

## Sunday Gospel Background

The Solemnity of Christ the King is the final Sunday of the Church Year. This feast helps us remember that love, peace, forgiveness, and truth rule in Jesus' kingdom. Jesus tells Pilate that his kingdom is not like that of the Romans whom Pilate represents. You might ask your child to name the leaders in your family, community, parish, and school. Explain that Jesus wants to be the king of our hearts and discuss what that means.

## Share Experiences

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

- Pray together** "Thank you, God, for loving us and giving us everything we need. Help us make you the king of our hearts. Amen."
- Story • Who Is a Leader in Cozy Town?** Invite your child to listen to the story.

Mr. Redden was the best gardener in Cozy Town. He grew the most beautiful roses in the whole town, maybe in the whole world. Mr. Redden used a cane to help him walk up the steps into his home.

One day when Mr. Redden was watering his roses, the wind blew his cane down. It landed on the sidewalk in front of the gate.

Two boys came skateboarding down the sidewalk. "Look!" said Wyatt, "Mr. Redden's cane is on the sidewalk. Let's skate tricks over it." The other boy, Reggie, said, "You know that's Mr. Redden's cane. He can't walk very far without it. Let's prop it back up on the fence so he will be sure to find it."

A dog came running down the sidewalk, dragging its leash. The dog picked up the cane in its teeth and ran to a neighbor's

yard. Just then, Mr. Redden finished watering the roses and looked around for his cane. He couldn't see it anywhere. "Oh, my," Mr. Redden said, "If I don't have my cane, I may fall when I walk back up the steps." Mr. Redden looked around the gate and under the hedge but couldn't see his cane. Then he heard a voice.

"Rusty! Put it down!" Sofia was running toward the dog. She took the cane from its mouth and grabbed the leash. "Mr. Redden, my dog took your cane." Mr. Redden smiled. "Thank you," he said, "I really need my cane." He walked over to his prettiest roses and cut two of the biggest ones. "Please take these to your mother. Thank her and your dad for teaching you to be kind and honest," he said.

**Ask:** Who acted like a leader? Explain that people who do the right thing and are helpful, kind, and honest act like leaders. They show others how God wants us to behave. **Ask:** Who was thankful? How are thankful people leaders? Would you like to be a leader? What kind of leader will you be?

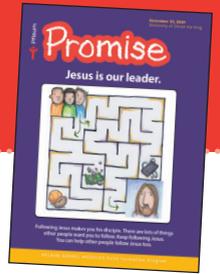
## Discover Gospel and Doctrine

- Sunday Gospel • Jesus Is Our Leader** **Ask:** What is a king like? Explain that one day, someone asked Jesus if he was a king.

One day, Jesus was taken to the Roman governor's office. The governor was named Pontius Pilate. Pilate had heard a lot about Jesus and wanted to meet him. "Are you the king of the Jews?" Pilate asked Jesus. Jesus said: "I am not the kind of king you are thinking about. My kingdom is not in this world."

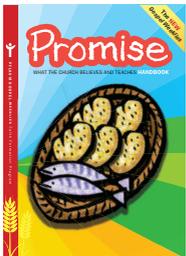
Pilate asked, "So you are a king?"

"You say that I am a king," Jesus told him. "I was born into this world to tell about the truth. And everyone who belongs to the truth knows my voice."



**Ask:** What did Jesus mean in his answer to Pilate? *Jesus' kingdom doesn't rely on power, is based on loving actions; people in Jesus' kingdom know God loves them and takes care of them.* **Ask:** What are some examples from Jesus' life that show what kind of king he is? What does he want the people in his kingdom to be like? *Jesus' followers must trust in God and share with and care for one another.*

- Activity • God takes care of everyone. (page 2)** Turn to page 2 of *Promise* and read the title together. You might want to give examples of opposites: hot/cold and awake/asleep. Have your child choose the best word in the word bank for each of the pictures, print the words next to the pictures, and draw a line between each pair of opposites. Share about a time you were sick or worried and knew that God was near and taking care of you.



- Open** the *What the Church Believes and Teaches* handbook to page 27. Read the promises together. Remind your child that sometimes we don't get an answer to our prayers right away or the answer we want, but Jesus always hears our prayers and responds with love. Give your child time to complete the prayer starters.

Read the promise at the top of page 28, followed by the next four lines. Then invite your child to draw a picture of a favorite place to pray. Encourage your child to make a promise to pray to Jesus every day. **Ask:** What are some times when you can pray to Jesus? What are some things you can say?

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

- Word of the Week • prayer (page 2)** Help your child locate the Word of the Week on page 2. Share this definition: *Prayer is a heart-to-heart talk with God.*

## Live the Gospel

- Cover Activity • Jesus is our leader. (page 1)** Give your child time to solve the maze on page 1. **Ask:** Why weren't the money, music player, and balls on the path to Jesus? Read and discuss the lines at the bottom of the page.
- Activity • Jesus Is Our King Table Prayer (pages 3-4)** Read and explain the words at the top. Point out the Alpha and Omega and explain that they are the first and last letters in the Greek alphabet. It's like saying "from A to Z" and means that Jesus is the beginning and the end. Have your child trace the hearts on page 3 and color page 4. Then have your child cut on the solid cutting lines, and fold on the folding lines. Use tape to secure the bottom of the stained-glass window panels to the bottom panel. Invite your child to place the display on your family table and pray the prayer together at mealtime this week. Encourage your child to memorize the prayer.
- Closing Prayer** Pray the Table Prayer together.



## Parent Resources

For weekly videos, assessments, and more, scan this code or go to [pflaumweeklies.com/family](https://pflaumweeklies.com/family)  
Visit [www.usccb.org/bible/readings](https://www.usccb.org/bible/readings) to read this Sunday's Scripture