

Lesson 23

Following the Church

Lesson Objectives

- Understand the rules of the Church we are to follow.
- Understand how these rules help us grow in love of God and neighbor.
- Increase our desire to grow in love and moral goodness.

Lesson Summary

Following Jesus means following his Church. In this lesson, we'll explore how to do that.

Lesson Plan

Introduction (Minutes 1-10)

- Pray the Opening Prayer together.
- Review the introduction.
- Show a video or song.

Review Point 1: Rules of the Church (Minutes 10-15)

- Ask the students: Why is it important for the Church to have rules?
- Do you think the Church's rules are easy or hard to follow? Why?

Review Point 2: Sundays, Holy Days and Holy Communion

Have the students think about what makes Holy Communion so special for them.

Review Point 3: The Mystery of Penance, Fasting, and Supporting the Church (Minutes 15-20)

- Ask the students: What's a food that you really love? Would it be hard to eat less of it?

Activities: Choose 1 or 2. (Minutes 25-30)

Activity 1:

Match the Maronite holy day with its date.

Answer key:

A

- ___ 1. November 1
- ___ 2. December 8
- ___ 3. December 25
- ___ 4. January 1
- ___ 5. January 6
- ___ 6. February 9
- ___ 7. 40 Days After Easter
- ___ 8. August 15

B

- A. All Saints' Day **November 1**
- B. Ascension Thursday **40 days after Easter**
- C. Assumption of Mary (Dormition) **August 15**
- D. Epiphany **January 6**
- E. Immaculate Conception of Mary **December 8**
- F. Nativity of the Lord (Christmas) **December 25**
- G. New Year's Day **January 1**
- H. Feast of Saint Maron **February 9**

Activity 2:

Reasons to attend Church

Answer key:

- I receive Jesus.
- I offer Jesus to the Father.
- We grow more united as a Church.
- God tells us to go.
- I grow closer to God.
- Bonus: Answers will vary.

Prayer and Role Model (Minutes 30-35)

- Pray From the Maronite Tradition (Together)

Complete Recall Section (Minutes 35-40)

Use the clues to complete the crossword puzzle.

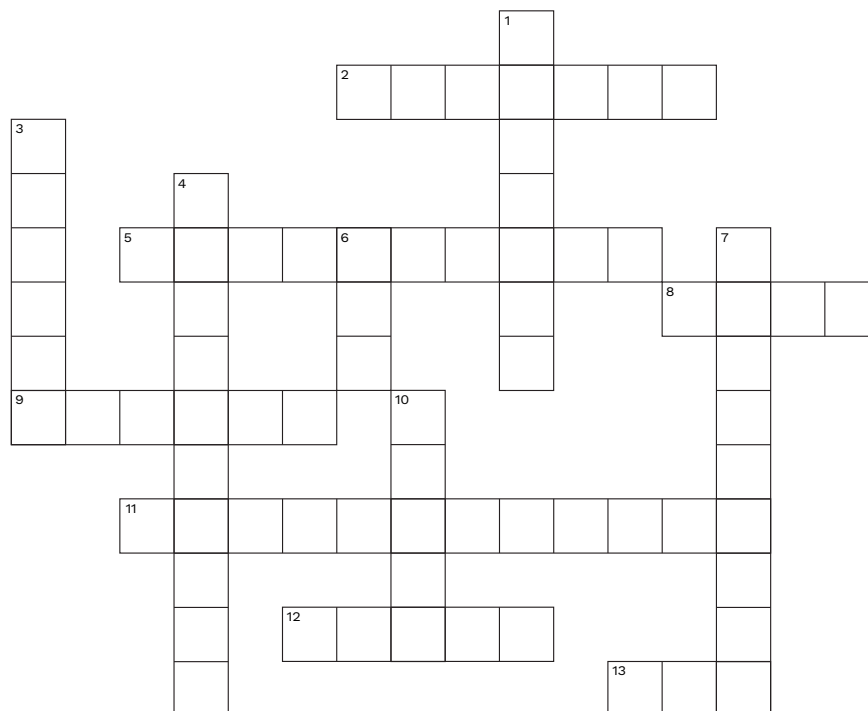
Answer key:

Across:

- 2. Penance
- 5. Obligation
- 8. Work
- 9. Habits
- 11. Resurrection
- 12. Rules
- 13. Sin

Down:

- 1. Sabbath
- 3. Church
- 4. Abstinence
- 6. God
- 7. Communion
- 10. Moral



Review Weekly Journal (Minutes 40-44)

For Additional Reflection:

What parts of the Qorbono were meaningful to you this week?

Closing (Minutes 45)

- Pray the Concluding Prayer together.