

# Your Relationship with Jesus

Why does your relationship with Jesus matter to the Church?

Read the Gospel passage that has been assigned to your group and answer, as a group, the questions that follow:

**The Feeding of the Five Thousand (Matthew 14:13–21)**

**The Raising of the Widow’s Son (Luke 7:11–17)**

**A Woman Caught in Adultery (John 8:1–11)**

Name one of the most influential people in your life and describe ways in which she or he has made a difference for you.

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Can you think of a time when an influential person you love and trust taught you an important life lesson? Describe this experience to the members of your group.

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Your Relationship with Jesus

Why do you think that Jesus' disciples and closest friends chose to record the event recounted in the Gospel passage your group read?

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Reflect on Jesus' response to the person (or persons) involved in the Gospel passage you just read. If you were the person (or persons) described in the Gospel story, how would you want Jesus to respond to you?

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Explain the life lesson from this Gospel story and why it is worth repeated telling.

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Reflect on the following paragraph and discuss it with your group:

Since the time of Jesus, his followers have attested that Jesus Christ is personally present in all of our relationships, even though those relationships are imperfect. As followers of Christ, we believe that we must share and celebrate these stories about our most meaningful human relationships, and that we must also gather in Jesus' name as Church (*ekklesia*) to share life more fully together. Our own stories of tribulation and triumph become one with Gospel accounts of Jesus' life, death, and Resurrection, particularly through the celebration of the Eucharist. Sharing stories and the sacred meal given to us by Jesus are at the heart of what it means to be called "Church."

