

READ IT

This week's Bible story is

The Prodigal Son

from Luke 15:1-3, 11-32.



Lent 4

God loves everyone, always and no matter what!

Ask each other what you remember about:

- Father
- Older son
- Younger son
- Pigs
- Party

The story of the Prodigal Son is told in Chapter 15 of Luke. Every story in Chapter 15 is about lost things — a lost sheep, a lost coin, a lost son! In each of the stories, the “lost one” is searched for or waited for, even when that searching or waiting seemed like a waste of time. This is how God loves us — searching for us with longing and determination, loving us no matter what.

Read the whole story together in the Bible!

Spark Story Bible pages 378-383

Spark Bible pages 1153-1154

Family Prayer

Say this prayer with everyone wearing a party hat.

Thank you, God, for searching for us and waiting for us. Thank you for finding us and loving us always and no matter what! AMEN.

TALK ABOUT IT



Family Conversations

- 1 How do you know when somebody loves you? How do you show someone you love them?
- 2 How would you feel if you were the younger brother in this story? The older brother?
- 3 How is the father in this story like God?
- 4 Have fun retelling this story in the car. Have one person start “*Jesus told a story about a man who had two sons. The younger one said....*” Then have the next person continue the story. Add in descriptions of the story’s characters, the parties, and the pigsty. Ask questions of each other like “What do you think he looked like?” “What do you think they ate?” Make the story as imaginative as you can.



Eye Spark

Whenever you see a heart, remember that God loves everyone — always and no matter what!



Ear Spark

When you hear noises from a big joyful gathering of people (at church, the playground, a party, etc.), remember this story’s party for the son who was lost and then found.

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LIVE IT

For families to do together

Have a Lost and Found party! Play Hide and Seek, eat party food, and dance. Make party favors that say “God loves you always and no matter what!” and then use them to surprise someone.

For younger kids

Play a lost and found game! Take turns hiding something from the story, like a ring, a stuffed pig, or fancy party clothes. Then have everyone look for it. When you find it, put on some lively music and dance to celebrate!

For older kids

Put together a picture scavenger or treasure hunt. Take photos or draw pictures of things in your home or neighborhood. Invite friends and family go for a hunt to find what is in the photos or pictures. Each one can lead to another clue, or certain things can be found and put together to solve a puzzle. Have fun with it!

