

Sunday Gospel Background

Sunday's Gospel continues the story begun last week, in which Jesus told the people in his hometown synagogue that God had sent him to bring the Good News. This Sunday, the people do not believe or accept him. Jesus, they are certain, is just Joseph's son.

Share Experiences

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

- Pray together** "Loving God, you are always with us. We know you will always help us when we have problems. Thank you. Amen."
- Cover Activity • We Have Problems. (page 1)** Read aloud the title on the cover of *Promise* and invite your child to identify the things that are wrong in the picture. **Ask:** How can each problem be solved?
- Story • The Playground Fight (page 2)** Have your child look at the pictures on page 2 while you tell this story:

Miss Flynn, the first-grade teacher, heard that the children were fighting over the tire swing at recess. She called them together and asked what the problem was. "I had the swing first," said Alexa. "The other kids wouldn't wait their turn," said Randall. "Too many kids on at one time," said Sadie.

"How can we solve this problem?" asked Miss Flynn. The

children decided on a rule they would all follow. Miss Flynn wrote their rule on the board: One at a time on the tire swing. The next day, Miss Flynn saw that the first graders were still fighting over the swing. Miss Flynn called them in again. The children came up with two solutions to this problem. Can you think of any others?

Discuss two possible solutions: take turns, get another tire swing. Brainstorm other solutions: sign-up sheet, other games to play, no tire swing. **Ask:** Which do you think is the best? Why?

Discover Gospel and Doctrine

- Sunday Gospel • Jesus Has a Problem.** Remind your child of last Sunday's Gospel: Jesus read the Scripture and told the people in his hometown synagogue that he brings God's Good News. Sunday's Gospel picks up there.

One day, Jesus read the words of the prophet Isaiah at the synagogue in his hometown of Nazareth. When he finished reading, he said, "What you have heard me read has come true today." By saying that, he was telling them that he is the One that God had promised to send to save them.

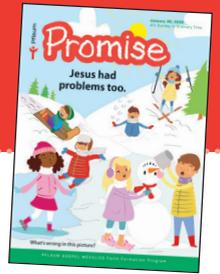
At first, the people all said good things about Jesus and were amazed by what he said. But the people had watched

Jesus grow up in their town, and they couldn't believe that he was so special. They asked one another, "Isn't he Joseph's son?"

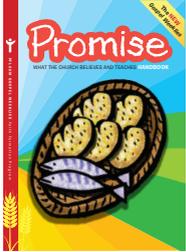
Jesus said: "No prophet is liked by the people of his own hometown. Remember that God sent the prophets Elijah and Elisha to help those who were not part of the Chosen People."

Some people got very angry when Jesus said this. They tried to hurt him. But Jesus just walked away.

Ask: Why did people get angry with Jesus? *They thought: a local boy wasn't special enough to be the one that God had promised, Jesus was trying to make himself great, Jesus was trying to trick them.* **Ask:** How do you think Jesus felt? What did he do?



- **Word of the Week • Gospel (page 2)** Print the word *Gospel*. Share this definition:
A Gospel is a book in the Bible that tells us the Good News about Jesus. We listen to a Gospel reading at every Mass.



- **Open** the *What the Church Believes and Teaches* handbook to page 29. Point out the Sign of the Cross prayer next to the top star. Draw a triangle on a sheet of paper. Print *Father, Son, and Holy Spirit* at the angles. **Ask:** Who is the Father? *God, our Father, Jesus' Father, Creator.* **Ask:** Who is the Son? *Jesus.* **Ask:** What do we know about the Holy Spirit? *Appeared as a dove at Jesus' baptism.*

Turn to page 32 and read about the Holy Spirit together. Encourage your child to remember that *Holy Spirit* starts with *h* and so does the word *helper*. **Ask:** When you need help, who can you pray to? *The Holy Spirit.*

Invite your child to look again at the triangle. **Ask:** What do we call the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit together? *Blessed Trinity.* Now turn to page 31 and read about the Blessed Trinity.

Point to the triangle again. **Ask:** How many sides does a triangle have? *Three.* **Ask:** How many angles does a triangle have? *Three.* Point out that *triangle* and *Trinity* both start with the letter *t*. **Ask:** How many Persons of God are in the Blessed Trinity? *Three.* Note that *three* starts with a *t* too. **Ask:** To whom are we praying when we pray the Sign of the Cross? *Father, Son, and Holy Spirit; Blessed Trinity.* Pray the Sign of the Cross together.

Once you have completed this section of the lesson, close the handbook and return to Promise, page 3.

Live the Gospel

- **Activity • Make It Better (page 3)** Discuss the big picture of children fighting over the bat on page 3. **Ask:** How can the children solve their problem? Find the small picture that shows one way of solving the problem—going hand over hand on the bat to see whose hand ends up on top.

Discuss the big picture of children playing kickball. **Ask:** What is the problem? *One child is not playing and looks sad.* **Ask:** What may be some reasons for this? Find the small picture that shows a way to solve the problem of someone being left out.

Discuss the big picture of a child whose paper has been ruined by spilled juice. **Ask:** What do you think happened? What can make this problem better? Read aloud the directions for cutting out and taping the pictures and help your child with the activity as needed.

- **Closing Prayer • A Forgiveness Prayer (page 4)** Sit with your child and place the three pictures from page 3 in front of you. Have your child turn over each picture and pray with you. Then invite your child to repeat this prayer after you: *Loving God, / thank you / for giving us feelings. / Please help us / to love and forgive / one another. / 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