



Sunday Gospel Background

In Sunday's Gospel, Jesus tells the story of a vineyard owner who needs workers. He pays workers hired for only an hour's work the same day's wage as those hired at dawn. This story is not really about wages—or fairness. It's about God's love, which abounds for all of us.

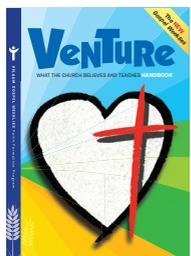
Share Experiences

Check off the boxes as you complete each part of the lesson.

- Pray together** "Jesus, we want to learn more about you. Bless our learning time today." (Pray the The Lord's Prayer together.)
- Cover • Welcome to Venture! (page 1)** Complete the activity. Provide hints where needed. *Answers: 1. a; 2. us; 3. Ten; 4. pray; 5. saint; 6. Christ; 7. Gospels; 8. Good News; 9. community. The shaded letters spell Eucharist, the sacrament that makes present the life-giving sacrifice of Jesus.*
- Story • What Is Fair? (pages 2–3)** Read aloud the story together. Alternate the reading between you and your child by switching at each bold, colored section.
- Discuss the Think questions on page 3.** The questions are meant to generate discussion. Feel free to tailor them to your family situation.

Discover Gospel and Doctrine

- Sunday Gospel • God's Love Is for All (page 4)** Divide the reading parts between you and your child. If available, invite other family members to read parts. After reading, retell the Gospel to each other in your own words.
- Discuss the Think questions on page 4.** Explain that God loves all people; he does not run out of love, so he can give it freely without concern for dividing it fairly or in equal parts. Jesus explains that the Kingdom of Heaven is different from how things are on earth—the first will be last, the last will be first. Conclude that God is more than fair. God is merciful and loves us beyond measure.
- Connecting Gospel and Doctrine • God's Kingdom Is For All (page 4)** After reading the section together, ask your child about times someone received more attention or material reward for less perceived work or effort. **Ask:** Why do you think this may have happened? Explain that sometimes, a struggling child may need more compassion. Explain that God's love is like that. God gives people what they need, regardless of what may seem right or fair by our human standards.
- Discuss the second set of Think questions on page 4.** Explain that mercy and love are most important to God.



- Open** the *What the Church Believes and Teaches* handbook and complete page 4 (Knowing and Living Your Faith) together. Then turn to page 47, and read together each part of the Liturgy of the Word. Encourage your child to identify these parts the next time you go to Mass.

Once you have completed this section of the lesson, close the handbook and return to Venture, page 5.



- Catholic Faith Word • Parable (Venture, page 5)** Read aloud this week's definition.
- Our Catholic Faith • Why Does Jesus Use Parables to Teach? (page 5)** Your child most likely has learned about some forms of literature (poetry, short stories, etc.). Parables are a biblical form that Jesus used to teach. Read the page aloud together, and discuss the questions. Explain that the next three Sunday Gospel readings will be parables.

Live the Gospel

- Saints • Saint Francis Xavier (page 6)** Take time to read the comic about the life of Saint Francis Xavier. **Ask:** Do you know another famous Francis? Explain that Pope Francis is also a Jesuit, a member of the order founded by Saint Francis Xavier and Saint Ignatius of Loyola.
- Living the Gospel • Our Class Is God's Vineyard (pages 7-8)** Adjust the activity for home use by explaining that your family is God's vineyard too. Work together with your child to decide how your family can grow and can also help others grow and bear fruit. For example, you might **ask**, What responsibilities do we have for taking care of each other? What helps our family work well together? Then write your family's recommendation on the lines below. Adjust *My Personal Commitment* by substituting "family" for "class."
- Closing Prayer • Vineyard Prayer (page 8)** Post the vines and grape card in an appropriate place in your home or learning area. Pray this prayer service as a family.



Parent Resources

For weekly videos, assessments, and more, scan this code or go to pflaumweeklies.com/family
Visit www.usccb.org/bible/readings to read this Sunday's Scripture