



Unit 6, Lesson 24

## TODAY'S BIBLE STORY: THE LOST SON LUKE 15:11-32

### THE STORY HOME

In Luke 15:11-32, we hear Jesus' story about a runaway son who returns home. The father is so joyful to have his son safely home that he plans a fancy feast with friends and family. His older son, who never ran away and always obeyed the father, is jealous and stomps off to sulk. The devoted father goes to his sulking son and explains to him that he is equally loved. Like the father in the story, God regrets anyone's rebellion. His love lets people walk out of fellowship with Him. But God also welcomes those who run back to Him and He restores people who repent and are truly sorry, returning for His love and forgiveness.

#### PARENTS & KIDS QUESTIONS:

- I wonder how you would feel about someone who threw away your money.
- How do you think we should act when people are sorry for their wrong choices and actions?
- Pretend you were at the father's fancy feast. Tell about the foods and the people at the party.
- Why do you think the older son felt it unfair that his little brother got everything back?

### TOGETHER HOME

Role Reversal: A fun way to help children see things differently and appreciate parents is to have kids play the parents in an hour-long game. During the hour, the new "parents" tell their "children" what to wear, when to eat, what time to go to bed, give hugs, etc. In turn, the "children" act like typical kids and get distracted, ask questions, stall, and complain. At the end of the hour, talk about each other's duties and frustrations.

### BIBLE MEMORY HOME

In this last week for the month's memory verse, "If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just and will forgive us our sins and purify us from all unrighteousness," (1 John 1:9), talk about God's incredible love. Allow older children to help you cut out heart shapes and write the verse on the hearts. Younger children can repeat the Bible verse while you write it on the cut-out. Then tuck a heart into each child's lunchbox or lay the heart on his or her pillow. Away or at home, your children will be reminded of God's love for them.

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