



## Ev Preschool Kids: The Parable of the Lost Son (Luke 15:1-2, 11-32)

7 June 2020

### Kids Talk

Some church leaders were grumbling and complaining about Jesus.

That he was spending time with 'bad people'!

So Jesus told them this story.

(pause)

A man had two sons.

One day, the youngest son went to his Dad and said, "Dad I don't want to wait until you die to get your money. I want it now."

His Dad gave him half of the money. Not long after, the youngest son left home.

He went a long, long way from home. Away from his Dad and away from the farm.

When he got there he had a great time spending his Dad's money!

He went to parties. He bought great things! He had lots of friends.

What fun he had spending his Dad's money!

But one day, he ran out of money! All of a sudden he had no friends.

Everything changed.

There was no rain, so there was no food, and there were no jobs.

The only job he could get was on a pig farm. Feeding the pigs!

The pigs stank. The pigs were dirty.

But he needed a job. So he fed the pigs.

He was so, so hungry, he wished he could eat what the pigs were eating.

Finally he thought, "My Dad has lots of workers. They are never hungry. I will go and tell my Dad I am sorry. Maybe I can work for my Dad."

So off he went.

But his Dad saw him coming and he ran out to meet him.

The youngest son said, "I am sorry. I have been a bad son."

But his Dad said, "My son is home! Let's have a party!"

When the older brother heard the music and was told about the party he was upset!

He'd been working on the farm all these years. But his brother hadn't.

He'd been having a great time and had spent all the money!

He was not happy that his Dad was being kind and welcoming to his brother.

He was not happy at all!

But his Dad found him and said, "Your brother did do the wrong thing, but now he's come back home. It is something to be happy about!"

**Conclusion:**

Children, God is like the Father in Jesus' story.  
He is happy about every person who says sorry and comes back to him.  
God wants us to be happy too.  
God has been very kind to us in giving us Jesus, so don't be upset  
when God is kind to others.

### **Bible Time**

Encourage the children to retell the story using the following prop: pigs.  
Seat with children in a circle with the pigs to one side.  
As children tell the story, hand one pig to each child who contributes.  
Aim: for child to get as many pigs as they can (i.e. remember the story).

Use the following questions only if the children are finding it hard to retell the story:

- What did the youngest brother ask his Dad for? (all his money)
- You don't usually get money from your Dad till after he is dead. The youngest brother was being very rude to ask for it before his father had died. What did he do with all this money? (he spent it all on parties)
- When his money ran out he had to get a job feeding animals. Can you make the sound of the animals he had to feed? (pig sound)
- The young brother realised he had to go back and say sorry to his Dad. What did his father do when he saw his son? (he ran out to meet him, hugged him and welcomed him back with a party)
- How did the big brother feel? What was he grumbling about? (angry, the father had been kind to the younger brother who didn't deserve such kindness)

### **Conclusion:**

- Jesus told us this story to warn us.
- To warn us not to be like the big brother.
- God has been very kind to us in welcoming us back because of Jesus.
- We are not to grumble when God is kind to people we don't like.
- We are to be thankful every time God is kind and calls them back to himself.

### **Pray together in response**

Dear God, – thank you – for saving us – even though we don't deserve it. – Please help us – to always be glad – when people come back to you. – Even people – we find hard to like. – Amen

### **Memory Verse**

#### **John 3:36a**

Those who have the Son have life  
Those who have the Son have life  
John 3 (claps)  
36 (claps)

### **Song**

I belong to Him  
Follow, follow

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