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MAHDERE-SEBEHAT LEDETA LEMARIAM
ETHIOPIAN ORTHODOX
TEWAHEDO CHURCH



**Lessons are prepared by Ledeta LeMariam
Sunday School
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In the name of the
Father, and the Son, and
the Holy Spirit, one God.
Amen.



Begin with the Lord's prayer

Our Lord and Savior, our King and God, we thank you for gathering us here to stand before you to call on your Holy Name.

Heavenly Father, teach us to trust You in everything we do. Our God open our eyes, ears, hearts and minds that we may hear Your Word, keep it in our hearts and tell our friends about your glory and honor.

Bless all the children and keep them safe. Hear us when we humbly and thankfully pray to you.

Our Father, who art in heaven

Hallowed be thy name,

Thy kingdom come,

Thy will be done

On earth as it is in heaven

Give us this day our daily bread

And forgive us our trespasses

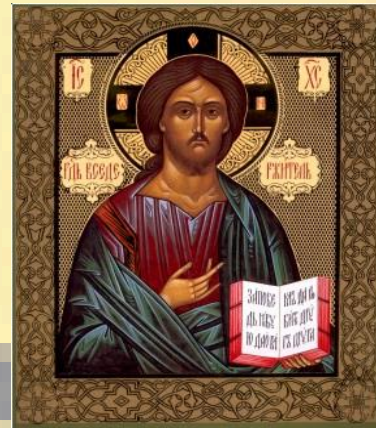
As we forgive those who trespass against us

And lead us not into temptation

But deliver us from the evil one

For thine is the kingdom, the power, and the

Glory. Forever, Amen.



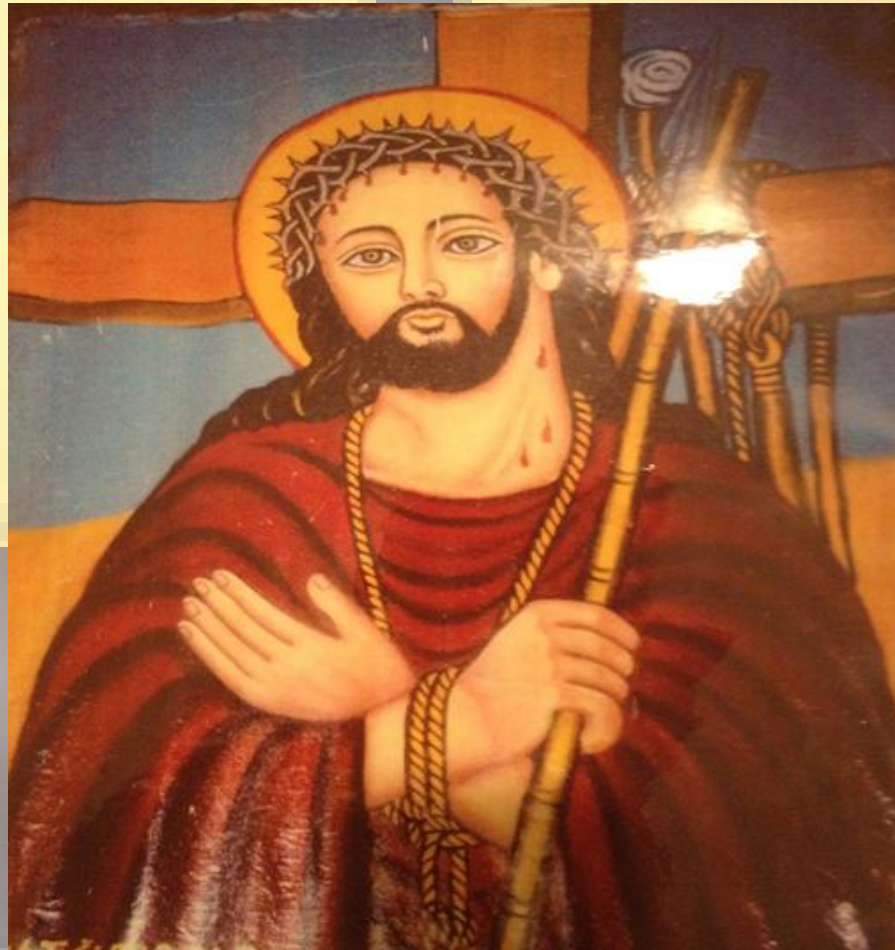
O our Lady, as St. Gabriel greeted you, “Hail Mary, full of grace, the Lord is with you.” True Virgin in conscience as well as body, blessed are you among women and blessed is the fruit of your womb.

Holy Mary, the God-bearer, pray that your beloved Son, Jesus Christ, may forgive us our sins. Amen.



Say The Jesus Prayer 3 times

**Lord Jesus Christ, Son of God,
have mercy on me, a sinner.**

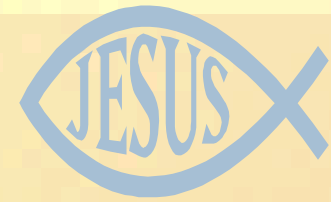


Recite Last week's memory verse

**“They laid hands on them, and they
received the Holy Spirit.”
(Acts 8:17)**

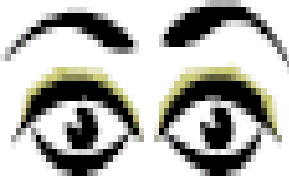




Review



1. What was the name of the city where Simon the sorcerer lived?
Samaria.
2. What is the name of the disciple that went to preach in Samaria?
St. Philip
3. Why was Simon famous in Samaria?
He was a sorcerer that did magical acts and the people feared him.
4. Who came to Samaria to lay the hands on the believers?
St. Peter and St. John
5. What happened when St. Peter and St. John laid the hands on the believers?
They received the Holy Spirit of God.

Class Covenant

I will keep my  on my teacher,
my  in control,
my s on God's Word;
knowing God is my goal.

St. John the Evangelist and the Thief

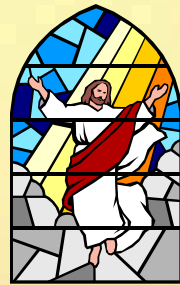


September 28, 2014

Memorize today's Verse

“Beloved, If God so loved us, we also ought to love, one another.”

(1 John 4:11)

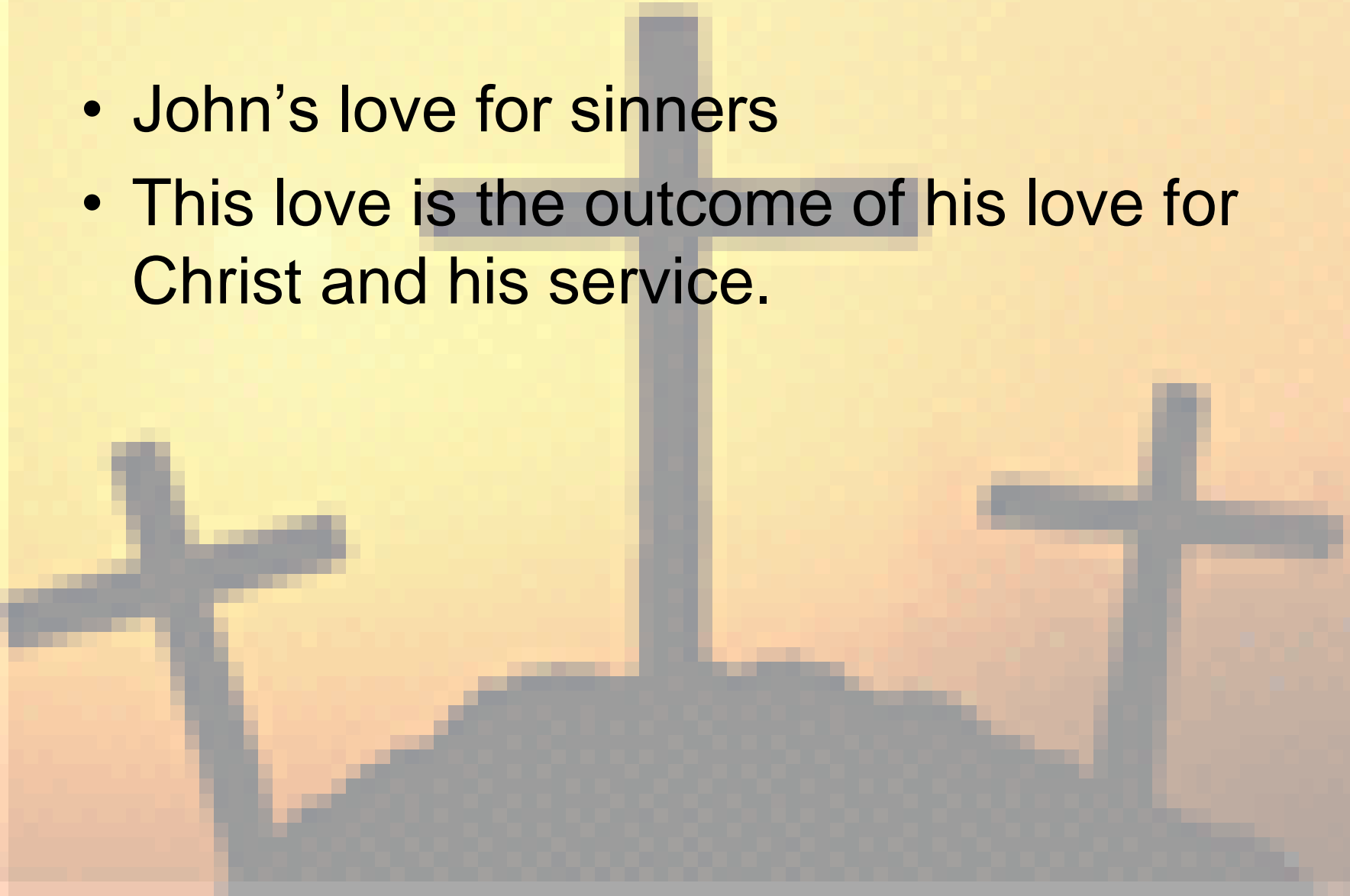


I	Jesus
X	Christ
Θ	God
Υ	Son
Σ	Saviour

**Practice this verse
again during the week.**

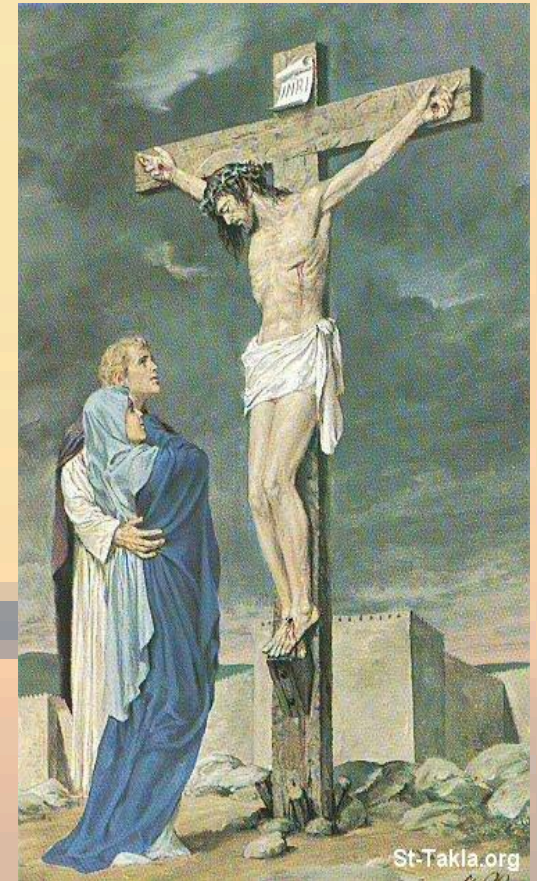
Objective

- John's love for sinners
- This love is the outcome of his love for Christ and his service.



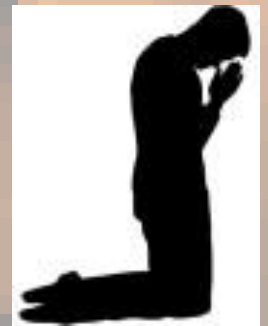
St. John the Beloved

- One of Christ's disciples
- He followed Christ to the cross
- The Lord Jesus asked John to take care of his Mother St. Mary



The wicked man

- St. John went out to preach the word of God.
 - He told the people about God's AMAZING LOVE for us.
- One day St. John meet a wicked young man.
- Through St. John's talking about Jesus Christ, the young man repented and became a Christian.



- One day St. John took the young man to a priest and asked him to care for him and teach him how to pray.
- St. John went away to preach the word of God to other towns.
 - He stayed for a very long time until he became a very old man.



- Years later... He came back to the first town.
- He met the priest and asked him about the young man.
 - The priest bowed his head and was ashamed.
- John: “What happened to the young man I brought to you.”
- Priest: “I am sorry, but he died.”



- John (sad): “What a loss! When did he die?”
- Priest: “I mean that he died in sin. He is now a chief of a gang of robbers.”



- John (crying): “Ah! My dear beloved son! Where are you now?”
- Priest: “He is in this town but he goes out at night to rob and steal.”
 - John went out immediately to look for him, leaning on his staff



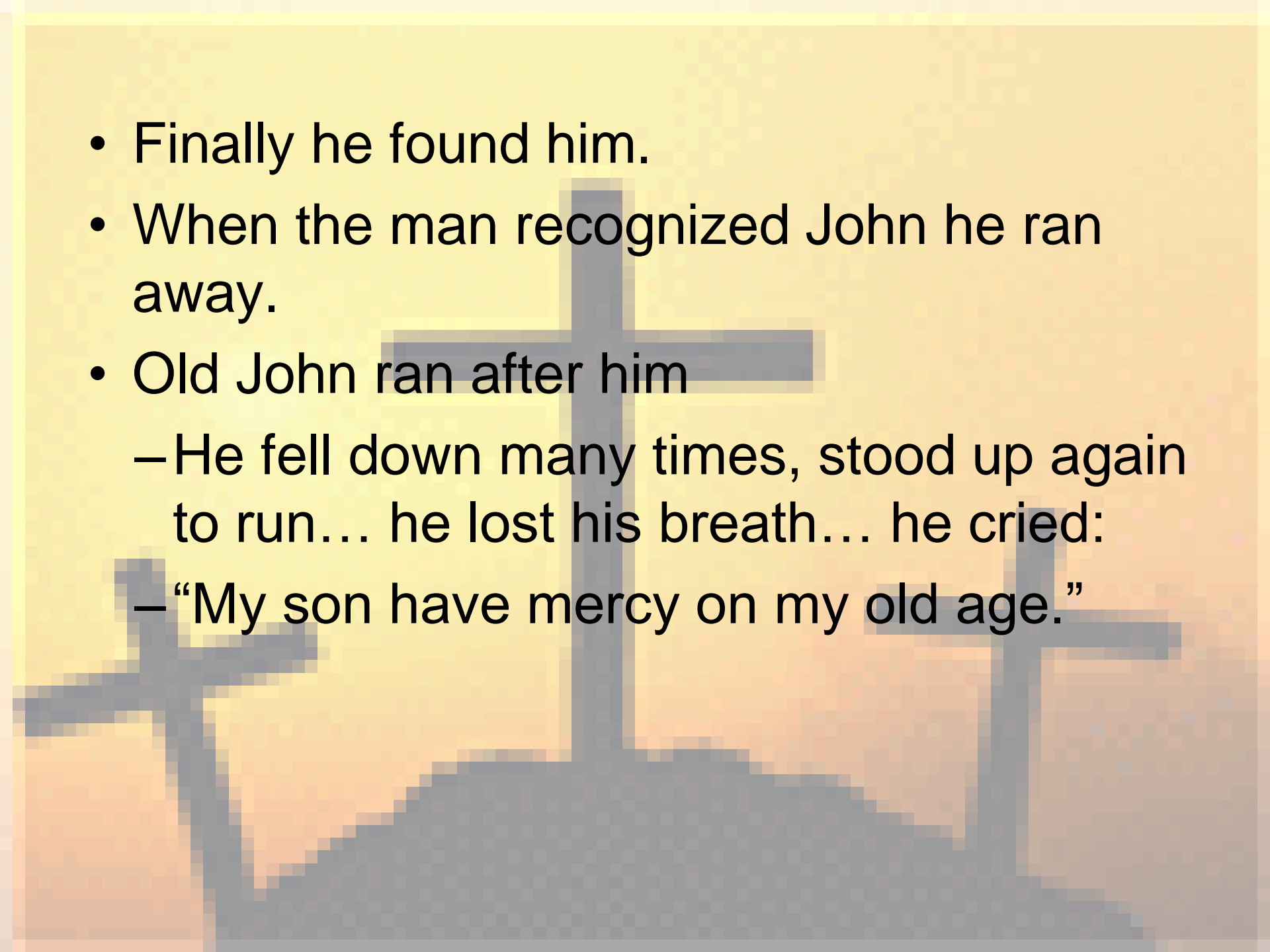
Prayer

- St. John searched for the man everywhere and prayed:
 - “ O Lord have mercy on that man... Save him... You left the ninety nine on the mountain and went out to search for the lost sheep... I am searching for your lost son.”



- It was night, the moon and the stars were in the sky and John walked in the dark.
- He forgot how weak and old he was when he was searching for the man.



- 
- Finally he found him.
 - When the man recognized John he ran away.
 - Old John ran after him
 - He fell down many times, stood up again to run... he lost his breath... he cried:
 - “My son have mercy on my old age.”

- The boy was deeply affected and stopped running.
- He came back to John and wept.
- He bowed down and said:
 - “Father, I have sinned. Will Jesus accept me when I come back to Him ... now?”
- John : “Of course... He loves you and wants you to return.”





The Sheep was lost and is now Found

- The man confessed his sins and said I repent.
- The man repented and became a Saint
- He always attended Holy Liturgy (Kidasse) and received the Holy Communion (Kurban)
- He never returned to sin again.

Prodigal Son

- “Likewise, I say to you, there is joy in the presence of the angels of God over one sinner who repents.” (Luke 15:10)



Conclusion

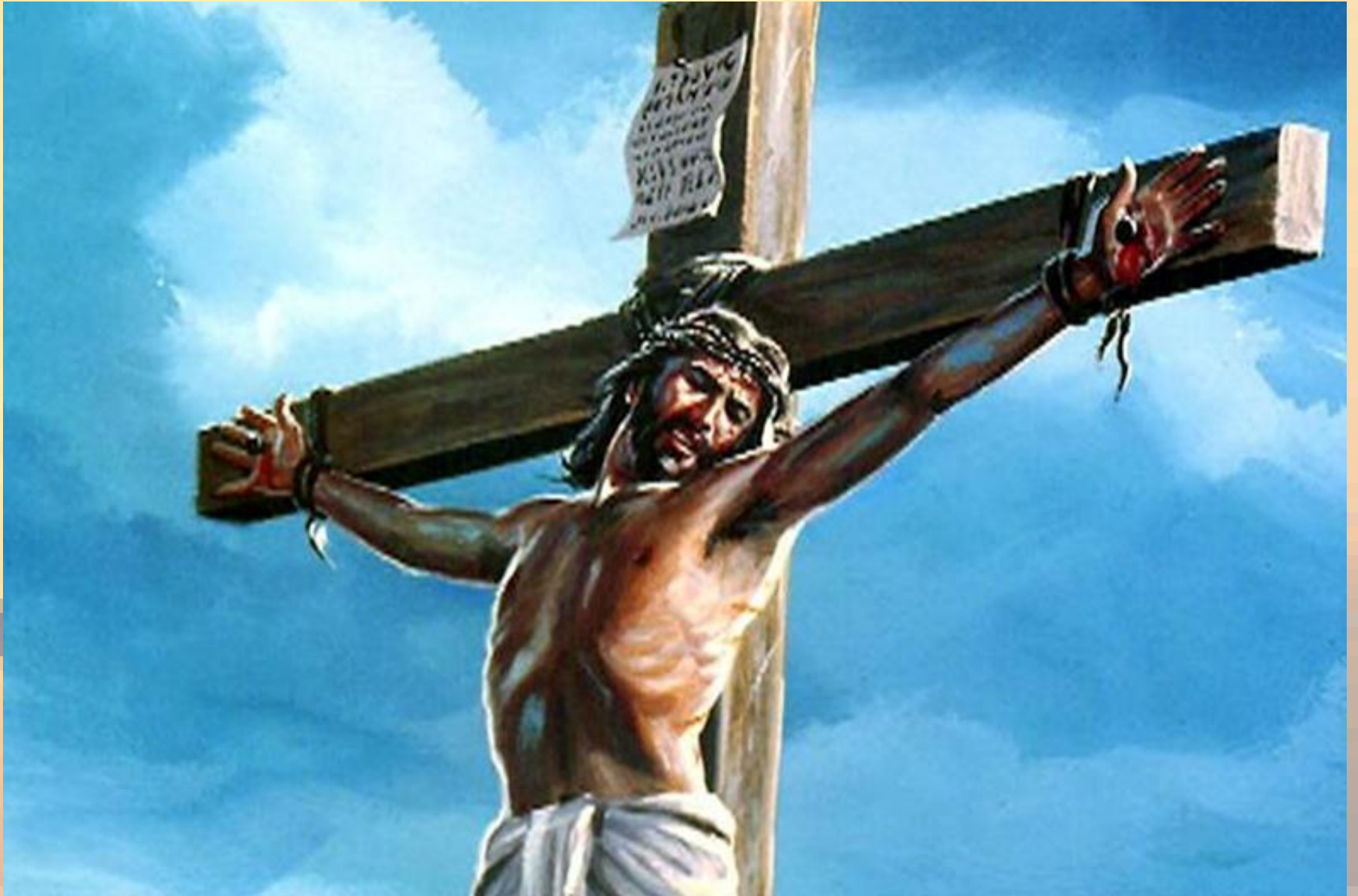
- HOW GREAT IS GOD'S LOVE FOR US?
 - ENDLESS
 - “He who did not spare His own Son, but delivered Him up for us all, how shall He not with Him also freely give us all things?” (Rom. 8: 32)

What do we have to do / give to receive God's Love?

- Nothing, it's a free gift
- He loves us in all conditions even when we were sinners and hated Him.
- “But God demonstrates His own love toward us, in that while we were still sinners, Christ died for us.” (Rom.5: 8)



LOVE is Patient and Kind



LOVE is Patient and Kind

- God Loved us and came down from Heaven to Earth to free us from the devil.
- Because the punishment of sin = death.
- And so Jesus Christ died so we won't have to. He took the punishment that we deserved.
- He wants us to love one another the same way He loved us, just like St. John loved the young man.

God's Love Never Ends

God's Love never ends.

Yes it goes on and on my friends,

Some people, start sinning, not knowing
who he was,

But He'll continue loving us forever just
because...

God's Love never ends



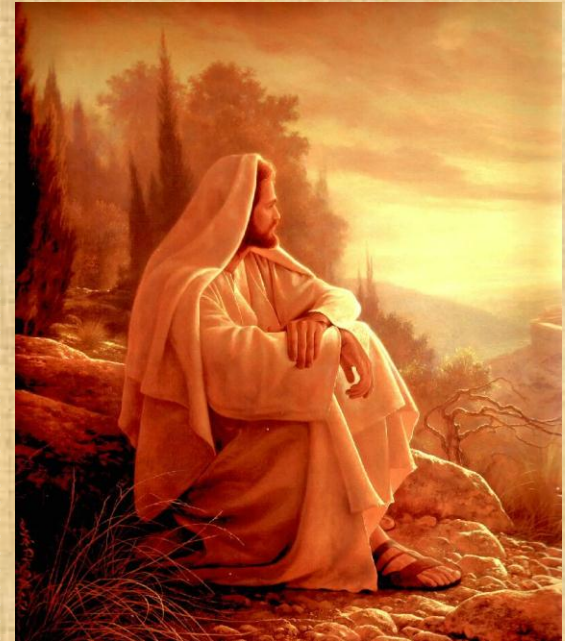
St. DEMIANA CONVENT
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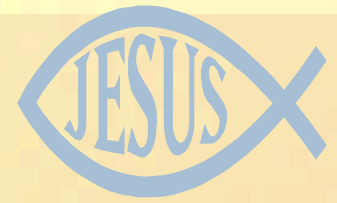
St-Takla.org

Movie Clip

Show a short movie clip about the story, if available.



Pop Quiz



1. Who is John?
2. What did the Lord Jesus asked John to do when He was on the cross?
3. What was the main work John did?
4. What is the first thing we need to do to help our brothers and sisters to repentance? Pray for them
5. Eventhough we sinned a lot, What do we need to do to return to Christ? Repent

The End

Next Week

We will learn about Saint John the Evangelist and the thief.





May the love of God the **Father** and the grace of our Lord **Jesus Christ** and the fellowship of the **Holy Spirit** be with you.

All: And with your Spirit.

Through the prayers of our holy Fathers, Lord Jesus Christ our God, have mercy on us and save us. Amen.

3 things we all can do to strengthen our relationship with God

1. Read the Holy Bible daily preferably when we get up in the morning. 5 minutes to start.
2. Partake Holy Communion regularly.
3. Remember God throughout the day. We can repeat short prayer such as “Lord Jesus Christ have mercy on me.”

JESUS CHRIST

- “For there is no other name under heaven given among men by which we must be saved” (Acts 4:12)





We are one in Christ



*“And you shall know
the truth, and the
truth shall make you
free.” John 8:32*

Any question?

Close with prayer.

