

Lesson No. ( 28 )

## The Forgiving Father

### References

Luke 15:11-32,  
The Jesus Story by Mary and Herb Montgomery.

### Notes for Servants

- ★ The younger son, like many of us who are rebellious and immature, wanted to be free to live as he pleased.
- ★ Ask yourself, “Am I trying to live my life my way? Or I am submitting my life to Christ and letting him lead the way.”
- ★ It often takes great sorrow and sometimes tragedy for a person to wake up and say, ‘I have sinned.’ Do not let that happen to you.

### Objectives

**General:** God forgives us our sins.

**Specific:**

The children will be able to ...

- A. Learn about forgiving others and being forgiving by others.
- B. Understand that God forgives us if we forgive others.
- C. Get a brief idea about confession.

### Bible Verse

**“ Forgive us our trespasses. ”**

(Matthew 6:12)

### Teaching Aids

Felt figure and flannel board.

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### Instruction

- (1) Review last week's lesson.
- (2) Remind the children about the church occasions for the coming week.
- (3) Teacher should prepare the appropriate questions to emphasize the objectives during the lesson.

## Story Time

God loves us all the time. But, what if we do something that's not very nice? God still loves us. All He wants us to do is say we're sorry and try to be nice again. Jesus told a story about a father and son that helps us understand how God will forgive us.

Once there was a son who said to his father, "I want all the money that is supposed to be mine one day." The father divided the family money and gave the son his share. A few days later the son packed all his things. He left home and went to another place to live. There he spent his money in silly and foolish ways.

When the son ran out of money, he had no place to stay. He couldn't buy food to eat. A farmer gave the son a job taking care for pigs. The son was so hungry that he wanted to eat the pigs' food.

What could the son do? He thought and thought. At last he decided, "I will go home and say to my father, 'I'm not good enough to be your son. But please give me a job as one of your servants.'"

So, the son went home. When the father saw his son coming, he ran to him and threw his arms around him even though he was very dirty. The son said, "Father, I have been bad. I am no longer good enough to be your son."

The father didn't get angry. Instead, he told his servants to bring a gold ring and fine clothes for his son to wear. Then, he planned a big party to celebrate. He was a forgiving father and he was very happy to have his son come home again.

### Discussion

- 1 - Follow up the story by talking about it with the children.
- 2 - Continue the discussion while they do the activity.

### Learning Activities

Colouring Page.