

## Sunday Gospel Background

In the Gospel for this Sunday, Jesus begins his public ministry at a wedding feast at Cana in Galilee. He transforms the embarrassing problem of running out of wine into a triumph of hospitality. Jesus provides the best wine for the feast. His actions show us that he comes to gather people together in joy.

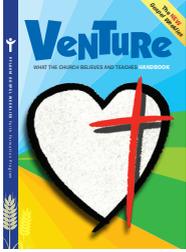
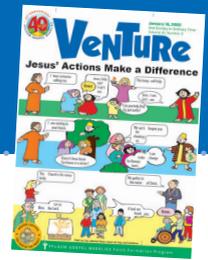
## Share Experiences

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

- Pray together** Explain that this Sunday's Gospel is about a wedding feast. Jesus turned water into wine and made a big difference to the bride and groom. Begin by raising your hand in the air as if making a toast and say, "I thank you, loving God, for (*name a blessing in your life*). Invite your child to make a similar "toast."
- Cover Activity • Jesus' Actions Make a Difference (page 1)** Invite your child to look at the three sets of illustrations on the cover. Talk about what is happening in each. Have your child carefully tear the cover from the *Venture* lesson. Follow the directions to fold the page. **Ask:** Now what is happening? How is Jesus making a difference?
- Story • A Wedding in the Family (pages 2-3)** Read aloud this story together or have your child read it silently. Note: The main character's name is pronounced "My-lay."
- Discuss the Think questions on page 3.** *Answers: 1. Open-ended; perhaps out of loyalty to their mother or worry that they may no longer have their father's attention. 2. Her dad talks to Kai and Jodie's sons rather than her; the Genesis reading that a man clings to his wife; not being in the wedding and wearing formal clothes. She's afraid Jodie hates her and it's too late to apologize. 3. He invites her to sit at the head table with the rest of the wedding party; Jodie's gift of the gecko charm let Maile know that Jodie did not hate her and wanted her to be as happy and joyful as she was. 4. Reconciliation and love.*

## Discover Gospel and Doctrine

- Sunday Gospel • Jesus Provides Wine for a Wedding Feast (page 4)** Divide up the reading parts and read them aloud to proclaim the Gospel together.
- Discuss the Think questions on page 4.** *Answers: 1. Relatives and friends of the couple, including Jesus, his disciples, and Mary. 2. Jesus is more like the bridegroom because he draws everyone together with a grand gesture of hospitality. 3. He values marriage and celebration, and wants people to be happy. He gathers people together in joy and gladness. (See page 5 for further interpretation of Jesus' first sign.)*
- Connecting Gospel and Doctrine • Jesus Gathers People Together (page 4)** Read aloud this summary of Sunday's Gospel message. Jesus models how we can gather people together. We are bound together in our families and in our friend groups.
- Discuss the Think questions on page 4.** *Answers: 1. Open-ended; you can also look at your parish website or social media pages. 2. Open-ended; your child could invite family members to do an activity together, or it could be more profound, like trying to help siblings mend a quarrel. 3. Open-ended; receiving the Eucharist could inspire you to be a better, more generous, or thankful person.*



- **Open** the *What the Church Believes and Teaches* handbook to page 26. Take turns reading aloud the paragraphs. Explain that Jesus' presence at the wedding feast at Cana shows that he values marriage as an institution. The Church names marriage (matrimony) a sacrament because it gives the couple the grace to live out their promises to each other every day.  
  
(Note: If you or your child have questions about divorced and remarried Catholics or about marriages between Catholics and non-Catholics, you may wish to talk to your parish faith formation director, pastor, or deacon.)

Once you have completed this section of the lesson, close the handbook and return to *VenTure* page 5.

- **Our Catholic Faith • Jesus Is the Best Wine (page 5)** Have your child read this feature aloud; if needed, help your child respond to the sacrament questions in the text. You can also help your child complete the questions at the bottom of the page. **Answers:** 1. *A while, long enough for the wine to run out* 2. *Six* 3. *20 to 30 gallons* 4. *About 2,400* 5. *The best* 6. *Priest's words: Take this, all of you, and drink from it, for this is the chalice of my Blood, the Blood of the new and eternal covenant, which will be poured out for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins.* 7. *The words of the Memorial Acclamation of the Mystery of Faith: Through his Death and Resurrection, Christ has set us free.*
- **Catholic Faith Word • Mystery (page 5)** Read aloud the definition. Invite your child to notice the response to "the mystery of faith" next time you are at Mass.

## Live the Gospel

- **Living the Gospel • Sacramental Life (pages 6–7)** This board game, loosely modeled after the game of *Life*, is a journey through our sacramental lives. It isn't necessary to play in groups of three; you can play the game with your child, or invite another family member to join, if possible. After playing, you might discuss together how our Christian lives are shaped by the sacraments.
- **Gospel Review • What Do Jesus' Signs Tell Us? (page 8)** Encourage your child to complete the puzzle using existing knowledge of the Gospels. **Answers:** 1. *You kept the best wine until now.* 2. *Go, your son will live.* 3. *Get up, pick up your mat, and walk.* 4. *I am the bread of life.* 5. *It is I; do not be afraid.* 6. *I am the light of the world.* 7. *I am the resurrection and the life.*
- **Closing Prayer** Remind your child that there are many types of prayer, including the prayers of thanksgiving you offered at the beginning of your learning session. There are also prayers of petition. Invite your child to offer prayers on behalf of people you know who may need God's loving care.



## 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.