

YEAR A

26th SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

TAKE MY HANDS

VISUAL AIDS

- > Pictures of families, especially children playing, helping, sleeping.

WELCOME AND PROCLAIM THE GOSPEL

Say/sing together:

Alleluia, alleluia!
To love God is to hear his word
and to do his will.
Alleluia!

A reading from the Good News
given to us by Matthew.
Glory to you, Lord.

Jesus told his friends this story:
"There once was a man who had two sons. One day the man said to one of his sons,
"My son, I want you to go and work in my vineyard today." The boy answered
"No, I won't!" And off he went. But

DISCUSSION

Who can answer Jesus' question?
The boy who said he wouldn't, but did?
Or the boy who said he would, but didn't?

Invite the children to retell the Gospel story, substituting present day examples of things that a parent might ask their children to do.

ACTIVITIES

- > Have the children act out the Gospel story, if possible with a present day equivalent as revealed in the discussion.
- > Give out blank pieces of paper, and ask the children to write or draw how they will respond in the coming week when asked to do something.

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SHARING

Encourage the children to discuss what they see illustrated in the pictures.

Invite them to give examples of things that they do like doing, and things that they do not like doing; to give examples of jobs that they are asked to do, and to say how they react when asked.

Today Jesus tells the story of two boys who were asked by their father to do something they didn't really want to do. At the end of the story Jesus asks a question: listen carefully and be ready to answer it.

later in the day, he thought better of it, and went along to the vineyard to do the work his father had asked.

Meantime the man called his second son and said

"My son, I want you to go and work in my vineyard today." The second son replied

"Certainly, Father." But he didn't go.'

Then Jesus said to his friends

'Which of these two sons did what his father wanted?'

This is the Gospel of the Lord.
Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

> Or they might draw someone (parent, teacher, etc.) who might ask them to do something, and how they will respond.

> Say the following prayer together, the children repeating it line by line:

**Lord Jesus,
your love for us is so great
that you did not refuse
to give up your whole life for us.
Help us to be generous,
so that we grow more like you each
day.
Amen.**