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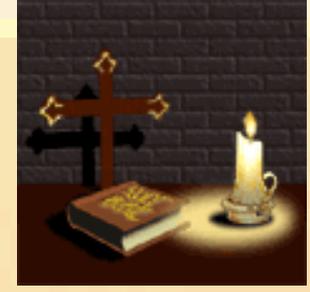
MAHDERE-SEBEHAT LEDETA LEMARIAM
ETHIOPIAN ORTHODOX
TEWAHEDO CHURCH



**Lessons are prepared by Ledeta LeMariam
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Alexandria, Virginia**

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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

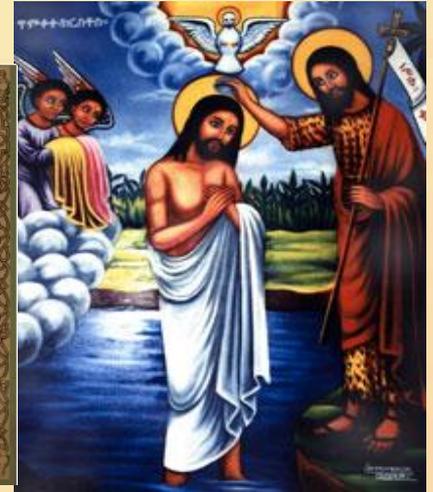
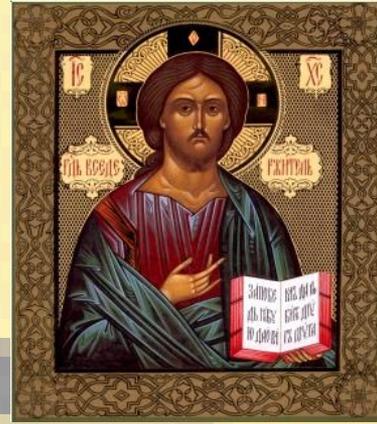
As we forgive those who trespass against us

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.



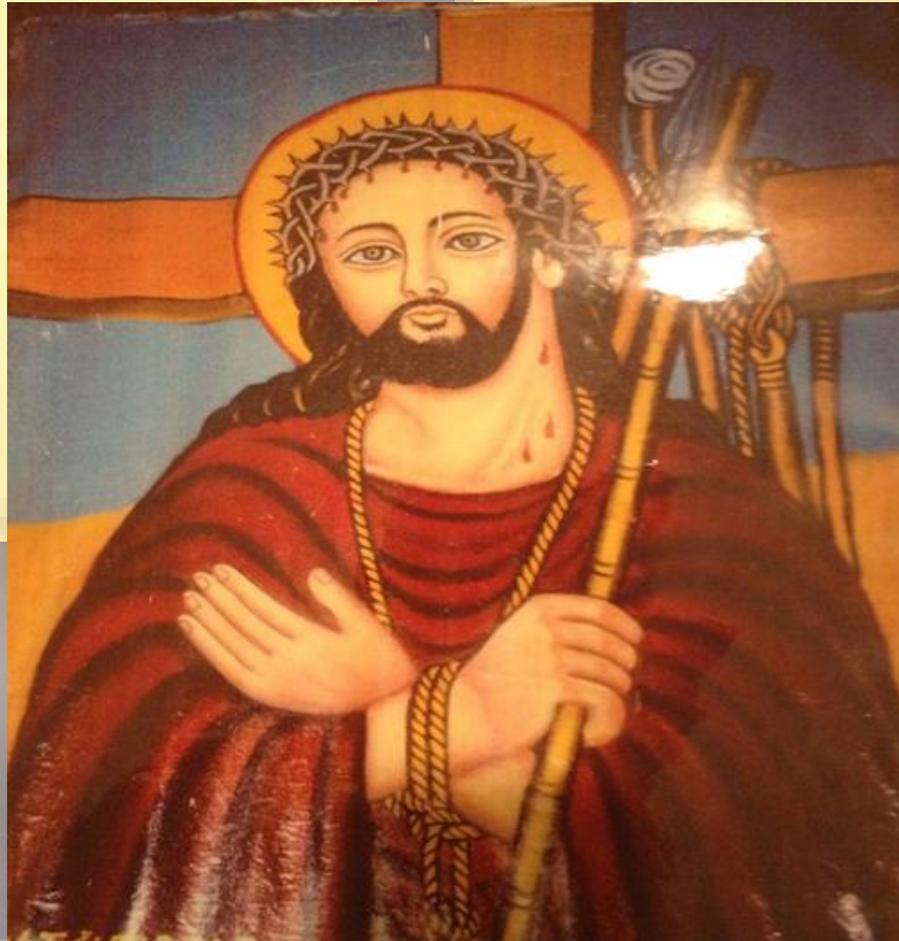
O our Lady, as St. Gabriel greeted you, “Hail Mary, full of grace, the Lord is with you.” True Virgin in conscience as well as body, blessed are you among women and blessed is the fruit of your womb.

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.**

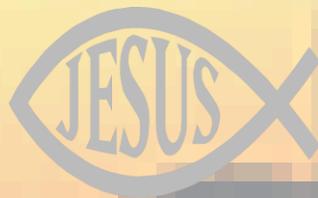


MEMORY VERSE

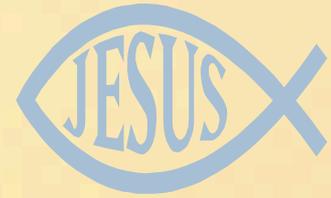
**Can anyone tell me
last week's
memory verse???**

Recite Last week's memory verse

**“Lord, now you are letting Your servant
depart in peace, according to Your word,
for my eyes have seen Your salvation”
(Luke 2:29)**



Review



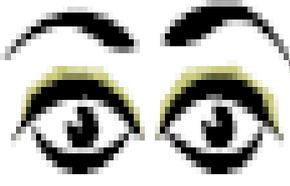
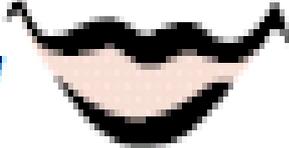
- Where did Simeon meet Virgin Mary and the child Jesus?
- How old was Jesus? How old was Simeon?
- When did Simeon die?
- What was his work?
- What was the name of the king who built Alexandria? Who followed him after he died?
- Why Ptolemy was afraid of the Holy Book of the Jews?
- How many Elders he sent to Alexandria? And to do what? What is the name of this Translation?

Review



- What book did Simeon translate? What verse did he want to change? Why?
- What happened during the night?
- How long did he live after that? What happened to his country? His family? His health?
- How did he come to the temple that day if he was weak and blind?
- When did he start seeing? Who did he see more clearly than anybody else?
- What happened after he finished his story?

Class Covenant

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

Our Lord Jesus comes to the Temple



February 9, 2014

Memorize today's Verse

The Father has sent his Son to be the Savior of the world.

(1 John 4:14)



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

Starters

Ask the students:

What can you do this year that you could not do last year?

(accept any reasonable answer --- read a book, kick a soccer ball, lift a baby brother, fold laundry, play the piano better and so on.)

How different do you look from a year ago?

(taller, bigger feet and hands, longer hair and so on.)

What do you know this year that you didn't know when you were a year younger?

(more school skills, right from wrong, more verse from the Bible and so on.)

Objective

God has made us so that we grow in many ways. When Jesus came, he was first a baby-just as you were some years ago. Then He learned how to crawl and walk as a little toddler. He had birthdays every year, and He grew and changed, just as you are growing and changing. But Jesus was different from us because He never sinned or disobeyed like we do. Even though He was tempted like we are, He never sinned. That is why He could die for our sins and be our Savior. Today we are going to learn how Jesus grew like us, and also how God expects us to grow to be like Him.

Before our Lord Jesus started to live in Nazareth and right after He was born in Bethlehem, King Herod did not want another king in his land. So when the wise men did not return, he decided to send soldiers to kill the child.

Then God sent Joseph an angel, who appeared in a dream and told him, "Get up immediately; take the child and His mother and go away to Egypt, because Herod plans to kill Him."

Joseph got up immediately and took the child and His mother and left for Egypt during the night. They stayed there until King Herod died.



Then an angel again came to Joseph in a dream and told him, “Get up; take the child and His mother and go back to the land of Israel. Those who wanted to kill the child are dead.

So Joseph and Mary returned to their country with Jesus. They settled in Nazareth and Jesus grew up there.

Every year Saint Mary and Saint Joseph left Nazareth and traveled all the way to the city of Jerusalem for the Feast of the Passover. This was a weeklong festival for all Jewish families to celebrate the time God saved Israel out of Egypt.

The year that Jesus was 12, He went to the feast with His mother Virgin Mary and Joseph. Jesus knew that next year He would be expected to take His place in the congregation as an adult.

Bar Mitzvah At 13, a Jewish boy became a “son of the law” in a special ceremony called bar mitzvah. After this, he entered home, community and synagogue life as an adult.

When the feast was over, the travelers gathered up their belongings and started the long trek home. After some time, Mary and Joseph discovered that Jesus was not with them. They could not find Him among their relatives, neighbors or friends. Where was He? They searched everywhere, but Jesus was nowhere to be found.

Anxious about their missing son, Mary and Joseph returned to Jerusalem to look for Him. They went everywhere, asking for the boy. But no one knew where He was. Finally, after three long, weary days of searching, they found Jesus.

He was sitting in the temple courtyards among the teachers, listening to them and asking questions. Everyone was amazed at how wise and smart He was.

Even though Jesus was a child like you are, this shows He understood He was in the temple on God His Father's house. As God's Son, Jesus was wiser than the priests and could answer their tough questions.

Mary and Joseph were surprised to find Him there. “Son, why did you do this to us?” Mary wanted to know. “Your father and I were frantically looking for you everywhere!”

Why were you searching for me? Jesus asked. Did you not know I had to be in my Father’s house?

Mary and Joseph did not understand what their son meant. Jesus Christ was talking about obeying God and revealing who he really was: God. Then Jesus obediently got up and went with His parents back to Nazareth.

Mary kept thinking about all that had happened. After this, Jesus continued to grow well. He was obedient to His parents and He grew in height, in wisdom, and in favor with God and men.

Conclusion

Jesus not only continued to grow in His knowledge of reading, writing and studying God's Word, but He matured in other ways as well.

He was kind and thoughtful to others, He grew taller and stronger, and those who knew Him liked Him. God the Father approved of His Son; Jesus loved and obeyed His heavenly Father.

Conclusion

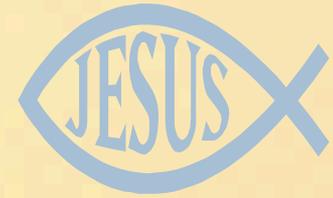
Jesus was once a child-like you! He knows what it is like to run around and play. He had to learn how to read and write and work with numbers. He also had to get along with brothers, sisters and friends. He knew what it was like to obey His parents.

God wants you to grow to be like His Son, Jesus Christ. That is God's plan for His children, you and me.

Movie Clip

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

Pop Quiz

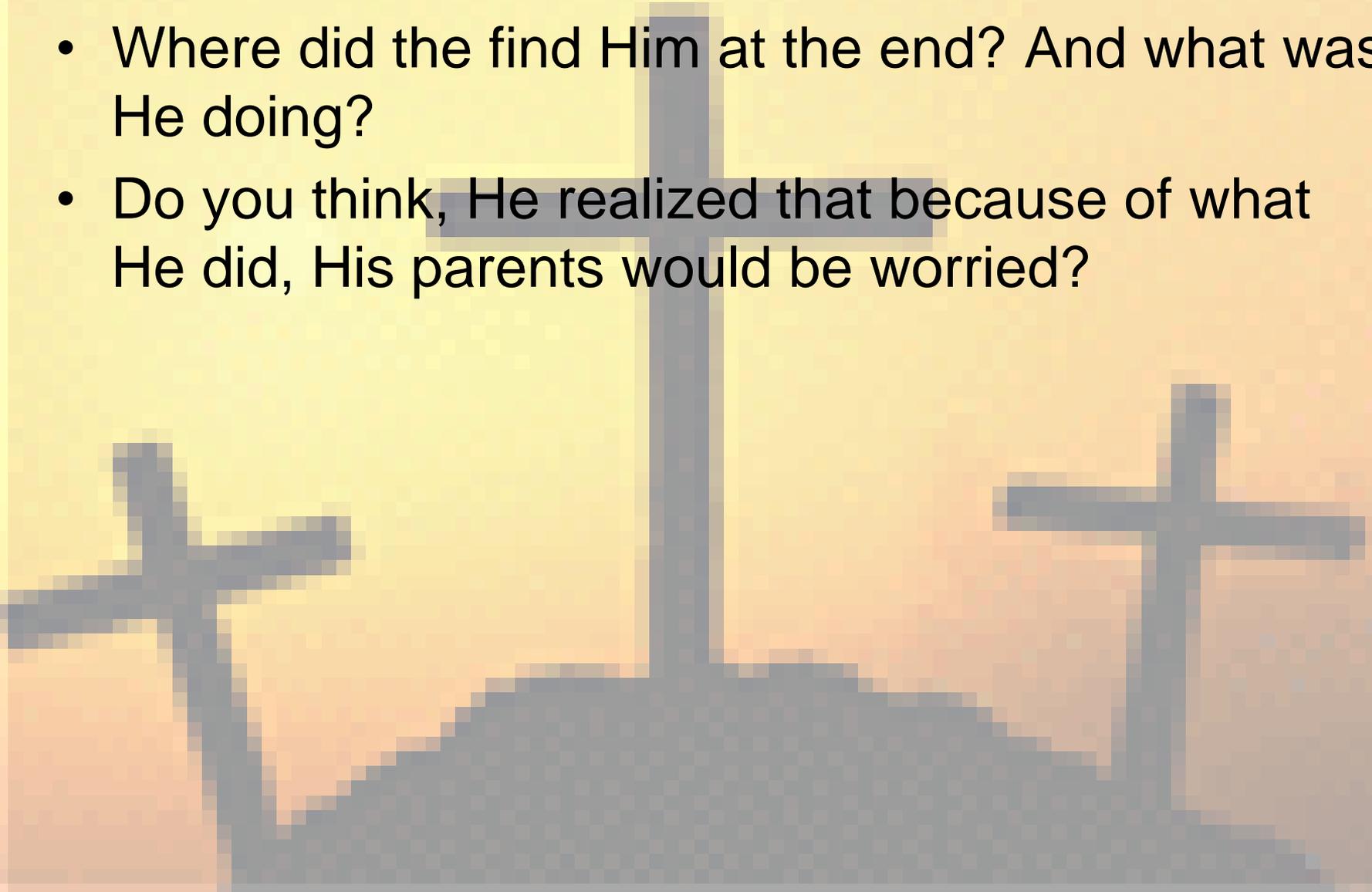


- Why did Mother Mary and Joseph take baby Jesus with them to Egypt.
- What was the reason they returned to Israel?
- Who told them to return?
- What holiday were they celebrating when Jesus went to Jerusalem with His parents?
- At what age does a Jewish boy become an adult?
- Why did Jesus stay behind and not go with His parents to Nazareth?
- How many days did it take Mary and Joseph to find Jesus?

Pop Quiz



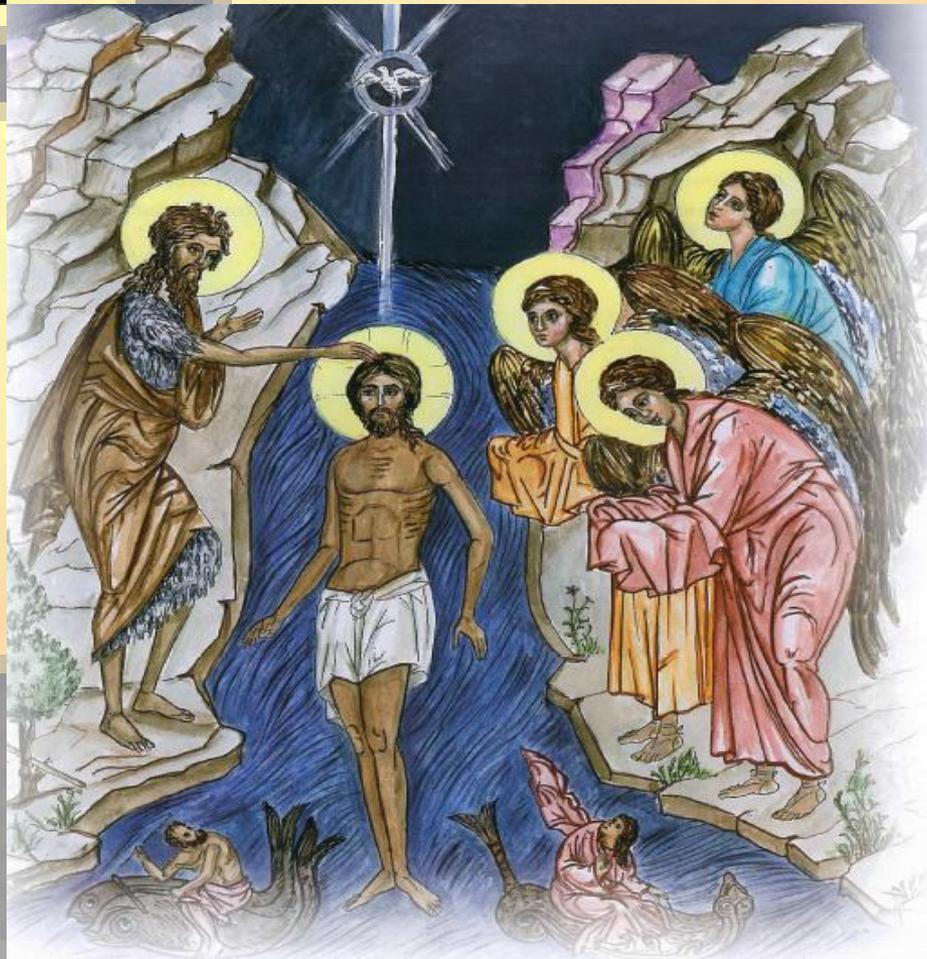
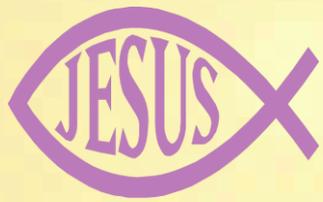
- Where did they find Him at the end? And what was He doing?
- Do you think, He realized that because of what He did, His parents would be worried?



The End

Next Week

We will learn about
Baptism of Jesus Christ.





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)





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

Any question?

Close with prayer.

