

## Sunday Gospel Background

Sunday's Gospel shows how faith comes from listening. Jesus tells the crowds about his Father, then invites Simon Peter to put out his nets. Simon Peter reluctantly does so, pulls in an overwhelming catch, and becomes Jesus' follower. Jesus invites his new followers to help him gather more people into God's family.

## Share Experiences

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

- Pray together** Invite your child to repeat each line and movement of this prayer after you:

Thank you, Loving God,

For giving us hearts to love you and others. (*Place hand over heart.*)

For giving us eyes to see the beauty of your world. (*Make binocular shapes with fingers.*)

For giving us bodies that can move. (*Stretch way up and crouch way down.*)

For giving us ears to hear the stories about Jesus. (*Cup hands behind ears.*)

Thank you, God. Amen. (*Raise hands in prayer.*)

- Story • Max is invited. (page 2)** Have your child turn to page 2 of *Promise*. Read the story aloud, frame by frame. **Ask:** How did Max feel at his new school? How did he feel when Sam invited other children but not him? Why did Sam do that? Why was it important to Max that Sam called to invite him? How will Max feel at school now? Inviting and being invited are parts of everyday life. **Ask:** What are some everyday examples of being invited or inviting? *Sit together at lunch, sit down for dinner at home, etc.*

## Discover Gospel and Doctrine

- Sunday Gospel • Jesus invites people to follow him. (page 1)** Invite your child to turn to the cover picture and describe the scene. Read the Gospel story:

Jesus was teaching near a lake. People crowded around to hear his message. He got into a boat that belonged to a fisherman named Simon Peter. Jesus said to Simon Peter, "Row your boat out a little way."

Jesus sat in Simon Peter's boat and taught the people on the shore about God. When he finished teaching, he said to Simon Peter: "Row out to the deep water. You will catch fish there."

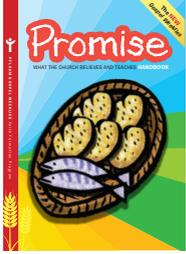
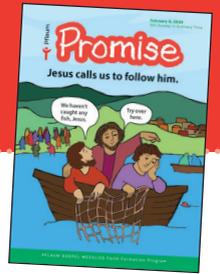
Simon Peter said: "Jesus, we fished all night and didn't catch anything. But we will try again if you say so." Simon Peter

caught so many fish that his nets began to tear. His friends in another boat rowed out to help him. They filled both boats with fish. Simon Peter said, "Jesus, you are too great for a sinner like me."

Jesus said to him and the other fishermen: "Do not be afraid. You caught all these fish because you listened to me. Follow me, and we will go fishing for people to join us."

Simon Peter and his friends left their fishing boats, followed Jesus, and helped him gather other followers.

Invite your child to retell the Gospel story to you.



- **Open** the *What the Church Believes and Teaches* handbook to page 31. Have your child find the word *Church* next to the picture of four happy people. Read the definition aloud as your child follows along by pointing to each word. **Ask:** Are you a member of the Church? How did you become a member of the Church? *Baptism*. **Ask:** How big is the Church? *It includes people from all over the world.* One name we use for the Church is “God’s family” or the “family of God.” As members of God’s family, we care about all the other members like our brothers and sisters.

Turn to page 33 and find the words *People of God*. Read the definition aloud as your child follows along. The Church, God’s family, the People of God includes all God’s children from around the world.

**Ask:** What do we call our smaller church family? *Parish*. Direct your child to find the word *parish* at the bottom of page 32. Read aloud the definition as your child follows along. **Ask:** What other things does our parish do? *Help the poor, teach about Jesus, help one another, play, etc.* What is the name of our parish? Invite your child to draw something he or she likes to do at your parish.

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

- **Word of the Week • service (page 2)** Print the word *service* for your child to read. Share this definition: *We offer service when we help one another.* Tie this word back to things people in the parish do to help others.

## Live the Gospel

- **Activity • The Big Catch Mobile (pages 3-4)** Have your child turn to page 4 and look at the big picture. **Ask:** What is happening? Show your child how to cut out the picture on the heavy lines, being careful to not cut off the two white tabs. Attach the picture by its tabs to a coat hanger, pencil, or paint stirrer (see page 3). Have your child print his or her name on one fish, cut apart the fish pictures, and put them in order so they read “Jesus Calls His Friends” on the back. Attach the fish to the bottom of the hanger with differing lengths of yarn or string. Don’t forget to read aloud the quote on the “scrap” piece.
- **Closing Prayer** “Jesus, Simon Peter trusted and followed you. We are your followers too. Help us to be good followers. Amen.”



## 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