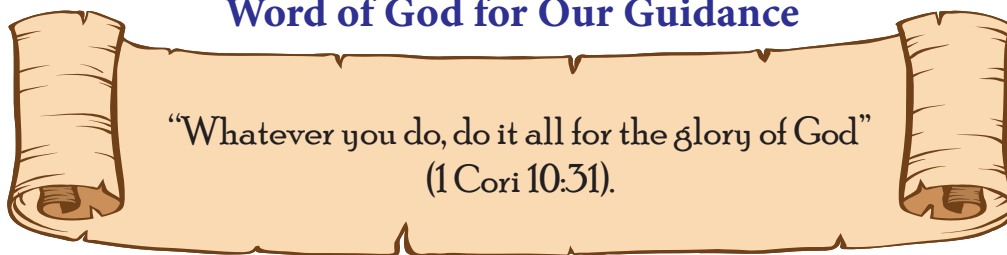
This activity relates to how the student experiences the topic. The teacher can ask “why” to these simulation questions.

(Circle your answer on a scale 0 to 5 (0 = I do not agree, 5= I strongly agree))

**Simulation Activity**

Each single miracle of Jesus was a demonstration of God’s power and might among His people.	0 1 2 3 4 5
As we offer forgiveness and compassion, people will see God’s glory through us and be drawn to Him, glorifying Him.	0 1 2 3 4 5
Jesus revealed God’s glory to the world; the same glory is made it shine in the hearts of those who believe in Him.	0 1 2 3 4 5
Miracles of God continue even today.	0 1 2 3 4 5

**Word of God for Our Guidance**



**Let Us Do**

Let the student research a miracle that the Church approved for the canonisation of a saint.

**My Decision**

Attending catechism and Holy Qurbana on Sundays is an act of glorifying God from my part. However busy I am in future; I will continue to glorify my God through my onward commitment to catechism and Sunday Holy Qurbana





## Check Your Understanding

1. What does the phrase “glory of God” mean to you? What are the two ways in which God manifests His glory in the Biblical narratives?
2. Miracles were demonstrations of God’s power and might among His people. Can you mention any two miracles of Jesus and describe what kind of power is manifested in those miracles?
3. Miracles continue in the church. How do you explain this in a world where everything is explained based on data and evidence? You can share your experience of a miracle in your life, if any.
4. How can you glorify God in your daily life as a son or daughter or as a student in your school? Find out as many ways as possible that demonstrate God’s glory in your words, deeds and life.



## Additional Lesson 1

# Jesus who revealed the glory of God

### Activity 1

Miracles of Jesus proved God's glory. They can be divided into four fairly distinct groupings: Discuss and tick the right column to see how God's glory was revealed in Jesus.

Miracles Jesus performed	Healing miracles	Exorcisms (Casting out demons)	Nature miracles (Jesus exercised his power over nature, number, distance etc.)	Restoration miracles (Raising the dead)
<i>Lazarus event; Daughter of Jairus</i>				<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
<i>Calms the storm and sea; Walking on the water</i>			<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
<i>Blind man at Bethzatha; 10 men of leprosy</i>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>			
<i>Multiplying 5 loaves of bread; Catching numerous fish</i>			<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
<i>Demon possessed man at the region of the Gerasenes</i>		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		

### Activity 2

Find out how you can do a simple, yet lofty deed that glorifies God. It should aim to meet a need of a person/church; it should be an act of self-giving: that means giving up your time, money or comfort. It should be an act that brings joy to another's life.

Write your answer here and explain how it glorifies God.

Answers will vary

- Volunteering at aged care centres – sacrificing your commitments to spend time with the elderly and bring a sense of joy into their life
- Donating money to the church – offering your money as a sacrifice to God, way to show thanksgiving
- Assisting others in their studies - using your God-given skills to assist others who are struggling

### Activity 3

#### “Post-Transfiguration Press Conference”

Assign each child a part as one of the characters in the Transfiguration story. You can hold a pretend microphone and ask each person what happened up there on the mountain. Be sure to ask who and what they saw and what they heard. Ask them if it was true that they had been sleeping. Ask them if they were afraid about the glory of God and finally, ask them what it means to them?

Answers can include:

I woke up from my sleep to see a figure rising up to heaven. His face shone like the sun and his clothes became dazzling white, there were rays of light surrounding him. I was not afraid, yet in awe of the glory of God.

### Activity 4

Share with the class a miracle that the teacher experienced, heard of, that happened in a retreat centre or else where the Word of God is preached or a saint’s intercession, which the teacher miraculously received.

Examples can include:

- People being healed of their sickness in retreat centres
- Miraculous interventions of God and saints in their daily life – e.g. Sophie Delezio’s prayers to the Blessed Mary MacKillop, led to her miraculous recovery after her two close encounter with death.



### Simulation Activity

This activity relates to how the student experiences the topic. The teacher can ask “why” to these simulation questions. (0 = I do not agree, 5= I strongly agree)

1. ⑤ 2. ⑤ 3. ⑤ 4. ⑤



### Check Your Understanding

1. What does the phrase “glory of God” mean to you? What are the two ways in which God manifests His glory in the Biblical narratives?

It is the way God reveals Himself to us. St Paul the Apostle says, Gods Glory is displayed in the face of Christ is made to shine in our hearts, Jesus revealed Gods Glory to the world. The same glory is made to shine in the hearts of those who believe in Him. Glorifying God means to reflect on God’s glory and

offer thanksgiving. Holy Qurbana is the one of the greatest activities of giving glory to God by which grace is poured forth and people are sanctified. The two ways in which God manifests His glory in the Bible is through:

1. By His Lofty deeds – e.g. the miracle of parting the Red Sea (Ex 14:18).
2. By His appearances – e.g. God spoke to Moses from a burning bush (Exod 3:1-4: 23)

**2. Miracles were demonstrations of God's power and might among His people. Can you mention any two miracles of Jesus and describe what kind of power is manifested in those miracles?**

The miracle of Jesus calming the storm and the sea; "Who then is this, that even the wind and the sea obey him?" (Mk 4:35-41). Through this miracle, Jesus was manifested the power and glory of God over nature.

Also, God's power over death was visible to people when Jesus raised Lazarus from the dead; "Did I not tell you that if you believe, you will see the glory of God?" Then Jesus called the dead man out and he came out alive! (Jn 11: 17-44)."

**3. Miracles continue in the church. How do you explain this in a world where everything is explained based on the data evidence? You can share your experience of any story of a miracle in your life, if any.**

Miracles are a divine intervention from God, that goes beyond the natural order of things. It is God guiding us as well as a sign to strengthen our faith by reinforcing divine revelation (CCC 156). It is evident that things are a miracle when there is no possible way that science or data evidence could support the events. For example, kids being born to couples who are told by doctors that they will not be able to bear a child or miraculous healing from severe sickness. There are also small miracles such in our daily life such as meeting someone who becomes of great importance to our lives later on. This is all in accordance with God's divine providence for us.

**4. How can you glorify God in your daily life as a son or daughter or as a student in your school? Find out as many ways as possible that demonstrate God's glory in your word, deed, and life.**

- Applying yourself in the best way possible in your studies
- Being a role model to those around you
- Assisting students who are struggling
- Learning from students who are excelling in order to better yourself
- Obeying and assisting the teacher
- Treating everyone with respect
- Being humble about your achievements
- Helping those in need
- Respecting, loving and obeying my parents
- Being kind to everyone

## Additional Lesson 2

# My Lord and My God



### Let us begin our class with this prayer

Lord our God, thank you for the example of St Thomas the Apostle as our Father in faith. Help us to follow in his footsteps, to become apostles of hope and messengers of joy. Help us to counter our anger and evil temptations with your gentleness and mercy. Assist us to keep the traditional faith passed on from our forefathers that they received from St. Thomas. Help us to believe even when we cannot see. My Lord and My God, amen.





## Driving Question

(Give the students time to give a quick feedback)

**What is my relationship with Jesus Christ?**

## Introduction

Imagine the fear, sadness and disappointment that the disciples would have faced upon Jesus' death. Some might have even experienced severe trauma. Now, visualise the excitement and wonder of the disciples upon Jesus' resurrection. Jesus' appearance to them, showing them His wounds as evidence of His victory over death, would have caused great joy and consolation.

But when this happened, Thomas - one of the disciples - wasn't there. When the others told him what had happened, he didn't believe them. It was too much for Thomas. His love for Jesus was put to the test. Thomas felt excluded. He wanted to see Jesus with his very own eyes!



### Activity 1

As St Thomas Christians, it is important for us to learn how St Thomas, our father in faith experienced the risen Christ. Let's do a role play of the given bible passage.

*One of the twelve disciples, Thomas (nicknamed the Twin) was not with the others when Jesus came. They told him, "We have seen the Lord!"*

*But he replied, "I won't believe it unless I see the nail wounds in his hands, put my fingers into them, and place my hand into the wound in his side."*

*Eight days later the disciples were together again, and this time Thomas was with them. The doors were locked; but suddenly, as before, Jesus was standing among them. "Peace be with you," he said. Then he said to Thomas, "Put your finger here, and look at my hands. Put your hand into the wound in my side. Don't be faithless any longer. Believe!" "My Lord and my God!" Thomas exclaimed.*

*Then Jesus told him, "You believe because you have seen me. Blessed are those who believe without seeing me" (Jn 20:24-29).*

## St Thomas: the exceptional witness, worshipper and apostle

The apostles gathered in the upper room are witnesses to the Resurrection of Christ. Pope John Paul II says that Thomas becomes an exceptional witness. St Thomas' exclamation, "My Lord and My God!" (Jn 20:28) was the most perfect way to address Jesus' divinity and humanity.

Simon Peter had already professed this faith once; "You are the Christ, the Son of the living God!" (Mt 16:16). After the Resurrection, this truth that Jesus is Christ; he is true God and true man, is reinforced by St. Thomas' witness.

St. Thomas' exclamation is the perfect example of worship. "Worship allows one to realise that faith is not simply a set of doctrines, but a relationship with a living person, Jesus Christ. Worship means bending low before the Most High and to discover in His presence that life's greatness does not consist in having, but in loving." Pope Francis says.

To do an act of worship, we need to put the Lord at the centre, not ourselves. This means allowing God to be the centre of our life, and everything else will fall in its place. Worshipping God means letting God's will not ours, rule our lives. St Thomas' experience of the Resurrection allowed him to recommit his life to Jesus and let everything else be secondary.



**Caravaggio's Masterpiece**

Caravaggio was one of the most well-known artists of renaissance. Caravaggio's oil painting of the narrative of the St. Thomas disbelief, painted in 1600, is in the Cerasi Chapel, Rome. Caravaggio provides us with an incredibly detailed depiction of the scene. It's even possible to see Thomas' dirty fingernails as he touches the wound.

The scene pushes our curiosity to its limits. Christ's head is covered in shadows, to show that He is a mystery we can't understand. Christ has a serene beauty on His face that is lacking in the faces of the apostles. The shocking image of the finger exploring the depths of the lance wound is softened slightly by the guiding hand of Christ, which seems to push Thomas' finger deep into the wound! It is the supreme proof that Jesus is God. A wound from a Roman lance was large enough to insert one's hand into it! That's why Christ tells Thomas to explore the nail wounds with his finger but to use his hand for the wound in His side. In fact, the Gospel tells us that only seeing the print of the nails and the imprint from the lance could lead Thomas to believe.

## Carrying Christ experience to the nations

The apostles are the eyewitnesses of Resurrection; the first witnesses. They are the first to be sent to proclaim the Good News: “As the Father has sent me, so am I sending you” (Jn 20:21).” They were sent to proclaim Jesus to non-believers of whom Jesus spoke: “Blessed are those who, despite not having seen, will believe!” (Jn 20:29). They will, in turn, become witnesses because they believed the eyewitnesses. And it will be like this from generation to generation.

In 52 AD, St Thomas came to India after experiencing the Risen Christ to share the Good News. His life, testimony and martyrdom became the apostolic foundation for a specific Christian community in India which came to be known as Christians of St Thomas



(*Marthomma Nazranikal*). Later a major fraction of this community received the name Syro-Malabar Church.

St Thomas was martyred in *Mylapore* near Madras in India on the 3rd of July in 72 AD. His martyrdom is celebrated as great feast called *Dukhrana* or St Thomas Day.



Write down your reflective answer

### Activity 2

1. *St Thomas became an exceptional witness of resurrection because*
2. *Write down the profession of faith of St. Thomas the Apostle.*
3. *To worship means to put Lord at the centre of our lives. How did St/ Thomas put the Lord at the centre of his life*
4. *What name are the Indian Christians of St. Thomas the Apostolic origin called by?*

## Going beyond unbelief

### Unbelief in doctrines

Pope John Paul II says that St Thomas' spirit of doubt lives in each one of us, at some point in our lives. We are all tempted sometimes by unbelief, and we are faced with the questions of: Is it true that God exists? Is it true that He created the world? Is it true that the Son of God became man, died and rose from the dead?

Where should we look for clarity when disbelief fogs our mind and soul? The answer is to look into the Apostolic witness. "We proclaim to you the one who existed from the beginning, whom we have heard and seen. We saw him with our own eyes and touched him with our own hands" (1 Jn 1:1). The testimony of the Apostles continues to live on in the one, holy,

catholic and apostolic Church. The Church has safeguarded the Bible without adding or omitting a letter in it. "He is the Word of life. This one who is life itself was revealed to us, and we have seen him. And now we testify and proclaim to you that he is the one who is eternal life" (1 Jn 1:1-2).

As the Syro-Malabar Christians, we have received what St Thomas has received from the Lord; the gift of a faith put to the test by the passion and death of Jesus and confirmed by meeting the risen Christ.

Unbelief and disbelief are two different words. Unbelief is the lack of belief or refusing to believe. Whereas disbelief is feeling that something is not real or cannot exist

### Unbelief due to sufferings

Pope Benedict speaks of another kind of disbelief. He says, "Why is there suffering, evil, injustice, death, especially when it strikes the innocent such as children who are victims of war and terrorism, of sickness and hunger?" Does not all of this put our faith to the test? He answers that "through the wounds of the Risen Christ," like St Thomas, we can see various situations of human sufferings and the evils which afflict humanity "with the eyes of hope." St Bonaventure writes, "Thomas the Apostle looked through the Lord's visible wounds and saw His invisible wound of love." Only a God who loves us to the extent of taking upon himself our wounds and our pain, especially innocent suffering, is worthy of faith. "By his wounds you have been healed" (1 Pet 2:24). Christians are called to bring healing to the suffering and see the wounds of Christ in the sufferings of the innocent.



## Threefold remedy for unbelief

When in doubt, we must always listen to the promptings of the Holy Spirit. We must always look to the guidance of the Church because she has the deposit of the apostolic teaching and testimony. In times of doubts about present day debates, the Church teaches us to look to the guidance of the apostolic successors. These apostolic successors are the college of bishops, “assisted by priests, in union with the successor of Peter, the Church’s supreme pastor” called the Magisterium (CCC 857).



If someone questions your belief in Christ, how will you explain to them why you are a believer? Please use the key word “eyewitness.”

### Activity 3



## Profession of faith by St Thomas expressed and experienced in liturgy

1. Prayers in the Syro-Malabar rite are based on St Thomas’ exclamation “My Lord and my God.” Some prayers begin with the addressing, “My Lord,” some with “Lord our God” and some other prayers with “Our Lord and our God.”
2. Our forefathers used to repeat the traditional short prayer “*Mar Walah,*” which is the Syriac equivalent of “My Lord and my God!”
3. St Thomas Christians have the custom of celebrating the first Sunday after Easter as New Sunday or St Thomas Sunday (*Puthu Njayar*) honouring St Thomas, the Apostle. It is the eighth day of resurrection. It was on that day that Jesus appeared to Thomas and he professed his faith in the risen Lord (Jn 20:26). In order to remind us of our own “unbelief” and to do penance, a lot of St Thomas Christians go on a pilgrimage, by walking to different centres named after St Thomas on that day. In the Jubilee Year 2000, at the Mass for the Canonization of St. Faustina Kowalska, Pope John Paul II declared this Sunday after Easter as “Divine Mercy Sunday.”
4. In our prayers, Apostles of Christ are traditionally always addressed with the title Mar which means My Lord. Similarly, bishops, who are the Apostolic successors are also addressed with the same title!



Activity 4

Discuss and find out what the traditional way of addressing:	Write your answer below:
<i>St Peter</i>	<i>Example: Mar Pathrose</i>
<i>St Paul</i>	
<i>St John</i>	
<i>St Thomas</i>	
<i>Write the name of our Pope</i>	
<i>Write the name of our Bishop</i>	



### Conclusion

St Thomas faced a test of faith after the crucifixion and death of Christ, as he was too traumatised by the events to believe in the resurrection. The Lord in all His kindness and mercy allowed Thomas to experience an intimate and unique encounter with Him. Thus, St Thomas was led to an ultimate profession of faith and a supreme act of worship. The gospel narrative is an invitation for us to imitate Jesus in His mercy and gentleness. St Thomas invites us to place Jesus at the centre of our life, and conform ourselves to the “wounded divine healer!”



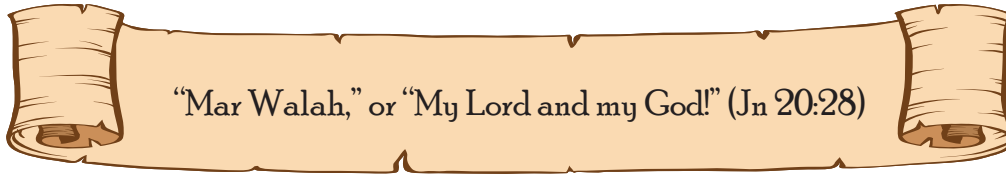
This activity relates to how the student experiences the topic. The teacher can ask “why” to these simulation questions.

(Circle your answer on a scale 0 to 5 (0 = I do not agree, 5= I strongly agree))

Simulation Activity

The wounds remained on Jesus’ hands, feet and side, as a reminder of the sacrifice He made to save us and as an evidence of His victory over death	0 1 2 3 4 5
By seeing the risen Lord, St Thomas believed and professed his faith; Jesus is Christ; he is true God and true man. This is the foundation of our faith.	0 1 2 3 4 5
When faced with doubts regarding our faith, we need to listen to the Holy Spirit and adhere to Catholic teachings.	0 1 2 3 4 5
We should always place Christ as the centre of our lives. We should model Him in all our thoughts, actions and deeds. This is the meaning and outcome of worship.	0 1 2 3 4 5

## Word of God for Our Guidance



### Let Us Do

Let us pray to experience the unique and intimate encounter with Jesus Christ.

### My Decision

Worship means letting God be the centre of our lives. He should be above our own desires and will. I will try my best to follow God's will in all my decisions.



### Check Your Understanding

1. The doors were locked; but suddenly, as before, Jesus was standing among them. "Peace be with you," he said. Then Jesus said to Thomas, "Put your finger here, and look at my hands. Put your hand into the wound in my side" (Jn 20:24-29). Why did Jesus ask St Thomas to examine His wounds?
2. How did Thomas profess his faith?
3. Describe why St Thomas is an exceptional witness and worshipper.
4. How would you assist someone who would be experiencing doubts in their faith?
5. Some people lose trust in God when confronted with suffering. How would you convey to them that we have a God who loves us to the extent of taking upon himself our wounds and our pain?
6. Why should we put our trust in the teachings of the Catholic church, when we doubt the Church's view on contemporary issues?
7. What is the apostolic faith of the Church? How is it safeguarded through the centuries? Explain your answer using the key words: Eyewitness, testimony, Apostolic successors and the Bible
8. When does the Syro-Malabar Church celebrate St Thomas Sunday or Puthu Njayar?

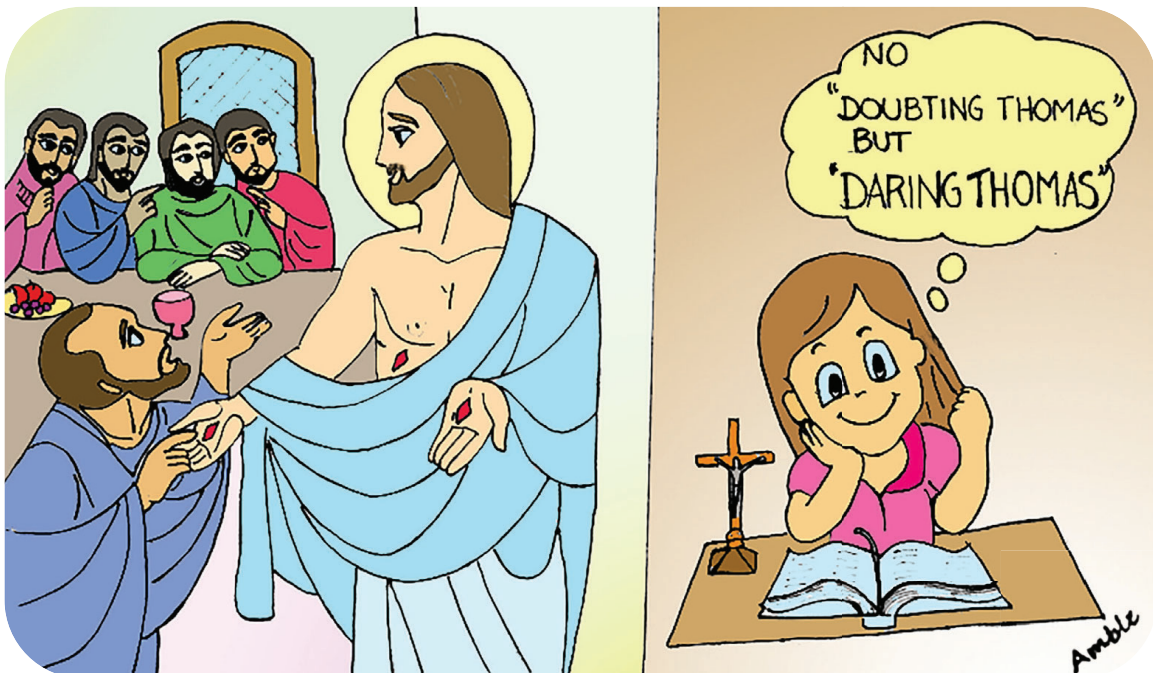
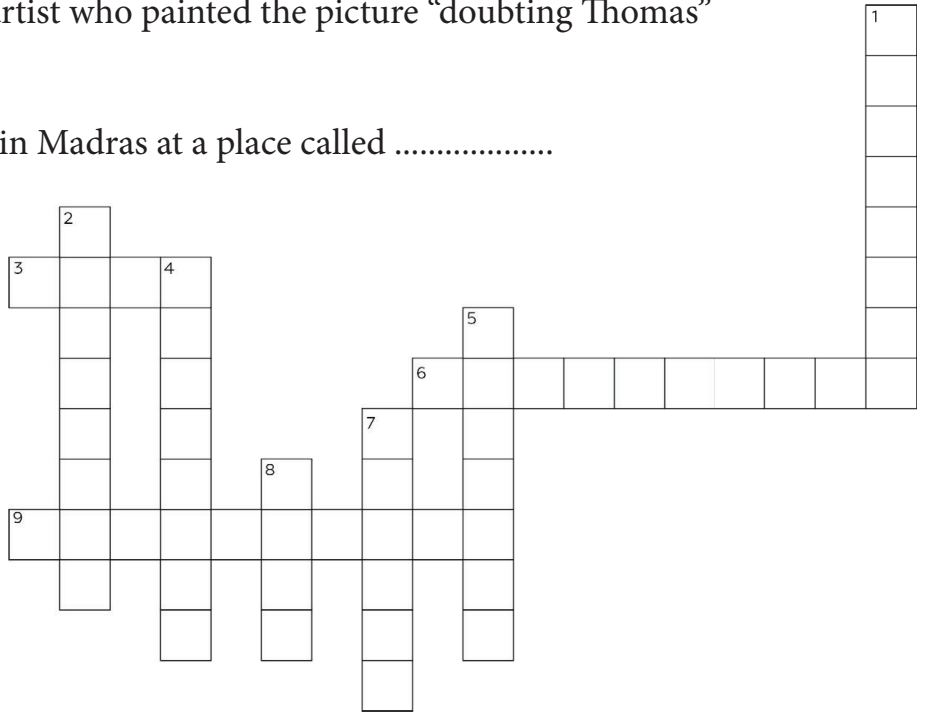
## Crossword

**Across:**

3. What was the thing Jesus asked Thomas to reach out to his side?
6. St Thomas Christians conducted ..... to centres named after St Thomas to do penance on *PuthuNjayar*.
9. The famous renaissance artist who painted the picture “doubting Thomas”

**Down:**

1. St Thomas was martyred in Madras at a place called .....
2. The Syriac equivalent for My Lord and My God?
4. The day of martyrdom of St Thomas is called .....
5. Who are the apostolic successors in the Church?
7. On which day after resurrection, Jesus appeared to Thomas?
8. What was the thing Thomas wanted to see in Jesus’ hands?



## Additional Lesson 2

# My Lord and My God

### Activity 1

As St Thomas Christians, it is important for us to learn how St Thomas, our father in faith experienced the risen Christ. Let's do a role play of the given bible passage.

### Activity 2

**Write down your reflective answer**

1. St Thomas became an exceptional witness of resurrection because

St. Thomas exclamation "My Lord and My God!" was the most perfect way to address Jesus' divinity and humanity. After the resurrection, the truth that Jesus is Christ; He is true God and true man is reinforced by St. Thomas' witness. When Jesus appeared to the disciples, he allowed Thomas to touch his fingers and sides where the wound was. St. Thomas exclamation is the perfect example of worship.

2. Write down the profession of faith of St. Thomas the Apostle.

St. Thomas became convinced of the truth of resurrection and exclaimed "My Lord and my God" thus making the public profession of faith about the divinity of Jesus Christ.

3. To worship means to put Lord at the centre of our lives. How did St/ Thomas put the Lord at the centre of his life

To do an act of worship, we need to put the Lord at the centre, not ourselves. Worshipping God means letting Gods will not ours rule our lives. St Thomas' experience of the Resurrection allowed him to recommit his life to Jesus and let everything else be secondary..

4. What name are the Indian Christians of St. Thomas the Apostolic origin called by?

Christians of St Thomas (Marthomma Nazranikal)

### Activity 3

**If someone questions your belief in Christ, how will you explain to them why you are a believer? Please use the key word "eyewitness."**

My faith is based on the great Apostolic witnesses. The Apostles were eye witnesses of the one God has sent to save humanity, eye witnesses of what Jesus has done and heard what Jesus had said. Apostles saw Jesus with their own eyes and touched Him with their hands. The testimony of Apostles continues to live on in the one Holy catholic and apostolic church. The church has safeguarded the Bible without adding or omitting a letter in it. The Word of God is the truth. The church teaches me to look to the guidance of Apostolic successors.

### Activity 4

<b>Discuss and find out what the traditional way of addressing:</b>	<b>Write your answer below:</b>
St Peter	Mar Pathrose

St Paul	Mar Paulose
St John	Mar Yohannan
St Thomas	Mar Thoma
Write the name of our Pope	Pope Francis
Write the name of our Bishop	Mar John Panamthottathil



### Simulation Activity

This activity relates to how the student experiences the topic. The teacher can ask “why” to these simulation questions. (0 = I do not agree, 5= I strongly agree)

1. ⑤ 2. ⑤ 3. ⑤ 4. ⑤



### Check Your Understanding

- The doors were locked; but suddenly, as before, Jesus was standing among them. “Peace be with you,” he said. Then Jesus said to Thomas, “Put your finger here, and look at my hands. Put your hand into the wound in my side” (Jn 20:24-29). Why did Jesus ask St Thomas to examine His wounds?

Jesus asked St Thomas to touch his wounds to address his doubts and reveal to him that He is indeed the risen Lord.

- How did Thomas profess his faith?

He exclaimed “My Lord and My God!” (Jn 20:28)

- Describe why St Thomas is an exceptional witness and worshipper.

He is an exceptional witness as he seeks the truth and demands evidence to experience the truth. However, when he encounters the truth, he places his full trust in it. This is evident as he exclaimed “My Lord and my God” when Jesus showed him his wounds, the most perfect way to address Jesus’ divinity and humanity. Thomas’ initial doubt transform into a powerful confession of faith.

- How would you assist someone who would be experiencing doubts in their faith?

I will assist them with understanding the great Apostolic witnesses. The Apostles were eye witnesses of the one God has sent to save humanity, eye witnesses of what Jesus has done and heard what Jesus had said. Apostles saw Jesus with their own eyes and touched Him with their hands. The testimony of Apostles continues to live on in the one Holy catholic and apostolic church. The church has safeguarded the Bible without adding or omitting a letter in it. The Word of God is the truth. The church teaches us to look to the guidance of Apostolic successors.

I will also ask them to pray, seek the Holy Spirit, reflect on the Bible and attend Holy Qurbana.

- Some people lose trust in God when confronted with suffering. How would you convey to them that we have a God who loves us to the extent of taking upon himself our wounds and our pain?

Through the wounds of the Risen Christ, we can see various situations of human sufferings with the eyes of hope. We need to see the wounds of Christ in the suffering of the innocent. By his wounds we will be healed. God’s plan for us is always greater than our plan for ourselves even though it is hard to see.

- Why should we put our trust in the teachings of the Catholic church, when we doubt the Church’s view on contemporary issues?

The testimony of Apostles continues to live on in the one Holy catholic and apostolic church. The church has safeguarded the Bible without adding or omitting a letter in it. The Word of God is the truth. The church teaches us to look to the guidance of Apostolic successors.

We should always turn to the Bible and teachings of the Catholic Church to form our own views on contemporary issues in line with our faith and teachings of Jesus.

**7. What is the apostolic faith of the Church? How is it safeguarded through the centuries? Explain your answer using the key words: Eyewitness, testimony, Apostolic successors and the Bible.**

The apostolic faith, derived from firsthand accounts of the apostles, is preserved through various means including eyewitnesses and testimonies. The Apostolic successors, who are the college of Bishops, assisted by priests in union with Pope the successor of Peter ensure continuity of authority and doctrine through centuries. The Bible, especially the New Testament, records apostolic testimony and serves as a foundational text. Additionally, Creeds, such as the Nicene Creed and Apostles Creed, succinctly articulate key aspects of the faith and contribute to safeguarding and transmitting the apostolic tradition across centuries.

**8. When does the Syro-Malabar Church celebrate St Thomas Sunday or Puthu Njayar?**

The first Sunday after Easter

### **Crossword**

**Across:** 3.Hand 6. Pilgrimage 9. Caravaggio

**Down:** 1.Mylapore 2.Mar Walah 4. Dukhrana 5.Bishops 7.Eighth 8.Mark

# Grade 6 Provisional Text book

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