

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. Children like this story because it shows Jesus as a person who gets angry and takes on people who are doing the wrong thing. They can understand that Jesus' love and respect for his Father is the motive for his behavior. This *Seeds* lesson can help your child understand what behavior goes with what place, and that praying to God is appropriate anytime and anywhere.

Share Experiences

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

- Pray together** Begin and end with the Sign of the Cross. Have your child repeat each line after you: Thank you, God, for my heart to love you (*point to heart*), for hands to fold in prayer (*fold hands*), for my body that moves (*jump up and down*), and for family to love. (*Give each other a hug.*) Amen.
- Story • Mr. Nobody** Before you begin, put some objects out of place—a wastebasket on a bookcase or pencils in the sink, for example. Introduce the story with a puppet, doll, or action figure. Have the puppet **ask**: Have you seen the wastebasket? Have your child look and tell the puppet where it is. Continue with the other out-of-place items. Then tell this story:

Hannah and Hank came home from preschool and decided to play a trick on their mom. She always reminded them to put their toys away, put their books on the shelf, not to eat food in the family room, and hang up their jackets.

While Mom was busy doing laundry, the twins moved the dog's water dish by the fireplace in the family room. They took a bunch of bananas and put them in the bathroom sink. Last, they put a pillow on the kitchen counter. Then they hid behind the kitchen door. When their mother came into the kitchen, she asked, "Who put this pillow on the kitchen counter?" Hannah and Hank popped out and said, "It must have been Mr. Nobody."

When Mom went into the bathroom, she came right out and said, "How did bananas get in the sink?" The twins said,

"Maybe Mr. Nobody put them there." The twins went outside to play. Mom came to the door and asked, "Who put the dog's water dish by the fireplace?" The twins replied, "It must have been Mr. Nobody again."

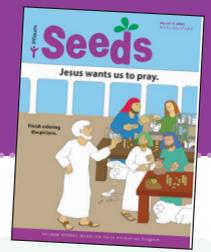
While the twins played, Mom made an apple pie. After supper, Hannah said, "May we have apple pie now?" Dad said, "What apple pie? I didn't see apple pie when I came home." Hank asked, "Mom, where is the pie? It was on the counter." "Maybe someone took it," said Mom. "Who would do that?" asked Hannah. "Somebody called Mr. Nobody," Mom said and smiled. The twins started to laugh. Mom and Dad laughed too. Then Mom took the pie out of the hall closet, and they all had apple pie.

Have the puppet ask your child to use facial expressions to show how the twins felt when they were playing their game with Mom.

Ask: How did they feel when they thought the pie was gone?

Discover Gospel and Doctrine

- Sunday Gospel • Jesus wants us to pray. (page 1).** Tell your child that today's Gospel story might sounds like the twins, Hannah and Hank:

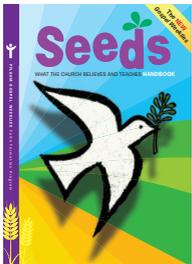


One day, Jesus went to the Temple in Jerusalem. The Temple was a special building. The Temple stood in the middle of a large courtyard that had walls with gates all around. The Temple was the place where people like Jesus went to pray and give gifts to God. Jesus walked through a gate and went into the Temple courtyard. He saw people in the courtyard selling sheep and doves. This made Jesus angry. He said, "This

Temple is the house of God. This is not a place for selling. Get your lambs and doves out of here!"

The people who were selling sheep drove their animals out the gate of the Temple. The people selling doves carried the birds away. The money changers put their money in boxes and left. Jesus and his friends went into the Temple to pray.

Have your child look at the cover of *Seeds*. **Ask:** Why is Jesus angry? What are the people doing? What should they be doing? What doesn't belong in the Temple? Talk about the special times when your family prays at home.



- Open** the *What the Church Believes and Teaches* handbook to page 31. Ask your child to find the word *Bible*. Use the picture of the red Bible as a clue. Read the definition. Then, ask your child to repeat every word after you.

Ask: Do you know any of the stories written in the Bible? *Creation, Noah's Ark, Jonah, the Christmas Story, etc.* After your child has mentioned some of the stories of the Bible, explain that we can read from the Bible when we pray as a family.

Once you have completed this section of the lesson, close the handbook and return to *Seeds*, page 2.

- Word of the Week • Bible (page 2)** Help your child locate the Word of the Week on page 2. Share this definition: *The Bible is the holy book that tells us about God's love for us.*

Live the Gospel

- Activity • What doesn't belong? (page 2)** Have your child use a crayon to mark an X on each picture that doesn't belong. For each picture, **Ask:** Why doesn't it belong there? After discussing all the pictures, remind your child about the Gospel. **Ask:** What did not belong in the Temple? *Sellers, animals. Why? Because the Temple is like a church, a place where we pray to God.*
- Activity • Prayer Book (pages 3-4)** Have your child place *Seeds* on a workspace with pages 3-4 faceup. Help your child cut off the strip of four pictures at the bottom. Then cut the four pictures apart on the black lines. Identify the objects in the boxes with your child.

Now look at the picture of the table and chairs on page 4. Read the caption aloud and **ask:** Which of the four little pictures goes on the table? Help your child glue or tape the picture of the sandwich in place. **Read:** *Thank you, God, for a nice day.* **Ask:** When do you say these words to God? Help your child glue or tape the stars and moon under the window shade. Read the rest of the captions and help your child attach the small pictures. Next, help your child print his or her name on the blank line. Have your child complete the other pages, cut on the heavy black horizontal line, fold on the fold lines, and put the book together.

- Closing Prayer** Read through the prayer book with your child. Finish by saying "Amen" together.



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