



Sunday Gospel Background

In Sunday's Gospel, the three Apostles are overjoyed but also confused by Jesus' Transfiguration. They do not yet understand that this experience is a precursor to what Heaven will be like. Jesus shows us that after his suffering and Death on the Cross, there will be a Resurrection. The Transfiguration is a model for Christian living. Jesus shows us that we grow through the sufferings we encounter in this life and we are transformed by them. After this life, there is an infinitely better life awaiting us if we are faithful. Each Lent gives us the opportunity to grow ever closer to the person Jesus wants us to be.

Share Experiences

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

- Pray together** Loving God, you call us to work together as a community of Jesus' followers. Help us continue in our Lenten commitments. Amen.
- Cover Activity • If I could make myself into someone brand new, I would have... (page 1)** Before you share this issue of *Venture* with your child, recall the story of Pope John XXIII and what new thing he did that changed the Church. *He called the Second Vatican Council.* Then ask what new action the African American people of Montgomery, Alabama, did that changed the course of civil rights in the United States. *They refused to ride city buses until the buses were integrated.*

Share this issue. After your child has a moment to look over the illustrations and text on the cover, give your child some time to fill in the blanks. Talk about your child's responses and listen to the reasons for choosing them.

- Article • Miranda's Peaceful Sport (pages 2-3)** Have your child speculate from the photos and the title what the story is about. Aikido is a form of self-defense that does not seek to injure the attacker. It requires self-knowledge and a peaceful heart. Have your child read the story quietly. You might want to take turns reading aloud Miranda's essay about making mistakes on page 3.
- Discuss the Think questions on page 3.** *Answers: 1. Miranda likes that Aikido helps her feel calm; she also does not worry about making mistakes. She has friends at Aikido, and this helped her when her mom died. 2. Children who practice Aikido "leave their ego at the door." Aikido emphasizes calm meditation and peacefulness instead of competition. 3. Open-ended; Miranda knows that practice helps prevent mistakes. She calls mistakes opportunities to go back and fix things. 4. Aikido isn't just a physical sport; it's a contemplative one. The act of writing combines with mastering new techniques.*

Finish your discussion of the story by talking about any sports or activities your child participates in. **Ask:** When are times that it feels peaceful for you? When does it bring out your desire to win? Understanding our inner selves is a lifelong task. Participating in different kinds of activities helps us develop different parts of our personality. Miranda remembers her mother as very competitive, but she desired a more balanced approach to life for her daughter.

Discover Gospel and Doctrine

- Sunday Gospel • Jesus' Friends See Him Transfigured (page 4)** Read the parts of Narrator 1 and 2, Peter, Voice, and Jesus to proclaim the Gospel.
- Discuss the Think questions on page 4.** *Answers: 1. Moses led the Israelites out of slavery in Egypt and gave them the commandments. Elijah was one of the greatest prophets. 2. God. Jesus is God's Son. 3. Peter envisions Jesus as a mighty Messiah. 4. Jesus sees he must suffer, die, and rise so his friends can have new life.*



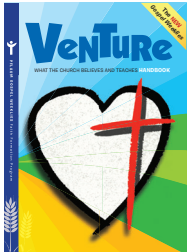
Connecting Gospel and Doctrine • Jesus Calls Us to Glory (page 4)

In this vision of a Risen Jesus, we get a glimpse of what will happen at the Resurrection.

- Discuss the Think questions on page 4. Answers:** 1. The Incarnation reveals Jesus' humanity. The Transfiguration reveals his divinity. 2. The goal with all Lenten commitments is to grow closer to Jesus; we can make more time for prayer by giving up things that distract us (for example, curbing the time we spend on social media).
- Our Catholic Faith • Abraham and Sarah Learn About Faith (page 5)** Have your child read this feature silently. Then ask your child to use the three illustrations to retell the story to you. Discuss the two questions. *Possible answers:* God will always be with us; God will raise us to new life after we die; peace to our world; give us everlasting life; open-ended.

Live the Gospel

- Catholic Faith Word • Ten Commandments (page 6)** Read aloud the definition to introduce the *Living the Gospel* activity.



- Open** the *What the Church Believes and Teaches* handbook to page 32. This lesson continues *Venture's* focus on the Ten Commandments. Begin by reading Section 7 together. Then turn the page and skip to the Fourth Commandment. Read about these commandments together with your child. Even the Ninth and Tenth commandments about coveting can speak to children who find themselves in turmoil about friends who choose other friends and leave them behind, or about friends who have many more or better possessions. Use these paragraphs as springboards for family discussions throughout Lent.

Once you have completed this section of the lesson, close the handbook and return to Venture pages 6-7.

- Living the Gospel • Honor Your Father and Your Mother (pages 6-7)** Read aloud the introduction on page 6, which explores the meaning of the Fourth Commandment and what it asks of us. Read and discuss one family dilemma at a time. Generate alternative courses of action for both the parents and the children in the stories. Discuss the consequences of the various alternatives. Once you have arrived at solutions together, fill in the "I could" sections for each parent and child.

- Puzzle • Ten Commandments (page 8)** The word search puzzle is an opportunity for your child to review the Ten Commandments. See solution at right.
- Closing Prayer** Begin a prayer by mentioning a special teacher, coach, or other leader who has inspired you. For example, "Thank you, God, for Sister Marion, who taught me science in fifth grade." Give your child an opportunity to mention a person and tell briefly about him or her. Say a prayer of thanks for these special people.



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