

Sunday Gospel Background

In Sunday's Gospel, Mary points out to Jesus that the bride and groom at Cana have run out of wine to serve their guests. Jesus acts. He makes a big difference for one Galilean couple and gives us all a sign of what he has come to be—food and drink for God's people.

Share Experiences

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

- Pray together** "Loving God, we are ready to learn about your Son, Jesus, who came to our world to show us how much you love us. Help us learn to be like him. Amen."
- Story • Michael brings joy. (page 4)** Turn to page 4 and identify each of the pictures at the top. Explain that in a rebus story, pictures take the place of some of the words. Read the story together, giving your child a chance to say one or more of the rebus picture-words. When you have finished, discuss the questions at the end.

Discover Gospel and Doctrine

- Sunday Gospel • Jesus shows God's love. (page 1)** Invite your child to listen to Sunday's Gospel:

One day, Jesus, his mother, and some of his friends went to a wedding in the town of Cana. Mary noticed that the wine was running out. She said to Jesus, "They have run out of wine." Jesus asked her, "What do you want me to do about it?" Mary told a servant to do whatever Jesus told him to do.

Jesus told the servant: "Fill these six large jars with water. Then take some to the headwaiter." The servant filled the jars

and then took a drink to the headwaiter.

The headwaiter said, "This is very good wine!" He asked the groom, "Why did you save the best wine until the end of the party?" The groom said, "I don't know where this wine came from."

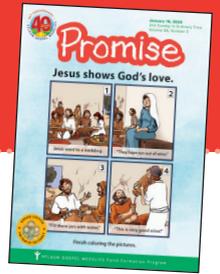
Only the servants who did as Jesus had asked knew where the wine had come from. This was Jesus' first miracle. His friends saw what he had done and believed in him.

Point out that Jesus adds to the joy of the wedding by turning water into wine. **Ask:** Who does Jesus want to be full of joy? Who is with Jesus? Who asks him to make more wine? This miracle of Jesus shows that God loves us and wants us to listen to him.

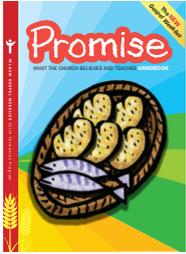
Invite your child to look at the cover of *Promise* and point out the people in the story. Have your child use the pictures to retell the Gospel story to you. Then invite your child to finish coloring the pictures.

- Activity • Gospel Creative Drama** Reenact the Gospel together with your child by showing with your bodies and faces:
 - How Jesus, Mary, and their friends felt at the wedding
 - How the bride and groom felt when the wine ran out
 - How Mary felt to see that the bride and groom were sad
 - How Jesus felt when Mary asked him to help
 - How the servants felt when they saw the water turn to wine
 - How the bride and groom felt when Jesus made more wine

Show your child how to open *Promise* so the two wedding stories (pages 1 and 4) are side by side. Point out that Michael and Jesus both brought joy to a wedding.



- **Word of the Week • marriage (page 4)** Help your child find the Word of the Week on page 4. Share this definition: *Marriage is when a man and a woman promise to love each other forever.* Our Church celebrates marriage in a sacrament called *Matrimony*.



- **Open the *What the Church Believes and Teaches* handbook to page 23.** Explain that Jesus' mother, Mary, can help us be good followers of Jesus. Refer to the Gospel story. **Ask:** Who did what Mary said? *Jesus.* *Mary was Jesus' mother, so he did what she asked him to do.* **Ask:** Who did what Jesus said? *The servants.* Read the activity directions. If needed, draw a heart on a board or sheet of paper for your child to copy. After your child completes the activity, talk about each example. Invite your child to signal a response with a thumbs-up or thumbs-down gesture.

Take turns with your child sharing about times you did what Jesus tells us to do. Respond to each story with a thumbs-up!

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

Live the Gospel

- **Activity • Jesus is Good News. (page 2)** Guide your child in completing the following activities:
 - **Color the Stars** Color the spaces with stars blue to find the hidden word. Your child may also color the spaces with dots a different color. Stories about Jesus are found in the Bible in the four Gospels (Matthew, Mark, Luke, John). *Gospel* means "good news." The stories about Jesus are Good News for us.
 - **Matching Water Jars** Count the water jars. **Ask:** How many water jars did Jesus tell the servants to fill at the wedding? *Six.* **Ask:** What did Jesus do to the water in these jars? *Turned it into good wine.* Invite your child to find the six jars that are alike and color them purple.
- **Activity • I am good news too. (page 3)** Guide your child in completing the following activities:
 - **Letter Trail** Demonstrate counting to three to reach the letter I, and have your child continue, highlighting or circling every third letter. When your child has them all, have your child print the letters in order in the boxes to make a sentence. **Answer:** *I can act in loving ways.*
 - **Follow the Dots** When your child has completed this activity, **ask:** Who is the girl writing to? *God.* **Why?** *To thank him.* **Ask:** What are you thankful to God for? Remind your child that thanking God shows him love and respect.
- **Closing Prayer** "Dear Jesus, thank you for our family. Please bless us and help us follow you every day." Close your prayer with the Sign of the Cross.



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