

# Special Lesson: Red Sunday - Brave in Faith

## Red Sunday: Little Lights That Shine Bright

### Teacher Preparation and Materials Needed:

**Song:** [This Little Light of Mine](#)

**Craft:** “Shine Like a Star” Lantern

### MORAL CHARACTER FOCUS:

Students will understand that Red Sunday celebrates love and bravery in the Christian faith, and they will learn how small acts of courage — inspired by Jesus, the saints, and biblical heroes — can make a big difference as they shine their light for Christ in everyday life.

### Words of the week:

կարմիր - gar-meer - red

քաջ - kach - brave

լոյս - looys - light

### Memory Verse:

**“You are the light of the world.  
A city on a hill cannot be hidden.”**

**Matthew 5:14**

# Lesson

## Open with prayer:

Իմաստութիւն Յօր՝ Յիսուս, տո՛ւր ինձ իմաստութիւն, զբարիս խորհել եւ խօսել եւ գործել առաջի Քո՛ւ յամենայն ժամ. ի չար խորհրդոց, ի բանից եւ ի գործոց փրկեա՛ր զիս. եւ ողորմեա՛ Քո արարածոց եւ ինձ բազմամեղիս: Ամէն:

Eemasdootyoon Hor Heesoos, door eents eemasdootyoon uzparees khorel yev khosel yev kordz arachi ko hamenayn jham. Ee char khorhrtos, paneets yev kordzots prgya zees yev voghormya ko araradzots eents pazmameghees. Amen.

Wisdom of the Father, O Jesus, grant to me the wisdom to think, speak, and do that which is good in Your sight. Save me from all evil and distracting thoughts, words, and deeds. Have mercy upon your creatures and upon me, a great sinner. Amen.

*\*Wisdom Prayer, written by St. Nersess the Grace-filled (Shnorhali).*

## Lesson Body:

Have you ever been outside at night and looked up at the stars?

Even though stars are so far away, they shine brightly in the dark sky. Without them, the night would feel empty and cold. But just one little star can make everything feel better.

Today in our Armenian Church, we celebrate a very special day called Red Sunday, or Garmeer Geeragee. The color red reminds us of love and bravery — two things that go hand in hand. We remember how Jesus loved us so much that He gave His life for us, and we remember the brave people who followed Him, even when it was hard or dangerous.

Some of those brave people were part of the Armenian Church long ago. Saint Hripsime was a young woman who loved Jesus and followed Him even when it meant giving up her life. Saint Vartan was a soldier who stood strong for our faith and protected the Armenian people’s right to worship Christ. Saint Gregory the Illuminator stayed in a dark pit for years because he refused to stop believing in Jesus — and later, he helped bring the whole country of Armenia to Christ! Even during the hard times of the Armenian Genocide, many families kept their faith and continued to pray, sing, and trust in God, even when everything around them was full of fear.

But brave heroes don’t only come from the Armenian Church. The Bible is also full of people who chose to shine their light for God. Daniel was thrown into a lion’s den because he prayed to God every day, and he never stopped — and God protected him. Queen Esther spoke up to save her people, even though she was afraid. The apostles of Jesus were also very brave. Even after Jesus went up to heaven, they kept teaching about Him, even when people tried to stop them. They were full of the Holy Spirit and trusted God no matter what happened.

You might wonder, “But what about me? I’m not a saint or a Bible hero.” That’s the best part — you don’t have to be famous or perfect to shine for Jesus. You just have to love Him, and be willing to do what’s right, even when it’s hard.

Being brave for Jesus can happen in small ways every day. When you tell the truth, even if it means you might get in trouble, you’re being brave. When you choose to pray in front of others, even if someone might laugh, you’re being brave. When you forgive someone who hurt your feelings, even if they didn’t say sorry, you’re being brave. These might seem like little things, but in God’s eyes, they shine like stars.

Jesus said, “You are the light of the world. A city on a hill cannot be hidden” (Matthew 5:14). That means He made us to shine. He wants our lives to be like bright candles in a world that sometimes feels dark and cold. When we shine for Jesus, others feel warmer. They feel safer. They feel hope.

And here’s something even more amazing: your light can spread. When you live with love and courage, other people might start shining their light too. Just like one candle can light another, your faith can help others find their way to God.

Red Sunday is a reminder that the Church is full of brave hearts — from long ago and even today. And guess what? Your heart can be one of them. Jesus is with you. The Holy Spirit fills you with strength and the saints of our Church are cheering you on from heaven.

So today, let’s thank God for the brave ones who came before us. And let’s ask Him to help us be brave too — in our homes, in school, and everywhere we go. Even a small child can do something big when they shine for Jesus.

## Song: [This Little Light of Mine](#)

### Craft: “Shine Like a Star” Lantern

#### Materials Needed (for each child):

- 1 paper cup (preferably white or clear) or a small clear plastic jar
- LED tea light or twinkle lights (battery-operated, no flame)
- Tissue paper in red, orange, and yellow
- Glue stick or diluted white glue with brushes
- Markers (black or dark colors)
- Optional: Scissors, construction paper, string for a hanging lantern

#### Instructions:

1. Cut or tear the tissue paper into small pieces or squares (1–2 inches).
2. Use red, orange, and yellow to symbolize fire, love, and the Holy Spirit.
3. You can pre-cut the tissue paper beforehand for younger children to save time.
4. Apply glue around the outside of the paper cup or jar.
5. Carefully press pieces of tissue paper onto the surface, overlapping colors to create a glowing effect.
6. Continue until the whole outside is covered, creating a stained-glass look.
7. Once the tissue paper is applied, let it dry for a few minutes.
8. Give each child a marker to write or draw one brave thing they can do for Jesus on the lantern.

#### Examples:

- “I can be brave by praying at school.”
  - “I can forgive someone who hurt me.”
  - A picture of a heart, cross, or praying hands.
9. Optional Steps:
    - Turn on the LED tea light and place it inside the cup or jar.
    - Turn off the room lights or darken the area to let the lanterns glow beautifully.
  10. Glue a strip of construction paper across the top to make a handle.
  11. Hang the lanterns around the room as a visual reminder of Red Sunday’s message.

### Reflection Time

This is a great moment to reflect or play a soft worship song like “This Little Light of Mine.” Gather the group (circle) to admire the lanterns.

#### Ask the children:

- “How can your light help someone else?”
- “When was a time you were brave for Jesus?”
- Remind them of the memory verse Matthew 5:14: “You are the light of the world...”
- Encourage a short prayer, asking Jesus to help them shine brightly for Him.
- Children can take turns to share their own thoughts and prayers.



### Words of the Week:

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### Memory Verse:

**“You are the light of the world. A city on a hill cannot be hidden.”**

**Matthew 5:14**

## Review

### Memory Verse Review:

*“You are the light of the world. A city on a hill cannot be hidden.” (Matthew 5:14)*

### Words of the Week Review:

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### Lesson Review:

#### Questions:

1. What color do we celebrate today? (Red)
2. What does red remind us of? (Love and bravery)
3. Who are some heroes we remember today? (Saint Hripsime, Saint Vartan, brave Armenian Christians)
4. How can YOU shine your light for Jesus? (By telling the truth, being kind, praying, loving others)
5. What did Jesus call us in the Bible? (The light of the world)

## Life Application

### *What are we going to do with what we have learned today?*

Red Sunday reminds us that even kids can be brave for Jesus. You don't have to be a grown-up or a saint to shine like a star. When you tell the truth, stand up for a friend, pray even when you're shy, or choose kindness instead of being mean — you are showing real courage. Just like stars light up the night sky, your brave choices help others see God's love in the world.

*\* Departing Prayer, written by St. Nersess the Grace-filled (Shnorhali).*

### Close with prayer:

**Պահապան ամենայնի Քրիստոս, աջ Քո հովանի լիցի ի վերայ իմ, ի տուէ եւ ի գիշերի, ի նստիլ ի տան, ի գնալ ի ճանապարհ, ի ննջել եւ ի յառնել, զի մի երբեք սասանեցայց եւ ողորմեա՛ Քո արարածոց եւ ինձ բազմամեղիս: Ամէն**

**Bahaban amenayn Kreesdos, ach Ko hovanee leetsee ee vera eem; ee dveh yev ee keesheree, ee nsdeel ee dan, ee knal ee janabarh, ee nunchel yev ee harnel, zee mee yerpek sasanetsayts yev vog-hormya Ko araradzots yev eents pazmamyghees. Amen.**

**O Christ, guardian of all, let Your right hand guard and shelter me, by day and by night, at home and abroad, in sleeping and in waking, that I may never stumble. Have mercy upon Your creatures and upon me, a great sinner. Amen.**