

Sunday Gospel Background

When Jesus finds people buying and selling in the courtyards of the Temple, he chases them out, saying that the Temple is the house of God, not a marketplace. Jesus is showing us here that God calls us to live holy lives. We can hear God's call when we pray. We answer God's call by making loving choices, asking for forgiveness when we make unloving choices, and forgiving others. Following the Ten Commandments and Jesus' teachings helps us to become holy.

Share Experiences

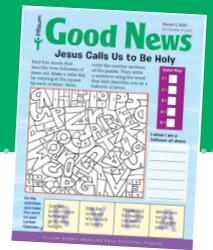
Check off the boxes as you complete each part of the lesson.

- Pray together** "Loving God, we thank you for inviting us to be followers of Jesus. Help our words and actions show others how good it is to be friends and followers of Jesus. Amen."
- Cover Activity • Jesus Calls Us to Be Holy (page 1)** Read aloud the instructions for this activity about how Jesus' followers act. Give an example of a sentence of your own. **Hidden words:** *forgive, help, care, pray, share.*
- Story • We're the Tigers! (page 2)** Ask: What do you think this story might be about? Who are the Tigers? How will you know who they are? Read the story aloud together.
- Discuss the Know questions related to the story.** 2. Note that the most important thing is how a team plays together and how it treats the other team. Invite your child to find all the ways the Tigers show what kind of a team they are.

Discover Gospel and Doctrine

- Sunday Gospel • God's Temple Is Holy (page 3)** Invite your child to find Jesus in the picture. Explain the role of the Temple in Jesus' time. Every male Jew tried to come to the Temple for the major feast days of the year. The Temple was the one place in all of Israel where the priests offered sacrifices to God. Proclaim the Gospel by sharing the reading between you. Invite other family members to read if available.
- Discuss the Know questions related to the Gospel.** After the first question, Ask: What is God's house for Christians? *Church.* 2. *His Resurrection.* Explain that when Jesus talks about his body as God's temple, he doesn't mean the building. The Jewish people thought the Temple was where God lived on earth, but Jesus is really where God lives on earth.
- Activity • Gospel Creative Drama** Invite your child to use facial expressions and body language to show how Jesus felt at different times in the Gospel story:
 - When he saw people visiting the market booths
 - When he told the sellers to get out
 - When they talked back to Jesus and he answered them
 - When his friends didn't understand what he meant

Now invite your child to show how the buyers and sellers in the Temple felt at each of these points. Ask: How did Jesus' followers feel?



- Connecting Gospel and Doctrine** Read “We Answer God’s Call” (page 4). Help your child make the connection between a holy place (the Temple or church) and a holy life. Both should include prayer. **Ask:** How will people know that we’re on Jesus’ team?
- Catholic Faith Word • holy (page 4)** Read aloud the definition of *holy*. Explain that God calls every one of us to be holy. And God offers us lots of helps so that we can live holy lives and join him in Heaven someday.



- Open** the *What the Church Believes and Teaches* handbook to page 36. Before reading, **ask:** How do you keep a friend and make your friendship grow? These same things can help us to be good friends with Jesus. Talking to Jesus everyday helps us grow closer to Jesus. Read aloud the last three sentences in the second paragraph under “What Is Prayer?”

Ask: When is your favorite time to pray? Read aloud the two lines under “When Should We Pray?” Then **ask:** Where is your favorite place to pray? Read aloud the first line under “Where Should We Pray?” **Ask:** Is there a right or wrong way to pray? *No.* The important thing is that we pray!

Invite your child to write a prayer to God. Help as needed. Affirm your child’s prayer.

Once you have completed this section of the lesson, close the handbook and return to Good News, page 3.

Live the Gospel

- Activity • The Ten Commandments Guide Us (page 3)** The First Reading this Sunday is about the Ten Commandments. For help with the activity, your child can refer to page 31 in the Catechism handbook. **Answers:** 1-C; 2-F; 3-A; 4-J; 5-B; 6-D; 7-G; 8-E; 9-I; 10-H.
- Activity • We Can Be Holy (page 4)** When Jesus talked about the temple he would rebuild in three days, he was talking about his own body, which would be raised again by God in the Resurrection. Jesus is God’s temple. We are also God’s temple, the body of Jesus on earth.

The activity on page 4 can provide ideas for how your family can show you are followers of Jesus. Rather than dividing into teams, brainstorm ideas together. Think of actions, prayers, and sacraments. Write down the ideas on separate pieces of paper and put them in a bag or envelope. Take turns choosing a piece of paper and acting out what it says while the other guesses. Use the rhyme on page 4 to guide you.

- Activity • Lenten Calendar (page 1)** Point out the calendar squares for this week. Invite your child to guess the word: *PRAY*. Remind your child to do each prayer activity before gluing or taping its letter square on the calendar.
- Closing Prayer** Spell out the letters of your child’s name and **say:** “Let’s thank God for people and things that begin with each letter.” Conclude by **praying:** “We thank you, God, for everything—including (your child’s name). Amen.”



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