

# The Gospel at Home

## This Sunday's Gospel: John 1:35–42

In this Sunday's Gospel, John the Baptist points to Jesus as "the Lamb of God." The Gospel also tells of the call of the first disciples. The story echoes the call of each member of the Church—to share in the mission of Jesus, his joy, and his sufferings. The title "Lamb of God" links Jesus to the symbol of Israel's redemption—the Paschal Lamb.

## Exploring the Gospel Message

**Seeds (Preschool):** This week's lesson emphasizes listening to the sounds around us. Children also need adults who will listen to them. Ask your child what barnyard sounds were heard in the lesson's story about Mark. Discuss the different things we hear and listen to at Mass. Talk about how hard it can be to listen to others.

**Promise (Grades K–1):** This week, your child explored the experience of having friends among family, schoolmates, and neighbors. Your child learned how Jesus made friends and gathered followers. Ask your child to show the story cutout he or she made in class and tell how all of us are connected to one another and to Jesus.

**Good News (Grades 2–3):** This week, your child learned about the Liturgy of the Word at Mass. Ask your child to tell you about this part of the Mass. The family can also play together the "Jesus, Come and See!" game. Talk about ways your family can show that you are followers of Jesus.

**Venture (Grades 4–6):** The class learned about one of the Church's more recently canonized saints, Pope Saint John XXIII, and how he helped to renew and change the Church. Ask your child to tell you about Pope John. The class also discussed vocations and learned that everyone has a call from God. Some are called to serve in a special way. Talk about the vocations to the priesthood, sisterhood, and brotherhood and others who serve. Discuss that marriage is also a very special call from God.

**Visions (Grades 7–8):** This week's lesson focused on God's call—a person's vocation. The young people discussed the various ways people live out their Christian vocation. Ask your son or daughter to share with the family the story of Jesuit Father Rutilio Grande, whose defense of the poor led to his death. Talk about ways your family can be good and true disciples of Jesus and what it means to live a holy life. Talk, too, about helping one another discover what God's calling is for each of you.

## Pray Together

When you complete your conversation about the week's Gospel lesson, try to join in a morning prayer or an evening prayer together each day for a week. The prayer does not have to be formal or structured, and it certainly does not need to be long. Pray together in your own words, too, that God will call good leaders and ministers for the Church and that each member of your family will be open to listening to God's call and answering with a resounding yes!