



**FIRST HOLY
COMMUNION
SERVICE
05.11.2023**



**METROPOLITAN'S
VISIT**



**MAKARIOS
THIRUMENI'S
VISIT TO
ASHA BHAVAN
ON CHRISTMAS**

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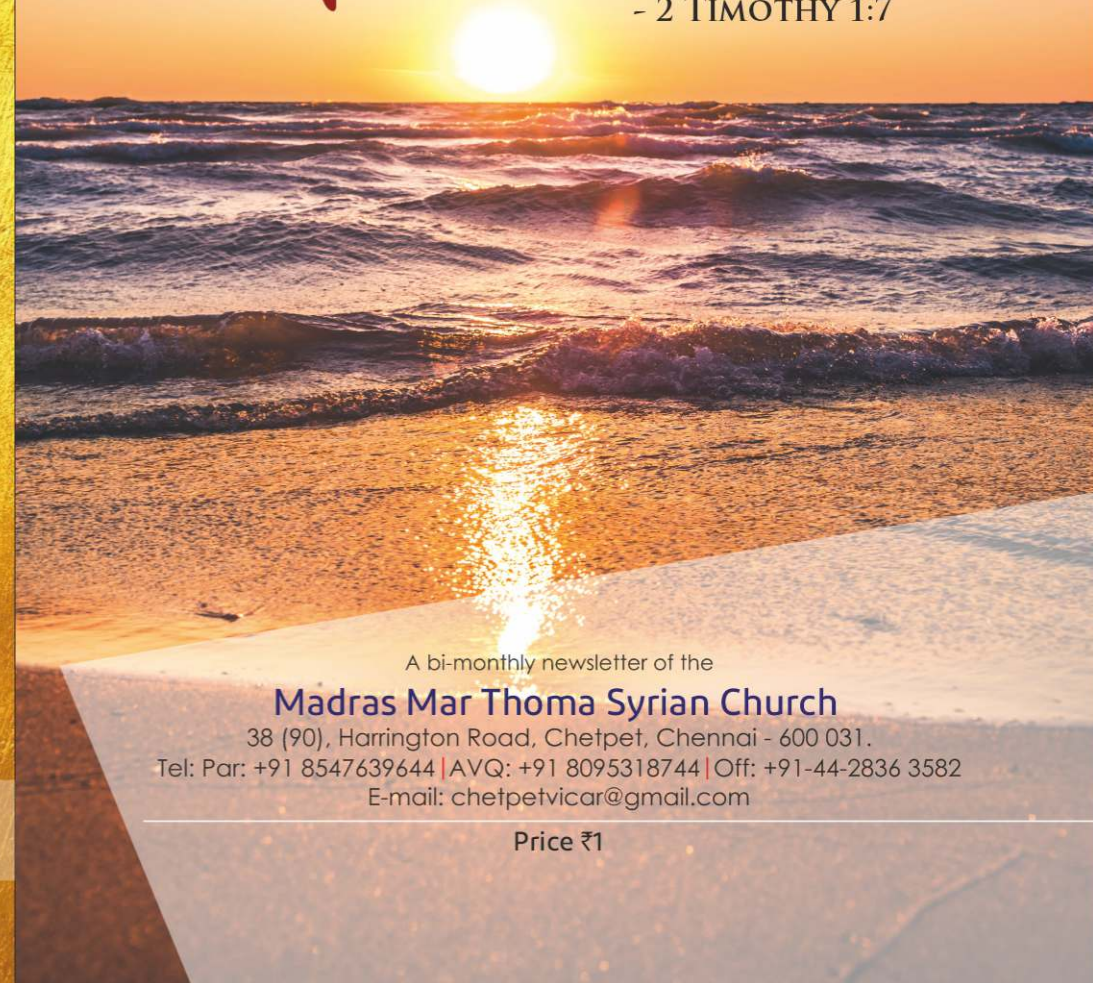


FOR THE SPIRIT GOD GAVE US
DOES NOT MAKE US TIMID, BUT GIVES US

power,

LOVE AND SELF-DISCIPLINE.

- 2 TIMOTHY 1:7



A bi-monthly newsletter of the

Madras Mar Thoma Syrian Church

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Welcome

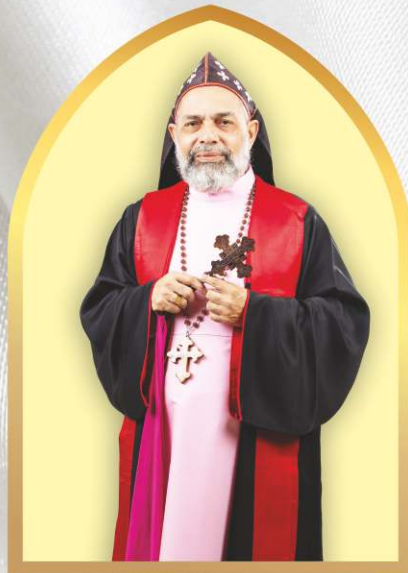
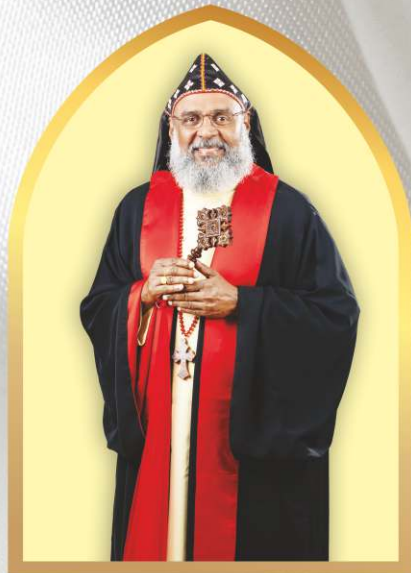
TO OUR NEW DIOCESAN BISHOP

RT. REV. DR. GREGORIOS MAR STEPHANOS EPISCOPA

Thank You

TO

RT. REV. DR. MATHEWS MAR MAKARIOS EPISCOPA



**FELICITATION
TO
NEWLY
CONSECRATED
BISHOPS**



WATCH NIGHT SERVICE



MESSAGE



Dearly beloved in Christ,

Greetings in the name of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.

The year 2024 has begun, and uncertainty lies ahead. Last year was not auspicious, with the clouds of unrest everywhere. The world was rocked by brutal murders and senseless exodus, witnessing the tragedy of religion being used for selfish gain. The poison of hatred has spread unstopably throughout the world, and the world is watching for any possible cures.

It is impossible to predict the course of the world. Good times may not be ahead. War often arises from a lack of respect for neighbors' boundaries, leading to ethnic violence. The illusion that neighbors are robbing opportunities can result in race riots. Many people desire an end to war and strife, yet these conflicts are fuelled by those seeking power and profit through the sale of military equipment. Ultimately, these endeavors may culminate in disappointment.

Even in the face of such challenges, God remains the only one who controls and gives hope in history.

"Yet this I call to mind and therefore I have hope: Because of the Lord's great love we are not consumed, for his compassions never fail. They are new every morning; great is your faithfulness. I say to myself, "The Lord is my portion; therefore I will wait for him." The Lord is good to those whose hope is in him, to the one who seeks him, it is good to wait quietly for the salvation of the Lord." (Lamentation 3:22 - 26)

Jeremiah through these words reminds us that: In times of challenge, remembering God's unfailing love and compassion that brings hope. Embrace patience and quiet trust, for the Lord's goodness is steadfast, and salvation awaits those who place their hope in Him.

New Testament also says that the crucifixion is never the end; the resurrection is the final reality. With this new hope and aspirations, we enter into a new year, each with our own vision for the future.

A teacher asked one of his students about his plan for his future. The student shared his wish of good job and setting up of a good family. The teacher

replied. Young man your plans are too small. They can extend only 75 or 100 years at the most. You must take your plans big enough to include God and large enough to include eternity. Yes when we plan, we should plan according to the will of God with an eye on eternity.

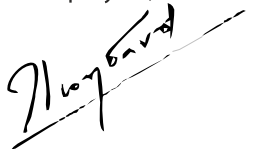
In his painting an allegory of prudence, 16th century Venetian artist Titian portrayed Prudence as a man with three heads. One head was of a youth facing the future, another was of a mature man eyeing the present, and the third was of a wise old man gazing at the past. Over their heads Titian wrote a Latin phrase that means, from the example of the past, the man of the present act prudently so as not to in peril the future. For a successful life we have to carefully evaluate our past, cautiously act in our present and vigilantly move to the future.

Recently I read a meaningful prayer which is used in New Year service, it reads like this: Father, we surrender this past year and give it up to you. We give our failures, our regrets, and our disappointments, for we have no more use for them make us now a new people, forgetting what lies behind and pressing on toward that which lies ahead of us. We give you all hopes and dreams for the future. Purify them by your spirit so that our will shall truly reflect Your will for us. As we stand on the threshold of another year, encourage us by our Success of the past, challenge us by the power of your word and guide us by the presence of your holy spirit. With confidence in God, we can look back and look ahead, walking boldly into the new year.

Let me conclude this message by quoting Isaiah 43: 1-2, " But now, this is what the Lord says - he who created you, Jacob, he who formed you, Israel. "Do not fear, for I have redeemed you; I have summoned you by name; you are mine. When you pass through the waters, I will be with you; and when you pass through the rivers, they will not sweep over you. When you walk through the fire, you will not be burned; the flames will not set you ablaze".

Wishing you all a blessed and prosperous New Year.

With prayers,



Rev. Vinoy Daniel
Vicar

CHANGE OF ADDRESS

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Prayer Group: Santhome

WEDDING BELLS

Name	Prayer Group	Date of Marriage
1. Naresh Kumar G.K. & Tina S. Biju	Virugambakkam	October 26, 2023

BAPTISMS

Name	Prayer Group	Date of Baptism
1. Ayra Angail Abraham (D/o Angail Abraham Chacko & Bhanu Thanuricha Pande)	Aminjikarai	November 11, 2023
2. Jacob Allan Mathew (S/o Allan Cherian Mathew & Liz Sara Mathews)	Aminjikarai	November 25, 2023
3. Jacob Zachariah (S/o Dr. Pradeep Zachariah & Dr. Tanya Elizabeth Cherian)	Chetpet	December 3, 2023
4. Ivanna Elsa Mathews (D/o Suraj Mathew Thomas & Nimmu Ann George)	Aminjikarai	December 26, 2023

OBITUARIES

Name	Age	Prayer Group	Date of Death
1. Mr. Sunny Jacob	67	Aminjikarai	November 13, 2023
2. Mr. Prakash C. Mathew	65	Chetpet	December 25, 2023

Our heart-felt condolence to the Bereaved Families

 **PROGRAMMES** 

- 1. Sunday School : Every Sunday after the 1st Service
- 2. Yuvajana Sakhyam : Every Sunday after the First Service
- 3. Monthly Meeting of Sevika Sangham : Every 4th Saturday at 4.30 pm
- 4. Edavka Mission : Every Wednesday at 5.00 pm
- 5. Fasting Prayer : Every Friday at 10.00 am
- 6. Choir Practice : Every Saturday at 6.30 pm
- 7. Elder's Fellowship : Every 2nd & 4th Tuesday at 4.30 pm (Church)
- 8. Sevika Sangham Bible Study : Every Friday from 4.30 pm to 5.30 pm (Online)




 **WORSHIP ASSIGNMENTS**

January 2024 : **Choolaimedu**
 February 2024 : **Kilpauk**

ANSWERS TO NEW BIBLE QUIZ SERIES - 11

- 1. കനാന്യർ (Joshua 16:10)
- 2. ഹേമെരിന്റെ (Joshua 17:3)
- 3. മനശ്ശേക്ക് (Joshua 17:8)
- 4. സോർ (Joshua 19:29)
- 5. കേദേശ് (20:7)
- 6. ബേസെർ (20:8)
- 7. ശൈഖോ (20:7)
- 8. ഫീനെഹാസ് (22:31)
- 9. കരുവേലകത്തിൻ കീഴെ (24:26)
- 10. എലെയോസാർ (24:33)

 **WORSHIP TIMINGS**

JANUARY 2024

- 07-01-2024 7.30 A.M. Divine Service in English (Yuvajana Sakhyam)
- 9.30 A.M. Holy Qurbana in Malayalam
- 14-01-2024 8.30 A.M. Holy Qurbana in Malayalam (Centre Convention)
- 21-01-2024 7.30 A.M. Divine Service in English (Sunday School)
- 9.30 A.M. Holy Qurbana in Malayalam
- 27-01-2024 8.30 A.M. Holy Qurbana in Malayalam (Senior Citizens)
- 28-01-2024 8.00 A.M. Holy Qurbana in Malayalam (Parish Day)

FEBRUARY 2024

- 04-02-2024 7.30 A.M. Divine Service in English (Yuvajana Sakhyam)
- 9.30 A.M. Holy Qurbana in Malayalam
- 11-02-2024 7.30 A.M. Holy Communion in English
- 9.30 A.M. Holy Qurbana in Malayalam
- 18-02-2024 7.30 A.M. Divine Service in English (Sunday School)
- 9.30 A.M. Holy Qurbana in Malayalam
- 24-02-2024 8.30 A.M. Holy Qurbana in Malayalam (Senior Citizens)
- 25-02-2024 7.30 A.M. Holy Communion in English
- 9.30 A.M. Holy Qurbana in Malayalam

SPECIAL DAYS

JANUARY 14TH 2024: CENTRE CONVENTION

JANUARY 28TH 2024: PARISH DAY

FEBRUARY 11TH 2024: BEGINNING OF THE GREAT LENT



LECTIONARY



JANUARY 2024

Date	Lessons	Epistle	Gospel
07 Sunday	Evangelism: Church's primary commission (Bahya Kerala Mission) Isa. 61:1-11 Acts 20:17-24 Col. 1:24-29 St. Matt. 9:35-38		
14 Sunday	Life: for the glory of God (Temperance Day) Prov. 23:19-35 I Thess. 5:1-11 Eph. 5:15-20 St. Matt. 5:13-16		
21 Sunday	Love: the Foundation of Unity (Ecumenical Sunday) Num. 11:23-30 I Cor. 3:1-9 Eph. 4:1-17 St. John 15:8-16		
28 Sunday	Participation in nation building: a Christian responsibility Neh. 2:11-18 I Pet. 2:1-12 Rom. 12:9-21 St. Matt. 13:31-34		

FEBRUARY 2024

Date	Lessons	Epistle	Gospel
04 Sunday	Jesus Christ who Heals (Medical Mission Sunday) II Kgs. 20:1-11 Acts 14:8-15 James 5:13-18 St. John 9:1-11		
11 Sunday	Beginning of the Great Lent: Jesus Christ who transforms; Beginning of the 129th Maramon Convention Ezek. 18:21-32 II Cor. 5:17-21 Rom. 13:11-14 St. John 2:1-11		
18 Sunday	The Compassionate touch of Jesus Christ that sanctifies (2nd Sunday of Lent); Conclusion of Maramon Convention II Kgs. 5:1-14 Acts 10:34-43 I Jn. 1:5-10 St. Matt. 8:1-4		
25 Sunday	Jesus Christ who leads to holistic Healing (3rd Sunday of Lent) II Kgs. 4:16-37 Acts 5:12-16 Eph. 2:1-8 St. Luke 5:17-26		

*“There is no wisdom, no insight,
no plan that can succeed against the Lord”*

~ Proverbs 21:30

NEW BIBLE QUIZ SERIES - 12



1. യെഹൂദ പാരമ്പര്യപ്രകാരം ന്യായാധിപന്മാരുടെ പുസ്തകം എഴുതിയതാരാ?
According to Jewish tradition, who is believed to be the author of the Book of Judges?
2. കനാന്യരോടു യുദ്ധം ചെയ്യാൻ യെഹൂദയോടൊപ്പം പോയ സഹോദരൻ?
Who among the brothers went along with the men of Judah to fight against the Canaanites?
3. ദെബീരിനു പണ്ടു എന്തു പേരായിരുന്നു?
Which name was Debir formerly known by?
4. കിര്യത്ത് - സേഫെർ പിടിച്ച് അടക്കി, അക്സയെ സ്വന്തം ഭാര്യയാക്കിയതാരാ?
Who captured Kiriath Sepher and was rewarded in return with Acsah in marriage?
5. ബെന്യാമിൻ മക്കൾ എവിടെ പാർത്തിരുന്ന യെബൂസ്യരെ ആണ് നീക്കിക്കളയാഞ്ഞത്?
From which place did the Benjamites fail to dislodge the Jebusites?
6. യിസ്രായേലിന്റെ ഒന്നാമത്തെ ന്യായാധിപൻ?
Who is the first judge of Israel?
7. ബെന്യാമീന്യനായ ഗേരയുടെ മകനായ ഇടകയ്യൻ?
Name the son of Gera the Benjamite who was left-handed.
8. മോവാബ് രാജാവായ എഗ്ലോന്റെ കൈയിൽ നിന്നും യിസ്രായേൽ മക്കളെ രക്ഷിച്ചതാരാ?
Who rescued the Israelites out of the hands of Eglon, king of Moab?
9. ഒരു മുടിക്കോൽ കൊണ്ട് അറുനൂറു ഫെലിസ്ത്യരെ കൊന്ന അനാത്തിന്റെ മകൻ?
Name the son of Anath, who struck down 600 Philistines with an oxgoad.
10. ബാരാക്ക് ആരുടെ മകനായിരുന്നു?
Whose son was Barak?



PRAYER MEETINGS



JANUARY 7, 2024

AMINJIKARAI**Mr. P.J. John**

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JANUARY 21, 2024

AYANAVARAM**Mr. SISUMANI K.**

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JANUARY 27, 2024 (SATURDAY)

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JANUARY 28, 2024

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FEBRUARY 4, 2024

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FEBRUARY 11, 2024

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FEBRUARY 18, 2024

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പുതുക്കേണമേ കർത്താവേ !

- Preetha Mathew, Chetpet PG

വീണ്ടും പല പട്ടങ്ങൾ കൈവിട്ടു പാവുമ്പോൾ ,
ഇല്ലിഹം ഒരു കൗതുകം ഇനി എന്നു തോന്നവേ...
ഉയർത്തുന്നെൻ കൺകളെൻ കരങ്ങൾ, എൻ ഹൃദയത്തെ -
കഴുകി നിൻ രക്തത്താൽ പുതുക്കേണമേ ... നിറയേണം
കനിഞ്ഞെന്നിൽ ശുദ്ധാത്മാവേ
ശൂന്യം, വെറും പാഴും ഇഹം എന്നു നാം എണ്ണിടാ
സ്വർഗ്ഗം ചായ്ച്ചിറങ്ങി വന്നു - അവൻ ഈ ഭൂമിക്കായി ...
വിലകൊടുത്തു വീണ്ടെടുത്ത ജീവിതങ്ങൾ ഉണ്ടിവിടെ,
ജീവനുളോർ ദേശത്തു നിൻ നന്മയെ കാണാൻ ... ശ്വാസം പോൽ
നൽകുന്നിൽ വിശ്വാസവും ...

ഇവിടം കൊടും തമസ്സെന്നു നാം ഇരുളിനെ പഴിയാതെ,
എരിയേണം വിളക്കൊന്നായ് അന്ധകാരത്തിൽ ..
കരുതേണം എണ്ണ നാം, മണവാളൻ വേഗനേ -
വരുനേരം കാണണം വിശ്വസ്തരായ്.
അതിലേക്കാണിനി എന്നുമെൻ കൗതുകം
അതിലേക്കാണിനി എന്നും എൻകൗതുകം

ഒരായിരം മാറിവിൽ കണ്ടു മനസ്സിലിഞ്ഞ് അരുമസുതനെയും
നൽകിയോനേ.... പാരിതിൻ പോരാട്ടം
ജയിച്ചു തൻ ഭവനത്തിൽ ചേർക്കുവാൻ തിരുരക്തം നൽകിയോനേ....

ഭൂമിയുളോളവും വേനലും വർഷവും നൽകും എന്നരുളിയ
സന്ദേശവാനേ...
സമുദ്രത്തിൻ അലകൾ പോൽ
സ്തുതികൾ തൻ ശബ്ദങ്ങൾ നിലയ്ക്കാതെ എന്നെന്നും
ഉയർന്നിടുമേ....
നിലയ്ക്കാതെ എന്നെന്നും ഉയർന്നിടുമേ ...
നിലയ്ക്കാതെ എന്നെന്നും ഉയർന്നിടുമേ.

Renew O Lord

- Preetha Mathew, Chetpet PG

*And yet again, when some kites fly high, just to break free,
And then this world holds no more joys..or so it would seem
I lift up my eyes, my hands, and my heart to You
To be cleansed by Your precious blood and to be renewed,
To be filled by the Holy Spirit, in Your unfailing mercy.*

*Let us not count everything meaningless and void here,
Because He did come down from Heaven for this very world,
Wherein lives those whom He values, and has bought for a Price.
To seek Thy goodness in this land of the living,
Fill in me with faith too as You have filled in me breath.*

*Let us not complain hopelessly about the darkness we find ourselves in,
Let us burn like a lamp in the dark night.
Let's also stock oil till the bridegroom arrives - unexpectedly - and be found faithful!*

*My joy lies therein henceforth
My delight lies therein hence forth.*

*A thousand rainbows having evoked His mercy..
He gave us His only begotten Son who,
Having fought the fight in this world has won...
To take us to His Holy abode having shed His precious blood.
Till the world exists there will be summer and winter - so He promised out of His love.
Like the waves of the sea, let the voices singing His praises rise up unceasingly.*

ANPIN SPARSHAM

Palliative Care



A unit of Madras Mar Thoma Syrian Church, Chetpet



HELPLINE: 9943390425

SERVICES PROVIDED:

House visits ♥ Online doctor consultations ♥ Bereavement support
Medical aid (wheelchair, hospital cot, airbed, walker, medicines etc.,)
End of life care ♥ Advice on hospital admissions

*“Guide me in your truth and teach me,
for you are
God my Savior,
and my hope is in you all day long.”*

~ Psalm 25:5

BOY JESUS IN THE TEMPLE

KID'S CORNER

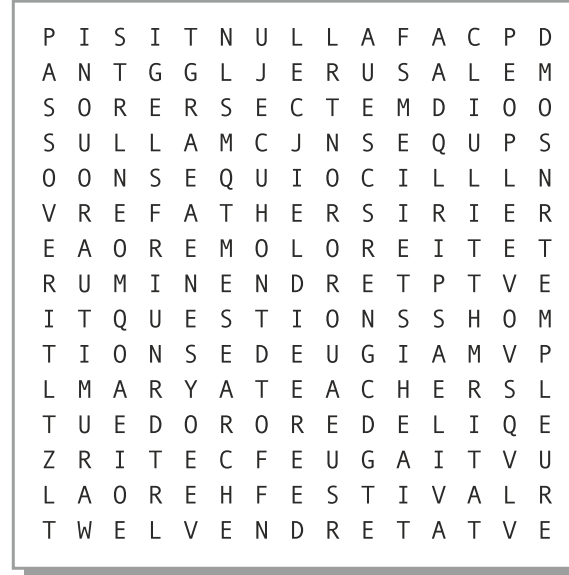
In Luke 2, we read a story about Jesus as a boy, after He disappeared from under His parents' watchful eyes, while visiting Jerusalem. While the Bible doesn't tell us much about Jesus' childhood, we do know that when He was 12, He and His family went to Jerusalem for the Passover festival. Unfortunately, at some point during the trip, Joseph and Mary lost Jesus. They were part of a big caravan of people, and probably thought He was with someone of their party, so they traveled homewards for an entire day before realizing Jesus had been left behind. In a panic, they hurried back. To their surprise, they found Jesus in the temple courts, among the teachers, listening and asking questions.

Mary said to him, "Son, why have you treated us like this? We have been searching for you!"

To which Jesus replied, innocently, "Didn't you know I had to be in my Father's house?"

Even at the age of 12, Jesus showed He was becoming aware of His identity as the Messiah. He could talk intelligently with the teachers in the temple and felt at peace in His "Father's house." These Boy Jesus in the Temple Bible activities can help kids understand that, like Jesus, they also must take the time to grow in their understanding of God and spirituality.

Find the words on the list that are hidden in the puzzle. The words can be left to right, up and down, or diagonally.



FATHER	JOSEPH	PEOPLE	TEACHERS
FESTIVAL	MARY	QUESTIONS	TEMPLE
JERUSALEM	PASSOVER	SEARCH	TWELVE

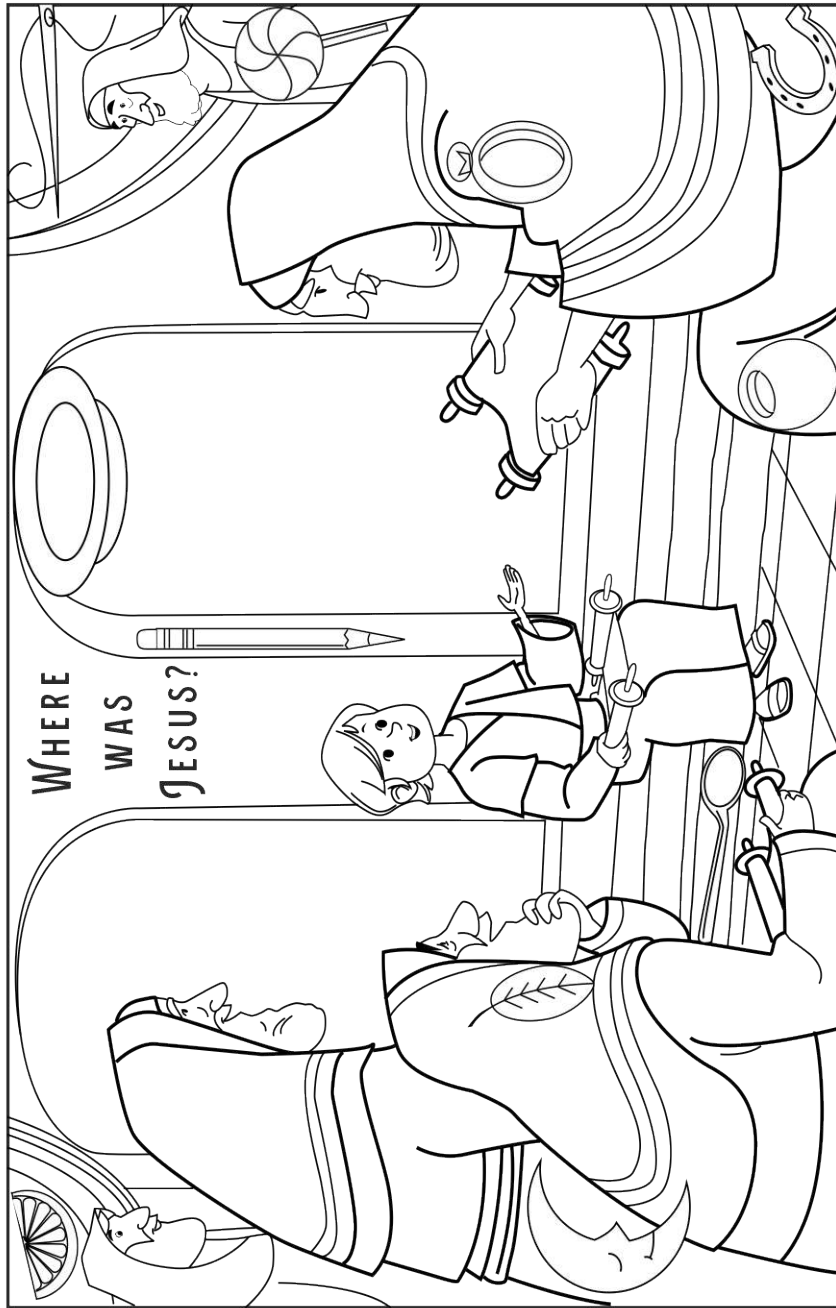
Word Scramble

Unscramble each of the clue words. Take the letters that appear in the circle boxes and unscramble them to find the answer to the last phrase.

- SOVPASER
- MELASUREJ
- RAMY
- EPHJOS
- CHERTEAS
- SNIOTSEUQ
- VALFESIT
- MPLETE

Jesus said "Didn't you know that I had to be

_____ ' _____ ?"



**CHRISTMAS
CAROL
09.12.2023**



CSI MAR THOMA JOINT CONVENTION



FAMILY SUNDAY

**ASHA BHAVAN VISIT BY
ROYAPETTAH PRAYER GROUP**

