

PARABLES

LESSON 3: THE PRODIGAL SON ☆

Lessons in this series: [1](#) [2](#) [3](#) [4](#) [5](#) [6](#) [7](#) [Overview](#)

This lesson will teach children the qualities of a loving father and that all of us can have this type of loving relationship with our Heavenly Father.

TOPICS

Family, Foolishness, Forgiveness, Love, Parables, Thankfulness

AS KIDS ARRIVE (10 MINUTES)

As the kids arrive give them a pencil and sheet of paper and have them draw a picture of themselves and their father, stepfather, grandfather, or uncle doing something fun together. If time permits have them explain their pictures.

The Parable of the Lost Son (Optional Coloring Page) [Click here](#)

WORSHIP TIME (5 MINUTES)

Further info? [Click here](#)

BIBLE VERSE (5 MINUTES)

"Train up a child in the way he should go, And when he is old he will not depart from it." Proverbs 22:6 NKJV

BIBLE STORY (15 MINUTES)

Gather the children around you in preparation for story time. After the introduction, read the story about the Prodigal Son right from the Bible. If possible, use a Children's Bible so it will be easier for the kids to understand.

Introduction:

Jesus' parable demonstrates the qualities of a loving father. The qualities of a loving father can apply to all men who have acted as a father figure in our lives: fathers, stepfathers, grandfathers, uncles, teachers, coaches and the list goes on. We can all have this type of loving relationship with our Heavenly Father.

Read Luke 15:11-24 (The Prodigal Son)

Discussion Questions:

1. What did the father do when his younger son asked for his share of the money? *(The father fairly divided his wealth between his sons.)*
2. Do you think the father was sad when his younger son left home? *(Yes.)*
3. Do you think it makes God sad when we choose to go our own way and not follow Him? *(Yes.)*
4. What did the son do with the wealth his father gave him? *(The son wasted the money and became poor.)*
5. Do we ever waste the things God gives us? *(Allow for answers.)*
6. What did the father do when he saw his younger son coming home? *(The father ran out to meet his son and welcomed him back with a hug and a kiss.)*
7. Was the father happy that his son returned? *(Yes, the father celebrated the return of his younger son.)*

FUN TIME (12 MINUTES)

My Gift for Dad (Craft) [Click here](#)

ALTERNATE FUN TIME (20 MINUTES)

Lost & Found (Activity) [Click here](#)

PRAYER/SNACK (10 MINUTES)

Further info? [Click here](#)

Thank God for being our loving father and for meeting all of our needs, including today's snack.

CLOSING ACTIVITY (5-10 MINUTES)

Oh Where Has He Gone? (Song) [Click here](#)

NEXT WEEK

Select another exciting lesson from Kids Sunday School Place.

TAKE HOME PAGE

Give one copy to each child at the end of the class to take home [PDF]. [Click here](#)

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MY GIFT FOR DAD ☆

Children make a special wheel to give to dad that shows how much they love him.

TOPICS:

Father's Day, Love

MATERIALS:

Gift Wheel craft sheet for each child [PDF] [Click here](#)

Gift Wheel craft sheet to color (optional) [PDF] [Click here](#)

Brass brad

Glue sticks

Construction paper

Stick-on magnets (optional)



DURATION:

Approximately 12 minutes

PREPARATION:

Before class, print enough copies of the craft sheet shown above so you will have one for each child. Follow the instructions to cut out the wheel and arrow. Cut circles, slightly larger than the wheel, from colorful construction paper.

WHAT YOU WILL DO:

Older children can do some of the construction during class. For younger children, do all the cutting and fasten the arrow to the wheel before class. The children can glue their wheel to the colorful round circle cut from construction paper. If using magnet, the children can then fasten the magnet to the back of their craft.

WHAT YOU WILL SAY:

God gave us many gifts, and one of the gifts He gave to us is our dad. Our dad loves us very much. The best way we can show we love him is to give something from our heart. This wheel will give your dad the opportunity to let you know what he wants most, and it is something you can give.

Share with the kids what is on the wheel. Let them know that they are to give the wheel to their dad to display somewhere, and when they see the arrow pointing to one of the activities, they are to do that activity for their dad.

See also My Gift for Mom: [Click here](#)

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Instructions:

Cut out wheel on solid lines. Cut out arrow.

Let an adult poke a hole in both the wheel and arrow. Use a brass brad to fasten arrow to wheel.

