



## **KEY ELEMENTS OF THE CHRISTIAN FAITH**

### **OLD TESTAMENT – BEFORE CHRIST**

1. Who created the world?  
= God created the world.
2. Who was the first man?  
= Adam was the first man and Eve, the first woman.
3. Why did the Flood take place?  
= The Flood took place because the inhabitants of the world had become disobedient to God's commandments.
4. Who was saved from the Flood?  
= A good man named Noah, with his family members was saved.
5. Where did Noah's Ark rest?  
= Noah's Ark rested on Mount Ararat
6. Who was Abraham and what country did God give him?  
= Abraham was a wise elder, and his wife's name was Sarah. God gave him the country of Canaan.
7. What did Moses do?  
= Moses obeyed the command of God, led the Israelites out of Egypt and crossing the Red Sea, settles in Canaan.
  
8. Which are the Ten Commandments?  
= The Ten Commandments are:
  1. I am the Lord your God. You shall have no other gods before me.
  2. You shall not worship any idols.
  3. You shall not use the Lord's name in vain.
  4. You shall observe the Sabbath.
  5. Honor your mother and father.
  6. You shall not kill.
  7. You shall not commit adultery.
  8. You shall not steal.
  9. You shall not bear false witness against your neighbor.
  10. You shall not covet your neighbor's wife.
  
9. Where and through whom were the Ten Commandments given?  
= God gave the Ten Commandments to the people of the Old Testament through Moses on Mount Sinai.

### **NEW TESTAMENT – JESUS, SON OF GOD**

10. Who was Mary?

= Mary was a good and beautiful girl, who was engaged to a kind man, Joseph.

11. What did God's angel promise Mary?

= "Rejoice, Mary, you will have a child and name him Jesus. He will be the Son of God and will save the entire world from sin."

12. Where was Jesus born?

= Jesus was born in Bethlehem, in a cave where shepherds kept their sheep because there was no room at the inn. Mary wrapped the baby Jesus in a cloth and put Him in a manger because there was no crib.

13. At that time what were the angels singing?

= The angels were singing "Glory to God in the highest, peace on earth, and goodwill among men."

14. What did Jesus do until the time He was baptized?

= Jesus grew in wisdom and stature and in favor with God and man (Luke 2:52).

15. How old was Jesus when He was baptized?

= Jesus was baptized when He was thirty years old.

16. Who baptized Jesus?

= John the Baptist baptized Jesus, in the River Jordan.

17. Why did Jesus come into the world?

= Jesus came into the world to save man from sin and to preach a new religion, the religion of one true God, the religion to love our fellow man and to be peaceful.

18. Did Jesus have helpers?

= Yes. The helpers of Jesus were His Disciples. They were later called Apostles. There were twelve of them.

19. What were their names?

= James, John, Peter, Andrew, Philip, Bartholomew, Thaddeus, Matthew, Thomas, James the son of Alphaeus, Simon, and Judas Iscariot who betrayed Him.

20. Where did Jesus preach?

= Jesus traveled with His Disciples in the towns and villages of Israel and preached in synagogues, homes, at the seashore, and on mountains.

21. How did Jesus show that He was the Son of God?

= Jesus showed the people that He was the Son of God by performing many miracles.

22. Name a few of the miracles of Jesus.

= Jesus walks on the sea (Matt. 14:22-33)

- Jesus feeds five thousand people (Matt. 14:15-21, Mark 6:35-44, Luke 9:12-17, John 6:5-13)

- Jesus cures the epileptic (Matt. 17:14-17, Mark 9:13-26, Luke 9:37-44)

- The cursed fig tree (Matt. 21:18-22)

- Jesus cures two blind men (Matt. 9:27-31)

23. Name a few of Jesus' parables.

- The grain of mustard seed (Matt. 13:31-32)

- The lost sheep (Luke 15:1-7)

- The Good Samaritan (Luke 11:30-36)

- The prodigal son (Luke 15:11-31)

- The barren fig tree (Luke 13:6-9)

24. What prayer did Jesus teach?

= Jesus taught His disciples the Lord's Prayer:

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 debts, as we have forgiven our debtors; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory forever and ever. Amen.

25. Where did Jesus decided to go after He preached for three years?

= Jesus decided to go to Jerusalem, by way of Bethany and Jericho to celebrate the Passover.

26. How did the people and the disciples greet Jesus?

= Holding branches of olive trees and palm branches the people and disciples greeted Jesus with shouts of, "Hosanna to the Son of David. Blesses is He who comes in the name of the Lord. Peace in heaven and glory in the highest."

27. What is Jesus' entry into Jerusalem called?

= Jesus' entry into Jerusalem is called "Palm Sunday".

28. On the Passover where was Jesus invited and what did He do there?

= Jesus, along with His disciples, was invited to the house of a wealthy man. After dinner he took a towel and water, and as a sign of humility, washed the feet of His disciples.

29. Taking the bread and wine, what did Jesus say and what did He do?

= Jesus took the bread, blessed it and broke it and gave it to the disciples saying, "Take, eat, this is my body. Whoever eats this will be saved from sin."

= And He took a cup and when He had given thanks to God He gave it to them saying, "Drink of it, all of you; for this is my blood of the covenant, which is shed for many for the forgiveness of sins."

30. What did Jesus establish by doing this?

= Jesus established the sacrament of the Holy Communion, which was continued after Jesus by His apostles and their successors – priests.

31. Was Jesus sentenced to death?

= Yes. The Romans, instigated by religious zealots of the time, took Jesus to Golgotha and nailed His feet and hands to the cross. When Jesus dies, some of His followers took Him down from the cross, wrapped him in the shroud, and put Him in the tomb.

32. Why did they crucify Jesus?

= They crucified Jesus because He took upon Himself the sins of humanity and died for us on the cross. "Behold, the Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world!" (John 1:29)

33. What happened three days after Jesus' burial?

= Three days after the burial the great miracle of the Resurrection took place. Jesus, with the power of God, was resurrected from the dead. We call that day Holy Easter.

34. To whom did Jesus appear after His resurrection?

= After His resurrection Jesus appeared to His disciples and to other faithful.

35. What do we celebrate forty days after Easter?

= Forty days after Easter we celebrate the Feast of the Ascension of Christ. That day Jesus ascended to Heaven and sat at the right side of His Father.

36. What happened ten days after the Ascension?

= Ten days after the Ascension the Holy Spirit descended upon the disciples, and they received divine wisdom and graces and began to speak with each other in different languages. The descent of the Holy Spirit is called Pentecost, which is the day of the establishment of the Christian Church.

### **MAN AND RELIGION**

37. What is religion?

= Religion is the relationship between man and God.

38. What did people worship in ancient times?

= In ancient time people worshipped the elements of nature; the sun, fire, water, rivers and lakes, the forest, animals, and gods, and made their statues and picture called idols.

39. What does paganism mean?

= Paganism means the worship of idols and false gods; in other words, a false religion.

40. What is Judaism?

= Judaism is the religion of the Jews, according to which the Jews are the chosen people of God.

41. What is Christianity?

= Christianity is the religion that Christ proclaimed. According to Christian belief, all people in the world, all nations and races, are equally the children of God and are loved by God. Jesus said, "I am the way, the truth, and the life".

42. What does Christianity teach?

= Christianity teaches us to worship God. It also teaches us high moral principles, which are written in the Bible. One of those values, or commandments, is the "Golden Rule"; "Whatever you wish that men would do to you, do so to them." (Matthew 7:12)

43. What sections make up the Bible?

= The Bible has two sections, the Old Testament and the New Testament.

- The Old Testament tells the story of the Israelites and describes the life and messages of the prophets.

- The New Testament tells the story of the life of Jesus, the principles and morals He proclaimed, and the work and messages of the Apostles.

44. What makes up the New Testament?

= The New Testament includes the following: the Gospels of Matthew, Mark, Luke, and John, Acts, the letters of the Apostles, and the Book of Revelations. Of the four authors (Evangelists) of the Gospels, Matthew, Mark, Luke, and John, only Matthew and John were among the twelve disciples of Jesus.

### **CHRISTIANITY AND THE ARMENIAN CHURCH**

45. Of the twelve apostles of Jesus, which ones preached in Armenia?

= Of the twelve apostles of Jesus, Thaddeus and Bartholomew came to Armenia and preached Christianity.

46. Who were the first Armenian Christians?

= Among the first Armenian Christians was St. Santukhd, the daughter of the Armenian king.

47. What did the Apostles Sts. Thaddeus and Bartholomew establish?

= The Apostles Sts. Thaddeus and Bartholomew became the first illuminators of the Armenians and established the Armenian Church.

48. What is the Armenian Church called?

= Because the Armenian Church was established by the Apostles, it is called the Armenian Apostolic Church.

49. When was Christianity declared a state religion in Armenia?

= In 301 A.D., during the reign of King Tiridates, through the efforts of St. Gregory the Illuminator the Armenian people accepted Christianity and declared it as the state religion. The Armenians were the first people to accept Christianity as the official state religion.

50. Who was the first Pontiff or Catholicos of the Armenians?

= The first Catholicos of the Armenians was St. Gregory the Illuminator.

51. What is the first Cathedral built in Armenia, which still stands today?

= The first Cathedral built in Armenia was in 303 A.D. and was called Holy Etchmiadzin, which means “descent of the Only-born Son”, Jesus.

52. Who created the Armenian alphabet and when?

= St. Mesrob Mashdots created the Armenian alphabet in the years 404-406 with the support of Catholicos St. Sahag and King Vramshabuh.

53. Which book was the first one translated into Armenian and what was the first sentence written in Armenian letters?

= The first book translated into Armenian was the Holy Bible. Being a superior translation of the Bible, in later years experts called the Armenian translation “Queen of Translations”. The first sentence that St. Mesrob wrote in Armenian letters was the first sentence of the book of Proverbs: “That men may know wisdom and instruction, understand words of insight”.

54. What books other than the Bible were translated?

= Other than the Bible several religious, historical, and philosophical books were translated.

55. What other work did St. Sahag and St. Mesrob do?

= Along translating, St. Sahag and St. Mesrob established schools to teach Armenian youth the Armenian alphabet and literature. Thus, the first teachers of the Armenian people were St. Sahag and St. Mesrob.

56. What is culture?

= Culture is the product of man's creative mind. By culture, we understand religious art, science, literature, music, architecture, sculpture, painting, law, etc.

57. Who were the cultivators of Armenian culture?

= During the Middle Ages the cultivators of Armenian culture were mainly Armenian clergymen.

58. What is the church?

= The church is the community of people who believe in Jesus Christ. Christ is invisibly present in the church which is also called "the mystical body" of Jesus. The church is of two kinds – spiritual and physical.

59. What is the spiritual church?

= The spiritual church is the community of faith that shares the same beliefs.

60. What is the physical church?

= The physical church is the building in which the faithful worship God.

61. What is the role of the Armenian Church?

= It was through the Christian faith and the teachings of the Armenian Church that a culture was created, and it was that culture that throughout the years protected the our Christian faith, identity of our nation from foreign enemies, forces, and persecutions.

## **SAINTS**

62. Who are the Translators of the Armenian Church?

= The Translators of the Armenian Church are St. Sahag, St. Mesrob Mashdots, and their students Gorun, Eznig, Elisha, Moses Khoren, David the Invincible, and others.

63. Can you name other famous pontiffs and clergymen of the Armenian Church?

= John of Odzun, Gregory of Nareg, Nerses the Graceful, Nerses of Lampron, John of Vorodn, Greogry and Moses of Datev.

64. What is the mission of the church?

= The mission of the church is to educate Armenian children in the Christian faith and instruction, and to implement those values in the daily life of the people.

65. How are Armenian Churches different from other churches?

= The edifice of Armenian churches is different from others mainly with their domes shaped like a priest's hood and with their cross-shaped design. These characteristics give them a unique Armenian style.

66. Which are the most famous Armenian churches?

= The most famous Armenian churches are:

- In modern Armenia: Holy Etchmiadzin, St. Hripsime, St. Gayane, St. Zvartnots, Geghart, Khor Virab, etc.

- In Western Armenia: the monasteries of Ani, Aghtamar, Varak, and others.

### A. HIERARCHY

67. Name the different ranks of Armenian clergy, in order.

= Acolyte, deacon, priest, monk, celibate priest, dzayrakouyn vartabed, bishop, archbishop, patriarch, catholicos.

68. Who is the Catholicos of all Armenians?

= The Catholicos is the supreme leader of the Armenian Church. He is also called Pontiff, or Chief Bishop.

69. What is the universal Pontifical See of the Armenian Church?

= The universal Pontifical See of the Armenian Church is the Catholicosate of the Mother See of Holy Etchmiadzin, established in 301 A.D.

70. When and why was the See of Cilicia created?

= Due to political situations, in 1444 a Catholicosate was created in Cilicia in the capital of Sis. And for that reason it was called the See of Sis.

71. When did the See of Sis move from Cilicia to Antelias, Lebanon?

= During the exile and genocide of 1915 the See of Cilicia, along with the Armenian people, moved and in 1928-1930 was established in the city of Antelias, Lebanon.

72. Who has the authority to consecrate bishops and bless the “Muron”?

= Only the Catholicos has the authority to consecrate bishops, assisted by at least two other bishops, and bless the “Muron”.

### B. CHURCH VESTMENTS

73. Name a few of the vestments used by clergy.

= Head cover, cassock, gown, monastic hood, phelonian, alb, belt, maniple, amice, cape, crown, mitre, stole, towel, etc.

### C. CHURCH SERVICES

74. Name some vessels used in church services.

= Cross, chalice, dove, lantern, chandelier, bookstand, incense holder, candlestick, censor, banner, fans, cymbals, etc.

75. What parts make up the edifice of the Armenian Church?

= The edifice of the Armenian Church consists of four parts: altar, chancel, nave, and vestibule.

76. What books are used in the Armenian Church?

= Gospel, Book of Hours, Mashdots, Divine Liturgy, Hymnal, Book of Feasts, Book of Variables, Book of Rituals, Lives of Saints, Lectionary.

77. What is prayer?

= Prayer is the words of the faithful directed to God, in either a visible or secret manner, i.e. either in public or private.

#### D. SACRAMENTS

78. What is a sacrament?

= A sacrament is a holy ritual established by Jesus, through which we acquire divine grace.

79. What are the sacraments of the church?

= The sacraments of the church are Holy Baptism, Holy Chrismation, Penance, Holy Communion, Holy Matrimony, Holy Orders, and the Sacrament of the Last Rites.

#### E. CHURCH FEASTS

80. Which are the five major Feast days of the Armenian Church?

= The five major Feast days of the Armenian Church are the Nativity of our Lord, the Resurrection of our Lord, Transfiguration of our Lord, Assumption of the Holy Mother of God, and the Exaltation of the Holy Cross.

81. What is the Feast of the Nativity?

= The Feast of the Nativity is the Birth and Baptism of Christ.

82. What is Easter?

= Easter is the Feast of the Resurrection of Christ.

83. What is the week preceding Easter called?

= The week preceding Easter is called Holy Week and is dedicated to the last days of the life of Jesus – the betrayal, suffering, crucifixion, and burial.

84. What is Vartavar?

= Vartavar is another popular name given to the Feast of the Transfiguration of Jesus.

85. How many Feasts are dedicated to Mary?

= Our church has seven Feasts dedicated to Mary:

- a. Conception of St. Mary
- b. Birth of St. Mary
- c. Presentation of St. Mary to the Temple
- d. Annunciation of St. Mary
- e. Assumption of St. Mary
- f. Discovery of Her Belt
- g. Discovery of Her Jewel Box

86. How many Feasts are dedicated to the Holy Cross?  
= Our church has four Feasts dedicated to the Holy Cross:  
a. Discovery of the Holy Cross  
b. Apparition of the Holy Cross  
c. Exaltation of the Holy Cross  
d. Holy Cross of St. Varak

87. Who are some of the saints of the Armenian Church?  
= Some of the saints of the Armenian Church who are celebrated in Feast days are: St. Santukhd the Virgin, St. Voski and his companions, St. Soukias and his companions, St. Hripsime and her companions, St. Gregory the Illuminator, St. Tiridates the King, Sts. Aristakes and Vrtanes, Nerses the Great, Sts. Sahag and Mesrob and the Translators, St. Vartan and his companions, St. Vahan of Goghtn, St. John of Odzun, St. Gregory of Narek, St. Nerses the Graceful, St. John of Vorodn, Sts. Gregory of Datev, and Moses of Datev.

88. What is a sin? What are the different types of sin?  
= Sin is any act that opposes the messages and commandments of God. There are two types of sin, those that can be forgiven and those that cannot. Cursing against the Holy Spirit is a sin that cannot be forgiven.

89. What are the seven deadly sins?  
= The seven deadly sins are: pride, envy, anger, laziness, greed, gluttony, and lust.

90. What are the seven virtues?  
= The seven virtues are: humility, philanthropy, meekness, diligence, mercy, moderation, and sound judgment.

91. What are the fundamental graces of God?  
= The fundamental graces of God are faith, hope, and love.

92. What is the greatest grace?  
= The greatest grace is man's salvation through Christ.

### G. RITES

93. What does "Badarak" mean?  
= "Badarak" means sacrifice.

94. What is the Divine Liturgy?  
= The Divine Liturgy is the sacrifice of the life of Jesus Christ; it represents His life, from His Birth as man until the Ascension.

95. How many sections make up the Divine Liturgy?  
= The Divine Liturgy consists of four main sections:

- a. The Preparation
- b. The Synaxis
- c. The Eucharist
- d. The Dismissal

96. What do the four sections of Divine Liturgy represent?

- = The Preparation represents the Birth of Jesus as man
- The Synaxis represents the work of Jesus
- The Eucharist represents the Last Supper and Holy Saturday
- The Dismissal represents the advent of the Holy Spirit

97. What message of the Church is preserved by the Divine Liturgy?

= The Divine Liturgy preserves the messages of Christ's sacrifice, through which man is freed from sin and united with Christ.

98. When did the Armenian Liturgy receive its final form?

= The Armenian Liturgy received its final form during the years of 950-1177 A.D.

99. What does Holy Communion represent?

= Holy Communion represents the sacrificial Body and Blood of Christ. Communion is the bread and wine that the faithful receive from the hand of the Priest, as a portion of the Body and Blood of Jesus.

100. Why do we receive Holy Communion?

= We receive Holy Communion to be absolved from sin. According to the canon of the Armenian Church, faithful should receive Communion at least on Feast Days (Christmas, Easter, Transfiguration, Assumption of the Holy Mother of God, and Exaltation of the Cross).

101. What is faith?

= Faith is a spiritual gift and a firm belief, through divine inspiration. With faith we internally accept and externally confess God and His truths.

102. What are the main elements of faith?

= The main elements of faith are:

- a. The existence of God
- b. The Holy Trinity (the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit)
- c. The creative work of God
- d. The Birth of the Son of God as man
- e. Salvation through the Son of God
- f. The Church and its sacraments
- g. The distribution of God's graces
- h. The Resurrection of the dead
- i. The Last Judgment
- j. Everlasting life

#### H. DOCTRINE

103. Through whom did God reveal to humanity the truths of faith?

= God revealed to humanity the truths of faith through Jesus Christ.

104. What does creed mean?

= Creed means the collection of the elements of faith.

105. What did the 318 bishops accept at the Council of Nicea in 325 A.D.?

= The Nicene Creed was accepted at the Council of Nicea in 325 A.D. It begins with the words “Havadamk” or “We believe”, and thus in Armenian it is simply called “Havadamk”. It contains the main points of the Christian faith. It is recited every Sunday during Divine Liturgy.

106. Is it mandatory to know the Creed?

= Yes, it is mandatory that all children of the Armenian Church know the Creed, also called the “Symbol of Faith”.

107. What other name is given to the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit?

= The Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit are also called the Holy Trinity.

108. Why is the Armenian Church called Apostolic?

= The Armenian Church is called Apostolic because:

- a. It was established by the Apostles.
- b. It has been governed for centuries by bishops who have succeeded them.
- c. It maintains the faith conveyed by the Apostles.

109. What is the basis for the affirmation of the Armenian Church?

= The affirmation of the Armenian Church is based on the Holy Bible, the traditions of the Apostles and the fathers of the church, as well as the three Ecumenical Councils:

- a. Nicea (325 A.D.)
- b. Constantinople (381 A.D.)
- c. Ephesus (431 A.D.)

110. What is the affirmation of the Armenian Church?

= The affirmation of the Armenian Church, in accord with the Gospels, is that Christ is the only begotten Son of both God and St. Mary.

111. What else does the Armenian Church believe?

= The Armenian Church also believes that St. Mary is the mother of Jesus Christ.

112. What does the Armenian Church call St. Mary?

= The Armenian Church calls Mary “Mother of God” and “Holy Virgin”.

### I. PRACTICAL KNOWLEDGE

113. How do we greet one another during Christmas?

= The greeting during Christmas is “Christ is born and revealed”.

-The reply is “Blessed is the Revelation of Christ”.

114. How do we greet one another during Easter?

= The greeting during Easter is “Christ is risen from the dead”.

- The reply is “Blessed is the Resurrection of Christ”.

115. How do we greet one another during Divine Liturgy?

= The greeting during Divine Liturgy is “Christ is revealed among us”.

- The reply is “Blessed is the revelation of Christ”.

116. What do we say during the distribution of “Mas”?

= The giver of “Mas” says “May this be your share and portion of the Holy Sacrifice”.

- The receiver says, “God is my portion forever”.

117. What do we say when receiving Holy Communion?

= The faithful says, “I have sinned against God”.

- The Priest replies, “May this be the expiation and remission of your sins”.

118. During Baptism how does the Godfather reply to the Priest’s question?

= The Priest asks, “What does the child request?”

- The Godfather replies, “Faith, hope, love, and baptism. To be baptized and justified, to be cleansed of sin, to be freed from the influence of evil, and to serve God”.

119. How do we greet Clergy?

= To the Catholicos: “I am your servant, Your Holiness”; “God be your helper, Your Holiness”.

- To the Patriarch: “God be your helper, Your Beautitude”.

- To Archbishops and Bishops: “God be your helper, Your Grace”.

- To celibate priests: “God be our helper, Father”.

- To priests: “Bless me, Father”.

## **120. Two Catholicosates within the Armenian Church.**

The Catholicos is the supreme leader of the Armenian Church. He is also called Pontiff or Chief Bishop.

The present Catholicos of the See of Holy Etchmiadzin is H.H. Karekin II, Supreme Patriarch and Catholicos of all Armenians. The See of Holy Etchmiadzin is located at the city of Etchmiadzin.

The present Catholicos of the Holy See of Cilicia is H.H. Aram I, Catholicos of all Armenians of the Great House of Cilicia. The Holy See of the Cilician Catholicosate is located in Antelias, Lebanon.

## **When and under what circumstances were created the two Catholicosates?**

After the fall of Ani and the Armenian Kingdom of Bagradits in 1045, when Armenia was devastated by Seljuks, many Armenians left their homeland and came to settle in Cilicia where they re-organized their political, ecclesiastical and cultural life. The Catholicosate also took refuge in Cilicia. From the 11<sup>th</sup> to the 14<sup>th</sup> centuries the center of Armenian national and ecclesiastical life was in Cilicia where the city of **Sis** was made the Capital City. After the fall of the Armenian Kingdom in Cilicia, in 1375, the Church also assumed the role of national leadership.

The deteriorating situation in Cilicia, led the bishops of Armenia to elect a Catholicos in Etchmiadzin. Thus, in 1441, a new Catholicos was elected in Etchmiadzin. Therefore, since 1441, there have been two Catholicosates in the Armenian Church with equal rights and privileges, and with their respective jurisdictions.

With the outbreak of World War I, Turkey unleashed a Genocidal program of systematic extermination of the entire population of Western Armenia. More than 1.5 million Armenians were massacred. The rest were deported and dispersed to various parts of the world. The Catholicosate See in Sis was confiscated and ruined by the Turks. Catholicos Sahag II followed the exile of his flock. In 1930 he established the Catholicosate in Antelias, a suburb of Beirut, Lebanon. Thus, a new era began in the history of the Cilician Catholicosate with the organization of Dioceses.

**121.- Who has the authority to consecrate bishops and bless the “Muron”?**  
= Only the Catholicos has the authority to consecrate bishops, assisted by at least two other bishops, and bless the “Muron”.

**122.-** What prayer should we say before meals?  
= In peace let us eat this food which the Lord has provided for us. Blessed be the Lord in His gifts. Amen.

**123.-** What prayer should we say before beginning work?  
= Prosper for us the work of our hands, O Lord; and prosper the work of our hands (Psalm 90:17).

**124.-** What do we say before leaving the church?  
= Heavenly King, preserve Your Church unshaken and keep in peace those who worship Your name.

### QUESTIONS

125. How should we speak to God?
126. Write a prayer of your own.
127. If you cannot pray, go to church, stand before an icon or the altar, and in your mind say to God, “My Lord, I cannot pray, teach me to pray”. If you can say this candidly, then be sure that you have partially prayed.
128. How will you speak to your friends about God and the Gospel?
129. Do you read the Holy Gospel every day?
130. Can you quote from the Bible in your circle of friends?
131. Think about how much of Christ’s messages and the moral principles of the Bible you can apply in your everyday life.

