

The Gospel at Home

This Sunday's Gospel: Mark 10:17-30

In Sunday's Gospel, Jesus compares the rich man to an overloaded camel—so weighed down with possessions that it cannot squeeze through a narrow city gate. The rich man sadly walks away when Jesus calls him to shed his possessions and give the money to the poor. The Gospel is a reminder about how easy it is for the things we have to rule our lives.

Exploring the Gospel Message

Seeds (Preschool): Young children don't like to give away what they have. Talk with your child about his or her favorite things. Ask your child what it means to share. Invite your child to explain to the family each situation on page 4 of their lesson. Together as a family, try to come up with other situations that call for respecting others.

Promise (Grades K-1): Your child learned the importance of sharing with others. For a child of this age, learning to share is a way of learning respect for others. Ask your child to show you the "sharing cards" her or she made in class. During the week ahead, look for opportunities to encourage your child to share with others.

Good News (Grades 2-3): Your child learned how important learning to share is. The class also learned the Ten Commandments. Talk together about ways that your family shares itself with others. It would also be fun to make a poster of the Ten Commandments (like the one on page 4 of this week's lesson). Talk about each commandment as you make your poster. Display the poster where everyone in your family can see it.

Venture (Grades 4-6): This week's lesson helped the class appreciate Jesus' teaching about sharing riches. Review Sunday's Gospel and talk about why the rich man found it difficult to follow Jesus. The class also discussed the Third Commandment. Talk about ways your family can keep Sunday holy. The family can also play together the game on pages 6 and 7 of the lesson. It is a good chance to have fun while talking about a very important teaching.

Visions (Grades 7-8): The first thing your youngster's class did this week was examine the ways they spend money. The class went on to discuss the basic rights of people and everyone's duties toward others. The class also recognized that material possessions are desirable, but do not bring happiness. Play the game on pages 6 and 7 and discuss basic needs of families. Have your child tell about Archbishop Oscar Romero, who will be canonized this week on October 14th.

Pray Together

Make a litany prayer of respect. Each person in the family can name a right or a need people have in order to thrive and be happy. After each right or need that is mentioned, the family can respond together: "Lord, help us respect the rights of others."