

Lesson 2.3: A Father Unconditional Love

Ages : 4-6yrs

Opening Prayer [click here](#)

Goals

- Teach children about God's unconditional love through the story of the Prodigal Son.
 - Help children understand forgiveness and grace.
 - Highlight the importance of family and returning to God when we make mistakes.
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Worship Time: [click here](#)

Song: *Jesus Loves Me*

Welcome Time

Icebreaker:

- Ask: "What are some ways your father shows you love?"
 - Allow children to share their answers, helping them relate to the idea of a loving father.
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Lesson

Opening Activities

1. **Role-Play Corner:**
 - Set up a small area with toy money, a pig pen made of stuffed animals, and props for a feast.
 - Let children explore these stations, hinting at parts of the story they'll hear.
 2. **Emotion Faces:**
 - Show pictures of faces representing happiness, sadness, anger, and forgiveness.
 - Ask children how they think the son or father felt at different moments in the story.
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Memory Verse:

"For this son of mine was dead and is alive again; he was lost and is found." - Luke 15:24

- Teach with hand motions:
 - "Dead" – Fold arms across chest.
 - "Alive" – Stretch arms upward.
 - "Lost" – Hold hand over eyes as if searching.
 - "Found" – Point to self with both thumbs.
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Bible Story

Read Aloud: Luke 15:11-32

- Use dramatic expressions and voices to bring the story to life.
- Show illustrations of key scenes or use a felt board with characters.

The Lost Son



Jesus told a story about a father and his two sons.

One day, the younger son asked his father for half of his things.

He wanted to leave his family and do whatever he wanted in a distant place.

This made his father sad, but he did what he wanted.

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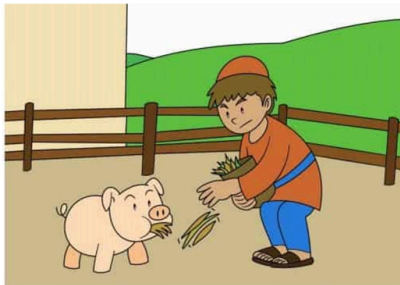
The son was so happy!

He did everything he wanted.

He bought new clothes, went to parties, and made new friends.

But soon, his money ran out, and his new friends forgot all about him.

2



The son found a job feeding pigs.

He was so hungry. He wanted to eat the pig's food.

He thought, "I have been so silly."

I am going to go back to my father and say sorry.

I will ask him if I can be his servant.

3



When his father saw him, he was delighted.

He ran to his son, threw his arms around him, and welcomed him back into the family.

He threw a party to celebrate his son was alive and home.

Jesus said, "There is great rejoicing in heaven when people return to God."

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Discussion Questions

1. What did the younger son ask his father for?
2. What happened when he left home?

3. Why was the father happy when his son came back?
 4. How did the older brother feel about the celebration?
 5. Who does the father in the story remind us of?
 6. What can this story teach us about forgiveness and love?
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Conclusion

- Emphasize that God always loves us, no matter what, and welcomes us back when we ask for forgiveness.
 - Remind children of the importance of loving their families and being kind to one another.
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Activity

1. **Piggy Pen Scavenger Hunt:**
 - Hide small "pigs" (toys or cutouts) around the room.
 - Have children search for them, symbolizing the son feeding pigs before returning home.
 2. **Forgiveness Collage:**
 - Provide magazines, scissors, and glue.
 - Ask children to create a collage of things that remind them of love and forgiveness.
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Craft

Welcome Home Sign:

- Provide construction paper, markers, and stickers.
 - Children create a "Welcome Home" sign to celebrate the father's joy in the story.
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Closing Prayer [click here](#)

Snack Time

- Pig-shaped cookies to represent the pigpen.
- Cupcakes with smiley face toppers to represent the father's joy.

Take-Home Activities

1. **Story Summary:**

- A printed handout summarizing the story and its lesson about God's love and forgiveness.

2. **Memory Verse Practice:**

- Include the verse with fun coloring borders.

3. **Family Activity:**

- Encourage children to tell the story of the Prodigal Son to their family and share one way they've experienced love and forgiveness.
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