

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.

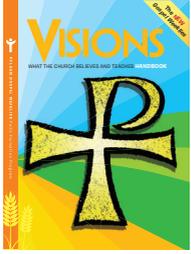
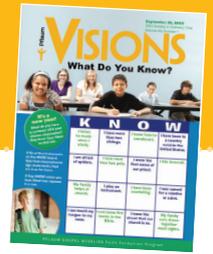
Share Experiences

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

- Pray together** "Loving God, thank you for welcoming us into your family. Amen."
- Cover • What Do You Know? (page 1)** Revise for home use by selecting certain statements ("I know the first name of our priest," "I can touch my nose with my tongue," "I can name five books of the Bible," etc.) and inviting everyone to guess which family members are able to do them.
- Story • Clean Up (pages 2-3)** Look at the photos together and invite your child to guess what's happening in the story. Read the text together silently.
- Discuss the Talk questions on page 3.** The questions are meant to generate discussion and there are no right or wrong answers. Questions 3 and 4 are written to prepare for the Gospel reading.

Discover Gospel and Doctrine

- Sunday Gospel • God Abounds in Love (page 4)** Divide the reading parts between you and your child. If they are available, invite other family members to read parts. After reading, retell the Gospel to each other in your own words.
- Discuss the Talk questions on page 4.** The questions invite open-ended responses. *Answers: 1. Probably hot, and physically demanding; 2. Most people in Jesus' time did not have their own land to farm, so they had to seek work; 3. This seems unfair to us, especially to those used to working for an hourly wage; 4. God's rules and definitions for fairness and justice are not the same as ours.*
- Connecting Gospel and Doctrine • God's Love Is For All (page 4)** Read the section in the box aloud. **Ask:** What do you think life will be like in God's kingdom? If you are comfortable, you might mention family members who have died and ask how different their life is in God's Kingdom.
- Discuss the Talk questions at the bottom of page 4.** *Answers: 1. Parables are a gentle way for listeners to hear something they may not want to know about themselves (e.g., that they may be a little greedy or focused on making things even, rather than just). Parables are also a good way to remember a lesson. 2. Fair is a human term and implies things being even or equal; when we are just, we give people what they need, regardless of what they may have earned. 3. Your child might mention those who are considered outsiders; God would spend time with those who need his love most.*



- **Open** the *What the Church Believes and Teaches* handbook. Read the first paragraph on page 11 together. If you have access to a Bible, encourage your child to look up John 3:16 and memorize the verse. It summarizes the Gospel and emphasizes God's abundant love. Go to page 20 and read the section on liturgy. Emphasize the following words: *participation, assemble, community, adoration, blessings, thanks*. Finally, complete page 47 to review the parts of the Mass. Encourage your child to identify these the next time you go to Mass.

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

- **Catholic Faith Word • Liturgy (Visions, page 5)** Read aloud this week's definition.
- **Our Catholic Faith • Worship Builds Up the Church (page 5)** Begin by looking at the photo and caption together. Discuss what is similar and different at your parish. Have your child read the rest of the feature silently and complete the questions. Discuss ways your family can come together to keep Sunday holy and participate in worship. (If you or other members of the family must work on Sundays, discuss ways you can continue to pray together.)

Live the Gospel

- **Living the Gospel • The Kingdom of God Is Like...? (page 6)** Read aloud the section together, alternating by paragraph. Together, respond to the questions about the four visuals. Point out that a kingdom isn't just a geographic area; it's a reign with distinctive characteristics. Invite your child to respond to the two questions at the bottom of the page. Summarize by saying that the Kingdom of God is like a generous landowner who cares abundantly about everyone.
- **Activity • A Promise to Work Together (page 7)** Adjust for home use by making individual and family promises about making your faith learning a happy and holy time for the entire family. Write down your promises in one of the circles and invite your child to complete the others. Fill in as many as you wish. Cross out the word "class" in the circle at the bottom and replace with "family." Discuss which promises are important to uphold at all times and write them here.
- **Puzzle • Let's Get Ready for Visions! (page 8)** Have your child fill in the crossword puzzle to the best of their ability. Review the answers together. **Answers: Across: 2. Liturgy of the Word; 5. Jesus; 7. Easter; 8. Christmas; 9. Paul; 10. Sunday; 13. Lectionary. Down: 1. Advent; 3. testament; 4. Christ; 6. Eucharist; 11. Assembly; 12. Good**
- **With My Family and Friends (page 8)** Invite your child to repeat the prayer throughout the week. Brainstorm ways you can take the suggested action this week.
- **Closing Prayer** Make the *Visions* pledge by having your child repeat each sentence after you: I pledge myself to grow in faith: in God, in the Church, and in myself. I will grow by seeking, listening, celebrating, respecting, and choosing to be a person of vision; a clear-sighted follower of Jesus.



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