

Th Parable of the Prodigal Son

"Jesus Loves You No Matter What!" August 30, 2020

READ:

Luke 15:11-32

CHOOSE FROM SOME OF ALL OF THE FOLLOWING ACTIVITIES:

PLAY A GAME

Designate a place in your home or yard as home base.

SAY: This (whatever you designate) is your home base. You are going to try to run away from home, just like the son in the Bible story did. Remember the son ended up on a farm with pigs? We are going to do animal actions to try to get away from home as fast as you can. When I call out an animal action, use that action to get away as far away as you can. Then, when I call — Come Back Home!- run as fast as you can to home base and we'll have a group hug.

Here are some suggestions for animal actions:

- Hop like a bunny
- Trot like a horse
- Waddle like a duck
- Run like a dog
- Flap like a chicken
- Slither like a snake
- Fly like a bird

Play as many rounds as your children are interested.

ASK:

- How did it feel to come back to home base and get a big hug?
- Share about a person you know who gives the best hugs.

ACT OUT A STORY

Assign out the parts and act out the story. Parents can join in too. Assign a narrator to read the story from the Bible as each part is acted out. Talk about how each person in the story felt.

Ask questions like:

- I wonder how the father felt when the son asked for his inheritance?
- I wonder how the father and the other son felt when the younger son left home?
- I wonder how the son felt as he was leaving home?
- I wonder how each son and the father felt when they were all back together?

MAKE PIG SLOP

Find different things in your pantry or refrigerator that you can mix together to make "pig slop"

Suggestions:

- Marshmallows, pretzels, chocolate chips, nuts
- Different kinds of fruits and nuts
- Popcorn and M&M's or other candy

Pretend to be the pigs and eat up! Don't forget to say grace first:

Thank you, God for loving us no matter what! In Jesus name, Amen.

SIDEWALK LOVE

Using sidewalk chalk, write "Jesus Loves You, No Matter What" on your sidewalk or driveway. Decorate it with hearts, rainbows, suns, flowers or anything else that helps convey that message. Talk about the story as you create.

BOOK SUGGESTION

"Who Counts" by Amy-Jill Levine. This book retells the parables of the prodigal son, lost sheep and lost coin for children. It conveys the message that none of us are whole until everyone counts.