



Sunday Gospel Background

After Jesus gives him his sight, Bartimaeus follows Jesus. Bartimaeus gives an example of a wholehearted believer and follower. We also witness this wholehearted response in the lives of saints we honor on All Saints' Day (November 1).

Share Experiences

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

- Pray together** "Dear God, thank you for giving us the gift of sight—so we can see the people we love and the beauty of your Creation. Help us use our eyes to love you and help others. Amen."
- Cover Activity • We can see God's goodness. (page 1)** Look at the scene on the cover of *Promise* together. Play the following game with your child. Say, "I see three butterflies." Pause while your child finds them. Continue by calling out: "I see... one wolf, five flowers, two birds, one heart, one sun, two bushes, one man. **Ask:** How could you have found the things in the picture if you couldn't see? What would you miss seeing the most if you were blind? Explain that the man in the picture is Saint Francis of Assisi. He was a follower of Jesus who lived a long time ago. He loved God's Creation and saw God in every flower and bird, in every part of nature and in every person.
- Story • A Walk with Grandpa (page 2)** Invite your child to point and follow the dotted path on page 2 and notice all the trees, plants, and animals along the path. Then have your child follow the story of Colton's walk with his grandpa as you read it:

Colton looked at the clock in his classroom. Ten minutes to three. Colton knew that his grandpa would get off the bus soon to walk home with him through the nature park as he did every Friday. Outside the school building, Colton's grandma watched his grandpa step down the bus steps. She made sure Grandpa got off at the right bus stop because he was blind and used a white cane with a red tip.

Colton rushed out of school when the bell rang, waved at

Grandma, and took Grandpa's arm. Colton and Grandpa set off on the winding path through the park. Grandpa soon smelled the sheep pen. "How are the sheep looking?" he asked Colton. Colton said: "White with black noses. They are very clean today." "How is the apple tree?" asked Grandpa. "It has lots of apples," said Colton. "Some have fallen to the ground." Grandpa smiled. "I know," he said. "I can smell them."

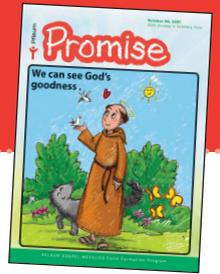
With your child, walk Colton and Grandpa on through the nature park. Have your child pretend to be Colton and describe what Colton sees.

Discover Gospel and Doctrine

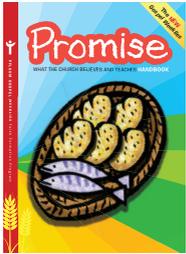
- Sunday Gospel • Jesus Helps Bartimaeus See** Share this Gospel with your child:

Jesus and his disciples were leaving the town of Jericho. They were followed by a large crowd. A blind beggar named Bartimaeus was sitting beside the road. When he heard that Jesus was passing by, he shouted, "Jesus, Son of David, have pity on me!" People told him to be quiet, but he shouted even louder, "Son of David, have pity on me!" Jesus stopped and said, "Call him over!" People called out to the blind man

and said: "Don't be afraid! Get up! Jesus is calling for you." Bartimaeus threw off his coat as he jumped up and ran to Jesus. Jesus asked him, "What do you want me to do for you?" The blind man answered, "Master, I want to see." Jesus told him: "You may go. Your eyes are healed because of your faith." Right away, the man could see, and he went down the road, following Jesus.



Ask: Why did Jesus help the blind man? How did the blind man feel when Jesus healed his eyes? What did he do? Impress upon your child that Jesus healed the man because of the man's faith. **Ask:** What is faith? *Believing and trusting in God's promises.* At every Sunday Mass, we say a prayer that tells what we believe about God. That prayer is called the *Creed*.



- **Open** the *What the Church Believes and Teaches* handbook to page 10. If needed, review the story of Noah and the ark. (Don't let your child get stuck on God destroying everything. Emphasize that God took care of Noah and his family because Noah believed and trusted God.)

Read together the top of page 10. Emphasize God's words to Noah (and all people): "I will always take care of you." Children know that we still have floods and other natural disasters. Your family may know someone who has suffered the ravages of a flood or hurricane. Don't let your child think that this was a punishment from God. Gently help your child understand that God didn't say there would never be another flood, rather that no flood would ever again destroy the whole world. God cares about every creature and wants everyone to be saved. Even if people die through a natural disaster, God will take those who are faithful to him to happiness in Heaven.

Have your child complete the activity, then **ask:** How does God care for people? For animals? For the earth? Invite your child to come up with one example for each band of the rainbow.

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

- **Word of the Week • anoint (page 2)** Print the word *anoint* for your child to see. Share this definition: *To anoint means to bless a person with oil to show that he or she is special to God.* Explain that one way the Church celebrates God's care for the sick is through the Sacrament of the Anointing of the Sick.

Live the Gospel

- **Activity • Jesus helps a blind man see. (pages 3-4)** Direct your child to cut on the heavy lines and fold on the dotted lines to make a booklet of the Gospel. Then read the Gospel story together, using the version in the booklet.
- **Closing Prayer** "Thank you, Jesus, for our eyes. Help us use them to see ways to help one another and to see all the beautiful things you have made for us. 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