

JESUS

Aim

To help the child grow in their understanding of Jesus.

Resources

Leaders

- Break Open the Word
- Catholic Youth Bible
- Prayer cloth, cross, candle – set up a prayer space
- Electronic device – laptop/tablet for YouTube links

Child

- Activity Book (page 5-6)

Preparation for Catechist

Spend some time in prayer for the session and for the child.

Think of your own stories and be ready to share them. How have you developed your relationship with Jesus?

Background for Catechist

This session will look at the life of Jesus, what life was like at the time of Jesus and the beginning of Jesus' ministry. It will also look at other people in Jesus' life, including Jesus' mother Mary and his friends.



Follow up from last session

Check to see if there are any questions or reflections arising from the previous session or from the Activity Book.

What words did you collect from your family?



Exploring

What stories do you know about Jesus?

Where did you find out about Jesus?

What would Jesus' life been like?

What religious tradition did Jesus belong to?

Talk to the child about Jesus' upbringing in a Jewish family where he learnt the prayers of his tradition and listened to the scriptures in the synagogue.

During Jesus' public ministry, he spent 3 years healing, calling others, teaching, listening, and praying. He called others to follow him and to be his disciple.

Let us listen to a scripture passage about Jesus.



The Wedding at Cana

John 2:1-11

On the third day there was a wedding in Cana of Galilee, and the mother of Jesus was there. Jesus and his disciples had also been invited to the wedding. When the wine gave out, the mother of Jesus said to him, “They have no wine.”

And Jesus said to her, “Woman, what concern is that to you and to me? My hour has not yet come.” His mother said to the servants, “Do whatever he tells you.” Now standing there were six stone water jars for the Jewish rites of purification, each holding twenty or thirty gallons. Jesus said to them, “Fill the jars with water.” And they filled them up to the brim.

He said to them, “Now draw some out, and take it to the chief steward.” So they took it. When the steward tasted the water that had become wine, and did not know where it came from (though the servants who had drawn the water knew), the steward called the bridegroom and said to him, “Everyone serves the good wine first, and then the inferior wine after the guests have become drunk. But you have kept the good wine until now.” Jesus did this, the first of his signs, in Cana of Galilee, and revealed his glory; and his disciples believed in him.

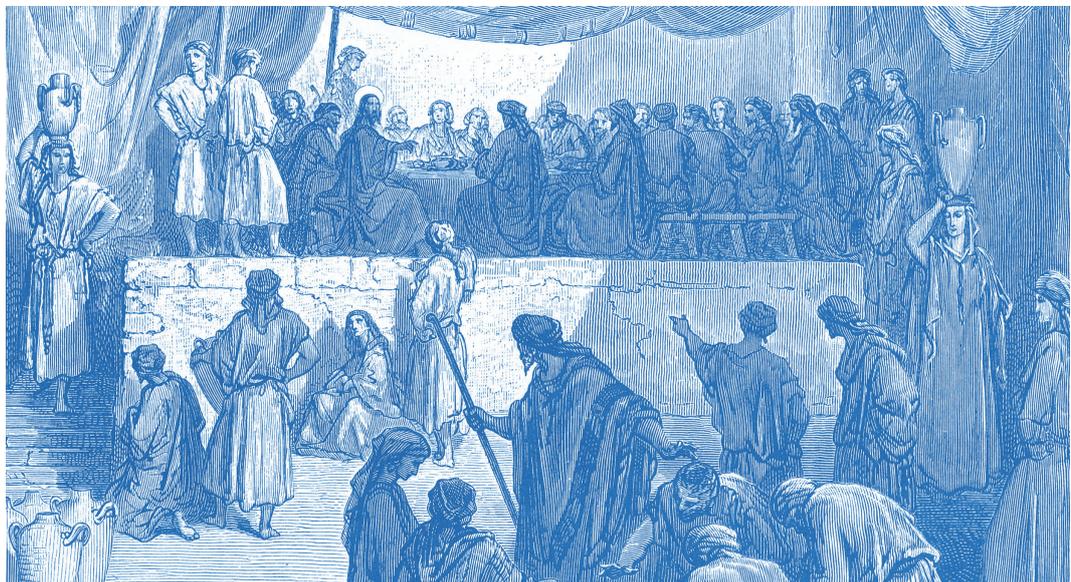
Or watch this passage on YouTube
Wedding at Cana

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=SeI2A5JWgSc>

Video **Link 2.1**



Following a couple of minutes of silence to reflect on the scripture, invite the child to share a word or two from the passage that was particularly meaningful for them.





Exploring

In this story, we see Jesus as the son of Mary.

Are there any words not understood?

What did you hear?

In this story, Jesus cared for his family and friends. It was the beginning of his ministry and he was hesitant to begin. Sometimes we need family and friends to encourage us to use our gifts.

We see Jesus listening to his mum in this passage.

Friends of Jesus

What makes a good friend?

Write these qualities in your Activity Book (page 5).

Do you know the name of any of Jesus' friends?

Here are some:



Matthew 10:2-3

Here are the names of the twelve apostles: first, Simon (also called Peter), then Andrew (Peter's brother), James (son of Zebedee), John (James's brother), Philip, Bartholomew, Thomas, Matthew (the tax collector), James (son of Alphaeus), Thaddaeus."

Other names of Jesus' friends include: Mary, Martha, Lazarus.

We are all friends of Jesus. Next time you talk about Jesus' friends remember to add your name to the list of his friends.

Do you know of any stories of the friends of Jesus?

Activity Book

How can we become friends of Jesus?



John 15:15

“I do not call you servants any longer, because the servant does not know what the master is doing; but I have called you friends, because I have made known to you everything that I have heard from my Father.”

“I have called you friends.” In the gospel reading [John 15:15](#), Jesus refers to us as his friends as he shares with us all he has heard from God.

Being friends with Jesus asks us to share with our friends the love that Jesus gives us. Love is the heart of friendship.

In your Activity Book (page 6), draw your hand and then inside the hand draw or write how you can be friends with Jesus.

For example, helping others and caring about others.

We could be Jesus’ friend by talking to him through the day, reading the Bible, and listening to his words. We could also reach out to others in friendship.



Scripture and Prayer

Scripture

Before reading the scripture, we light a candle to remind us that Jesus is the light of the world.

Listen closely to the following scripture passage.

 **John 13:34-35**

I give you a new commandment, that you love one another. Just as I have loved you, you also should love one another. By this everyone will know that you are my disciples, if you have love for one another.

Following a couple of minutes of silence to reflect on the scripture, invite the child to share a word or two from the passage that was particularly meaningful for them.

What did you hear in this scripture passage?

Prayer

 ***Loving God,
You love each of us.
Help us to love one another as you have loved us.
We ask this prayer through your Son Jesus.
Amen.***



Living it out in the everyday

Activity Book

Do something kind or helpful for a friend this week that will really help them.

Write this in your Activity Book (page 5) under *Living it out in the everyday*.