

## Unit 4: GOD'S LOVE TRANSFORMS US

### Lesson 4.2 Sunday of Expulsion

#### Teacher Preparation and Materials Needed:

**Bible Reference:** *Genesis 3:1-7*

**Class activity (optional):** *If time permits, after discussing the lesson and understanding how temptation takes us away from God, stand in a circle and pray together for wisdom and ask God to give you strength to overcome temptations not only during your Lenten Journey, but at all times.*

#### **Craft Activity: “Praying, Fasting, Almsgiving” Jar**

*Purpose: To help students put Lenten practices into action.*

*Materials Needed: Three jars (cans or boxes), elmer’s Glue, brushes for glue, tissue paper, mailing labels to label the jars (if this method is preferred) stickers, stick on jewels, ribbons, wide craft sticks or slips of paper.*

#### **Words of the week:**

արտաքսում - ardaksoom - exile

դրախտ - trakhd - paradise

պատուիրան - badveeran - commandment

#### **Memory Verse:**

“From any tree of the garden you may eat freely; but from the tree of the knowledge of good and evil you shall not eat, for in the day that you eat from it, you will surely die”

**Genesis 2:16-17**

# Lesson

## Lesson Opening & Creating Interest:

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

### Open with prayer:

Իմաստութիւն Յօր՝ Յիսուս, տո՛ւր ինձ իմաստութիւն, զբարիս խորհել եւ խօսել եւ գործել առաջի Քո՝ յամենայն ժամ. ի չար խորհրդոց, ի բանից եւ ի գործոց փրկեա՛ 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.

## Lesson Body:

Last Sunday, before Great Lent began, the Armenian Church celebrated a joyful day called Poon Paregentan. On this special day, we remember the happy and carefree life that Adam and Eve had in the Garden of Eden. It was a beautiful place where they lived in God’s presence, with everything they needed. There was no sadness, no worry—only joy, peace, and closeness with God. God gave Adam and Eve one rule: they could eat from any tree in the garden except for one — the Tree of the Knowledge of Good and Evil. God said, “From any tree of the garden you may eat freely; but from the tree of the knowledge of good and evil you shall not eat, for in the day that you eat from it, you will surely die” (Genesis 2:16-17). Adam and Eve trusted God and lived there happily and safely until one day something happened that changed everything.

The Evil Serpent convinced Eve to doubt God’s word and eat the fruit from the forbidden tree. The serpent told them, “You will not surely die. For God knows that when you eat of it, your eyes will be opened, and you will be like God, knowing good and evil” (Genesis 3:4-5 (ESV)). Eve ate the fruit then gave it to Adam to eat too. By doing this they disobeyed and broke the trust God had in them.

Because of this disobedience, which was the first sin, they could no longer stay in the Garden of Eden. They were expelled, or sent out, from paradise and had to live away from God’s presence. This is why the next Sunday after Poon Paregentan is called Expulsion Sunday. The word expulsion means being sent away. On this day, the Armenian Church remembers how Adam and Eve lost the joy of living in paradise because they did not listen to God and committed the first sin of disobedience. Since that time, all people have lived away from the perfect

### Read out loud:

*“From any tree of the garden you may eat freely; but from the tree of the knowledge of good and evil you shall not eat, for in the day that you eat from it, you will surely die”*

*Genesis 2:16-17*

### Words of the Week:

արտաքսում - **ardaksoom** - **exile**

դրախտ - **trakhd** - **paradise**

պատուիրան - **badveeran** - **commandment**

closeness with God that Adam and Eve once had. When we disobey God or make choices that are not good, we also feel far from Him. However, Expulsion Sunday is not just a sad reminder about the mistake that Adam and Eve made. Even though Adam and Eve were sent out of paradise, God never stopped loving them, and He never stops loving us. That's why Great Lent is such an important time. The Church gives us this season to think about our lives, see where we might be making mistakes, and try to grow closer to God again.

During Great Lent, we focus on three special things: prayer, fasting, and almsgiving. Prayer is how we talk to God and spend time with Him. Fasting means eating simple foods and giving up certain things so that we can focus more on God instead of distractions. Almsgiving means sharing what we have and helping others, especially those in need. These three things help us walk the path back to God's love.

So, as we think about Expulsion Sunday, we remember how Adam and Eve lost their place in paradise because of disobedience. But we also remember God's great love for us. Lent is our time to prepare our hearts by praying, fasting, and helping others. By doing these things, we are walking the path back to the joyful and loving relationship with God that Adam and Eve once had.

**Video Lesson:** [The Fall of Man - Adam and Eve - Genesis 3 | Animated Sunday School Lesson for Kids](#)

**Activity:** "Praying, Fasting, Almsgiving" Jar

**Materials Needed:** Three jars (cans or boxes), elmer's Glue, brushes for glue, tissue paper, mailing labels to label the jars (if this method is preferred) stickers, stick on jewels, ribbons, wide craft sticks or slips of paper.

**Instructions:**

1. Label the jars: Prayer, Fasting, and Almsgiving.
2. Have children decorate the jar using their imagination and the tissue paper, ribbons jewels, etc.
3. Dedicate seven craft sticks or slips of paper per jar.
4. Have students write one idea on each slip of paper or craft stick, such as:

Prayer: "Say a prayer for a friend."

Fasting: "Give up candy for a day."

Almsgiving: "Donate a toy or book."

Throughout Lent, students can pick a slip from or a stick from each jar and try to complete the actions. Discuss how these activities help bring them closer to God and make our relationship with Him stronger.



# Review

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## Memory Verse Review:

*“From any tree of the garden you may eat freely; but from the tree of the knowledge of good and evil you shall not eat, for in the day that you eat from it, you will surely die.” - Genesis 2:16-17*

## Words of the Week Review:

արտաքսում - ardaksoom - exile

դրախտ - trakhd - paradise

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## Lesson Review:

### Questions:

1. How did Adam and Eve live in the Garden of Eden? (They were carefree and happy in God’s presence)
2. What commandment did God give them in the Garden of Eden? (To eat from any tree except the tree of the knowledge of good and evil)
3. How have we come back into God’s presence? (Through Jesus Christ, namely His death and resurrection)
4. During Lent, what can we do to correct our behavior and attitude, so we do not separate ourselves from God? (Pray, fast, and give alms)

*\* 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.**