

Hatch Patch Creations

Family Home Evening Made Easy

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The Prodigal Son Family Home Evening Packet



Contents:

Story, Picture Sheets,
Game, Scripture, Treat Recipe

\$7.00

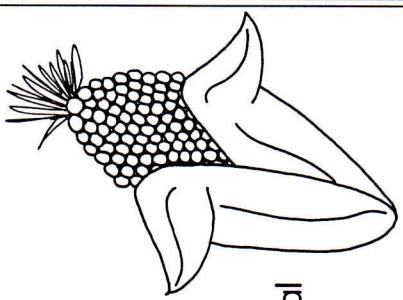
The Prodigal Son Family Home Evening Packet

Home Evening Outline

Opening Prayer
Opening Song
Scripture Story Game

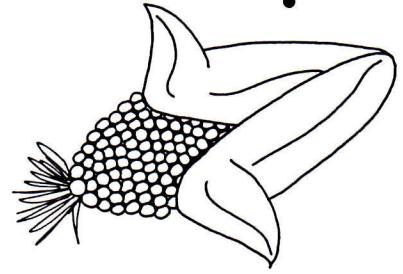
Closing Song
Closing Prayer
Refreshments

Marshmallow Popcorn Bars



Ingredients:

- 8 cups of popped popcorn
- 1 cup of puffed rice cereal
- 3 Tbsp. butter
- 1 (7oz.) jar of marshmallow creme



Directions:

In a large, greased bowl, combine popcorn and puffed rice cereal. In a medium saucepan, over low heat, melt butter. Remove from heat and stir in marshmallow creme until smooth. Pour over the popcorn and puffed rice mixture. Stir to coat evenly. Press mixture into a greased 9-inch square baking pan. Refrigerate for about four hours. Cut into bars and ENJOY!!!!!!

Suggested Songs: "Little Lambs So White and Fair", pg. 58 (Childrens)
"How Dear to God Are Little Children", pg. 180 (Childrens)
"Dear To The Heart Of The Shepherd", pg. 221 (Hymn)

Scriptures: Luke 15:4-5, Matthew 18:12-13, D&C 18:10

Story: Color graphics with markers, colored pencils, chalks, etc. Use flannel, or laminate and cut out and place magnets on back of graphics. etc.

The Prodigal Son Returns Game: Preparation - Color the game board as desired. Cut the "START" sheet on top of the "FINISH" sheet so that the hexagon game space matches up. Adhere the two sheets together on the back side. Laminate the game board. Color all twelve "Cobs of Corn" cards. Laminate and cut out the game scenario cards. Object - *Younger Child Version:* To be the first player to reach the "Finish."

Play - Each player will need a game piece. *Older Child Version:* Place all scenario game cards in a pile face down on the playing surface. Place all "Cobs of Corn" cards in a bowl or basket. Choose which player will begin. The player starts by drawing a scenario card from the pile and reading it aloud. The card will instruct a player on how many spaces they should move as well as direct them to draw a "Cob of Corn" card. Players may save their "Cobs of Corn" cards or they may play them on their turn. There are "Corn Cob" spaces on the game board. If a "Cob of Corn" card instructs a player to send an opponent back 2 "Corn Cob" spaces, he chooses which player he wishes to send back, and sends them back 2 "Corn Cob" spaces. If the opponent has a "SAFEGUARD" "Cob of Corn" card he may play it at this time and he will not have to be sent back. Players can only be sent back as far as the first "Corn Cob" space. Once the "Cob of Corn" cards have been played, they are placed back in the bowl or basket to be reused. The scenario cards are placed face down on the bottom of the draw pile. *Younger Child Version:* The younger version differs only that you still collect the "Cobs of Corn" cards, (but you do not follow the instructions on the back.) The children simply collect them throughout the game. The "Corn Cob" spaces on the game board just become regular spaces. The person to reach the "Finish" space with the most corn cards wins.

DO NOT COPY

The Prodigal Son

Luke 15:11-32

When Jesus Christ was upon the earth, He would use stories He called "parables" to teach the people. Jesus' parables were beautiful stories which taught the principals of the gospel. One of the most beautiful parables, found in the bible, is that of the Prodigal Son.

There was a certain man who had two sons. The younger brother asked his father to give him all of the riches that would be given to him as part of his inheritance. The father did as he was asked.

A short time later, the younger son gathered all of his inheritance and his belongings and traveled far, far away. He began to live very wickedly and soon wasted all of his wealth.

Before he knew it, he had spent everything. Then, there was a mighty famine in the land in which he lived. The word famine means that the land was without water so nothing could grow and the people were starving for food.

The younger brother could not buy any food and so he found a man whom he could work for. He worked in the fields, plucking corn to feed the pigs. This must have been very hard for him after living a life of ease and wealth.

No one would help him or give him food and so he would fill his belly with the husks from the corn that he fed to the pigs.

One day, he thought to himself, "How many hired servants of my father's have bread enough and to spare, and I perish with hunger!" (Verse 17)

He vowed that moment to go back home and ask his father if he could work as one of his servants. He knew that he had sinned against Heavenly Father and against his earthly father, but he wanted to go home.

He got up and went back to his father. As the younger brother came in sight of his father's home, his father saw him. The father was so glad to see his young son. His heart was full of love and he felt great compassion for him. The father ran with all his might to greet his son. Then, he hugged him and kissed him.

The younger son felt very badly for what he had done and he told his father that he knew he had sinned against heaven and his father. He even said that he felt he was no longer worthy to be called his son.

But the father called for his servants. He told them to bring the best robe they had for his youngest son. He instructed them to put the robe on him and to put a beautiful ring on his hand and shoes on his feet.

The servants were told to kill a fat calf so they could have a feast. The father wanted to celebrate the return of his precious son. He said, "For this my son was dead, and is alive again; he was lost, and is found." And everyone began to be merry. (Verse 24)

Everyone, that is, except the older brother. When the oldest brother came in from the fields, he could hear music and dancing. He called to one of the servants to see what was going on. When the servant told him his brother had returned and they were celebrating, the older brother was angry, and wouldn't even go into the house.

When the father found out that the older brother was outside, he went out to talk to him. He invited him to come in to the celebration.

The older brother was feeling very badly because he had spent many years serving his father. He never sinned and was very faithful to his father. He wanted to know why his father would kill a fatted calf and have a celebration for the younger brother who had been living a wild life. He wanted to know why, when he had been steady and righteous, that his father had never had such a feast for him.

The father replied with some of the most beautiful words found in the scriptures. He said, "Son, thou art ever with me, and all that I have is thine. It was meet that we should make merry, and be glad: for this thy brother was dead, and is alive again; and was lost, and is found." (Verses 31 & 32)

DISCUSSION

- How would you feel if you were the older brother in this story?
- Could you forgive your younger brother?
- How was the father feeling when the younger brother returned?
- What would Heavenly Father want us to do in this situation?

OLDER CHILDREN AND ADULT SUMMARY

It is very hard for any family who has a child go astray. That can mean many things. They could have a son or daughter who chooses to live a life of sin, or leave the Church or one who fights against everything the family stands for. It is great cause for heartache and worry.

Agency is a gift that is given to all of God's children. It is our decision as to how we use that agency. Sometimes our children use that agency in very damaging and sinful ways.

That is the time that we must really build our faith in our Father in Heaven and put all of our trust in Him. We must pray to Him, exercise our faith, and then sit back and wait.

Then, if that child chooses to come back into the family or the Church, we can do as the father of the Prodigal Son, and run to meet him, throwing our arms around him and welcoming him home.

The Prodigal Son is a great story of repentance and forgiveness. Sometimes it is hard for those members of a family who try every day to be good people to welcome back a brother or sister who has not been good. This is where our ability to forgive will be tested. Are we ready for that kind of test?

It is important to remember also, that the younger brother was sorry for what he had done. He wanted to repent. We can also repent and be sorry for those things we have done that are wrong.

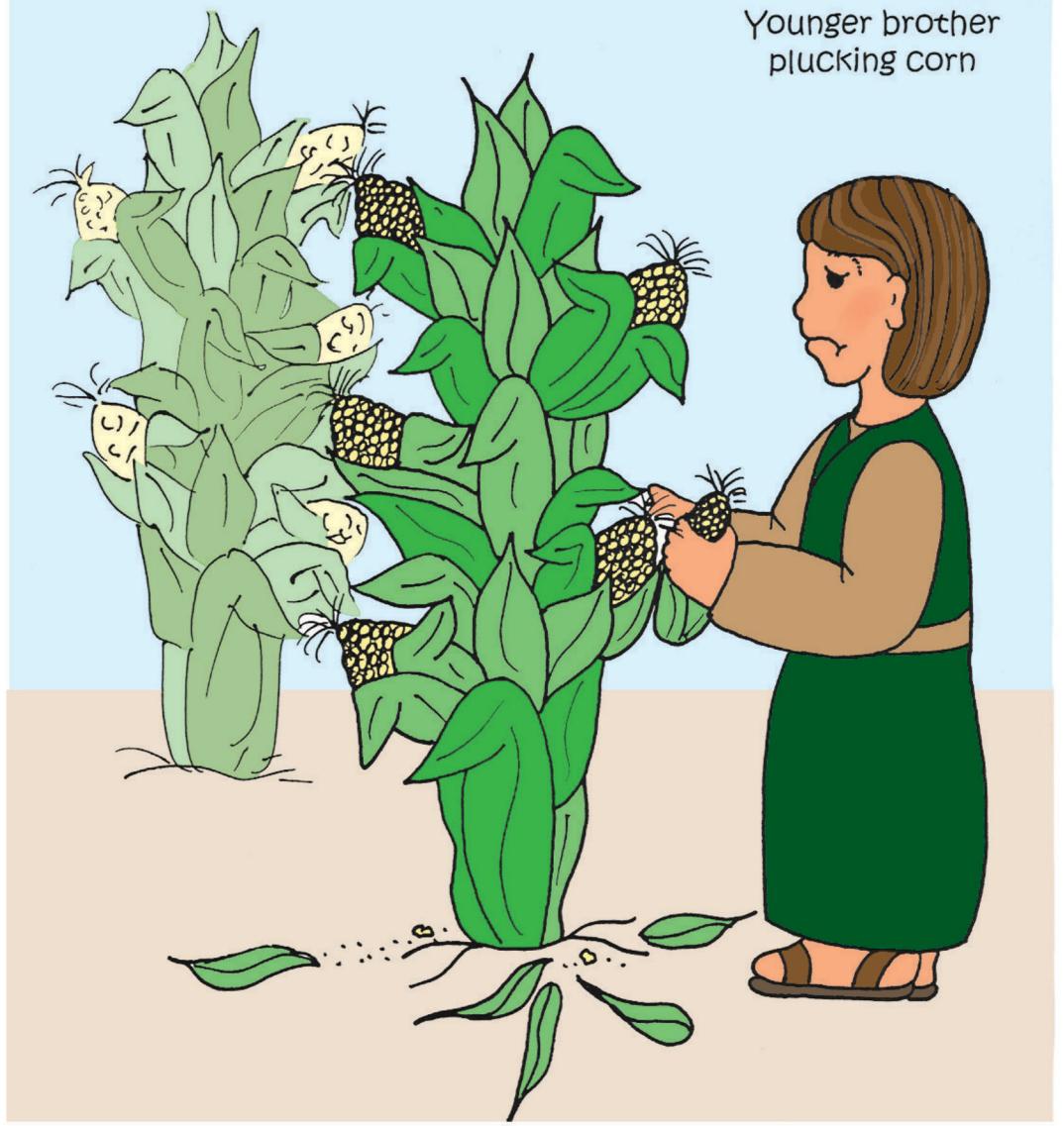
The Savior has told us that we should forgive everyone. That can be very hard at times, but we can do it with the help of our Heavenly Father.

It would be very painful to sit down together in the spirit world and have someone missing. The Lord will work miracles if we ask for them.

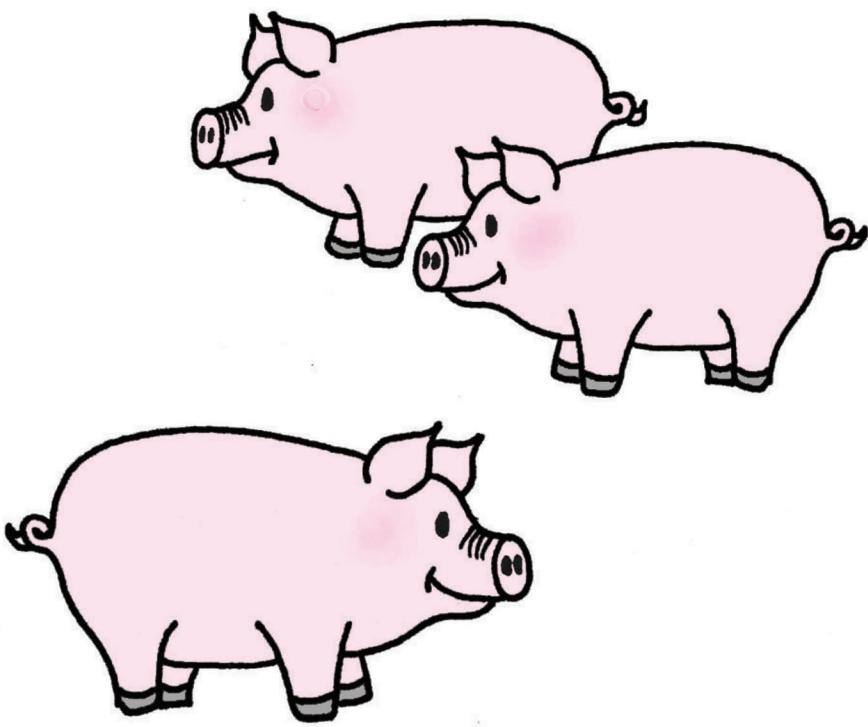
Writer's Note: The word "Prodigal Son" isn't mentioned anywhere in the story in the bible. It has come to be called that through the centuries. In Webster's Dictionary, it defines "prodigal" as: "Characterized by profuse or wasteful expenditure, Lavish, Recklessly spendthrift."



Younger brother

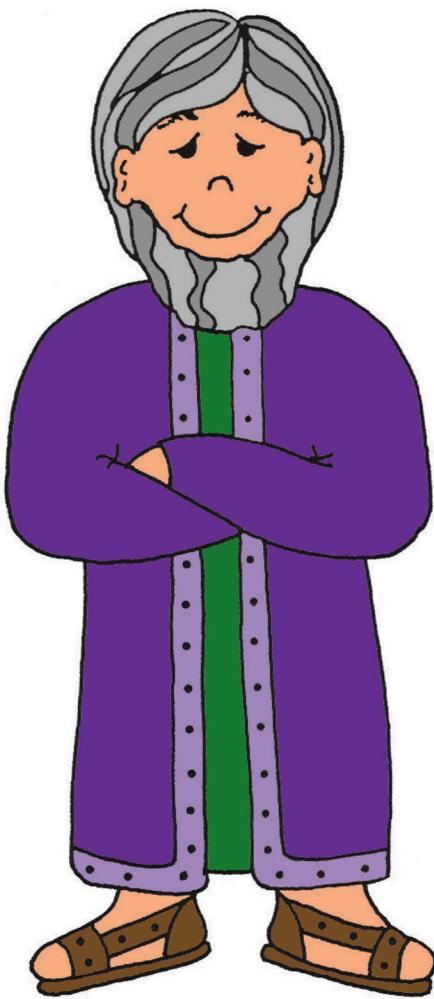


Younger brother
plucking corn

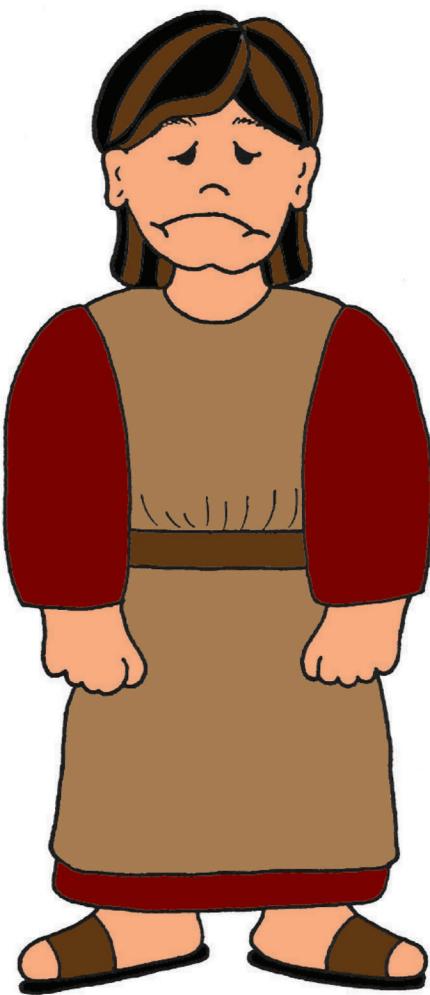




Older brother

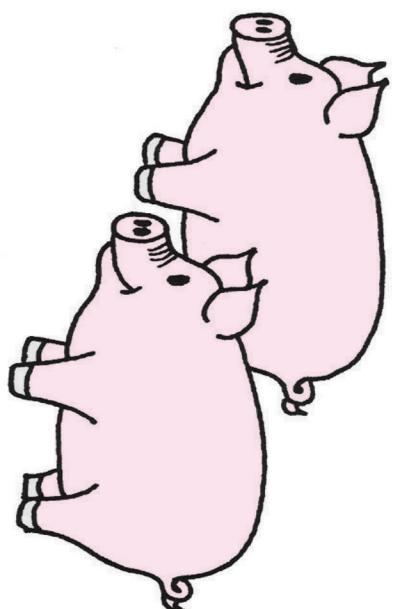
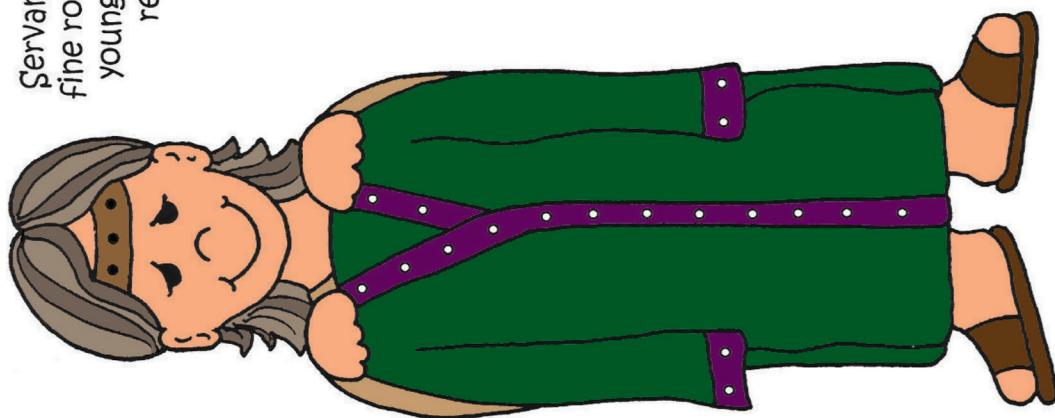


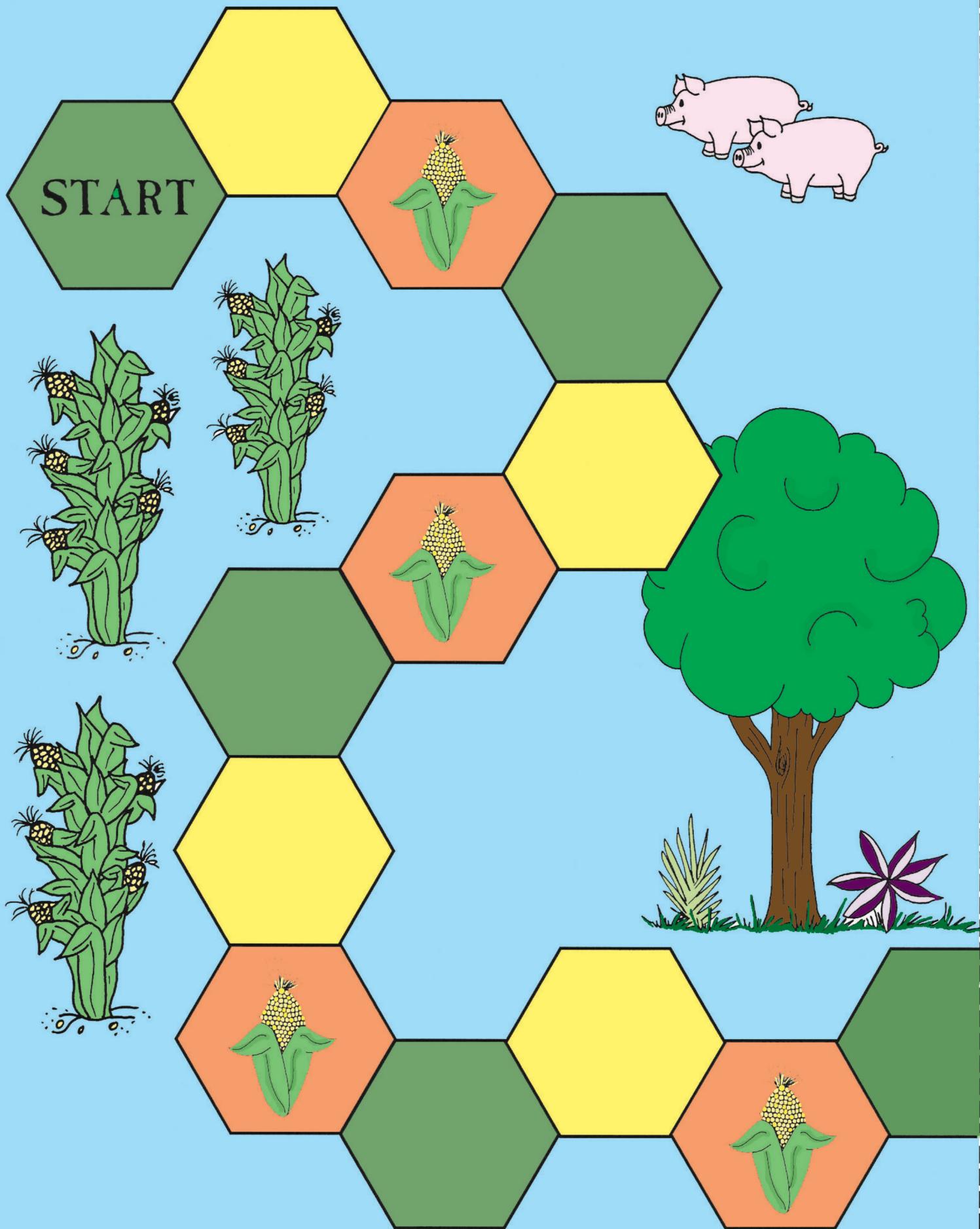
Father

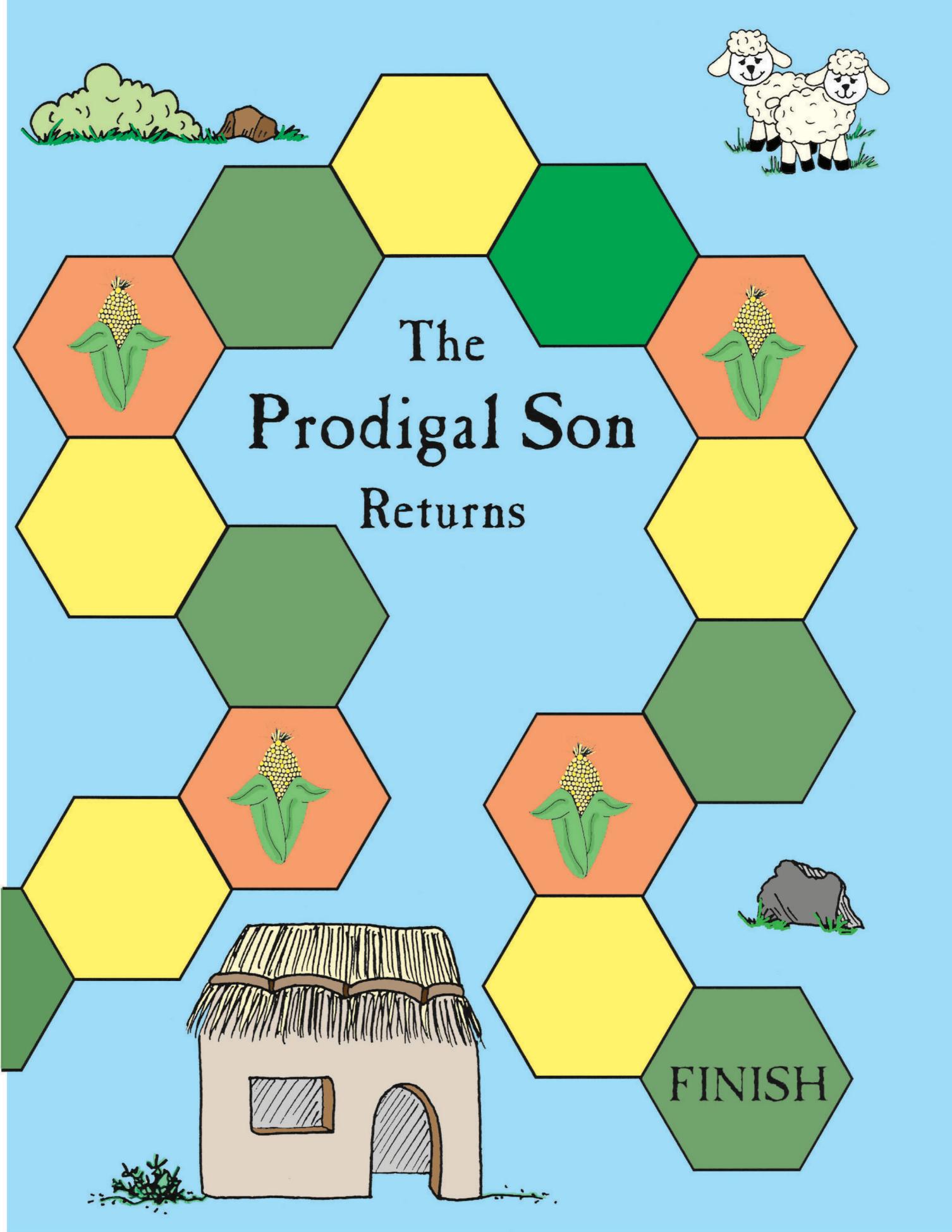


Older brother unhappy
at the return of his
younger brother

Servant holding
fine robe for the
youngest son's
return

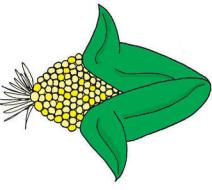
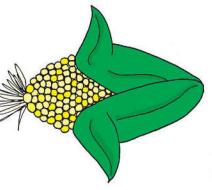
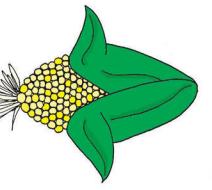
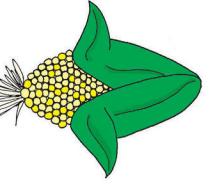
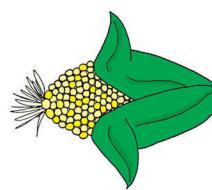
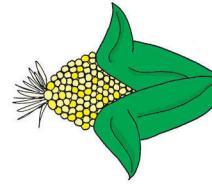
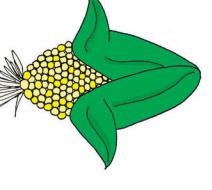
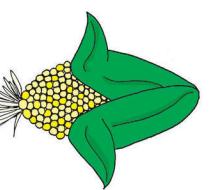
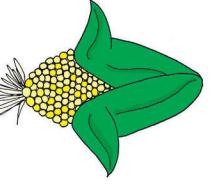
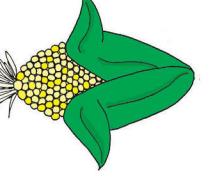
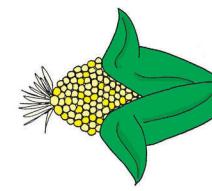
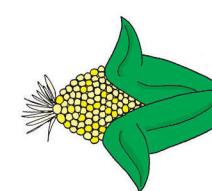






The Prodigal Son Returns

FINISH

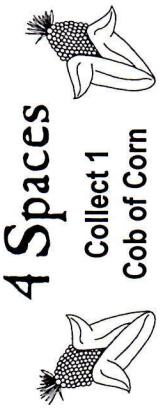
	Send an opponent back	3	corn spaces		Send an opponent back	3	corn spaces		Send an opponent back	2	corn spaces
	Send an opponent back	4	corn spaces		Send an opponent back	2	corn spaces		Send an opponent back	2	corn spaces
	Send an opponent back	3	corn spaces		Send an opponent back	2	corn spaces		Send an opponent back	2	corn spaces
	SAFE GUARD				SAFE GUARD				SAFE GUARD		

You saw that someone else was in need and you helped them.

You obeyed your mother and did as she asked you to.

You were not judgemental of someone who had sinned.

Go Ahead



Collect 1
Cob of Corn

Go Ahead
4 Spaces

You would not welcome back a wayward sibling with open arms.

Go Back 3 Spaces

You are aware that the worth of souls is great!



Collect 1
Cob of Corn

Go Ahead
3 Spaces

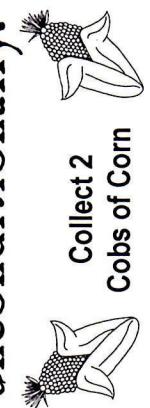
You are respectful of your parents.



Collect 1
Cob of Corn

Go Ahead
5 Spaces

Heavenly Father loves all of his children unconditionally.



Collect 2
Cobs of Corn

You did not help someone that you saw was in need.

Go Back
3 Spaces

You were happy when your parents forgave a wayward sibling.



Collect 1
Cob of Corn

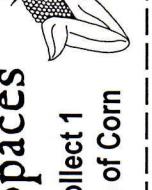
Go Ahead
2 Spaces

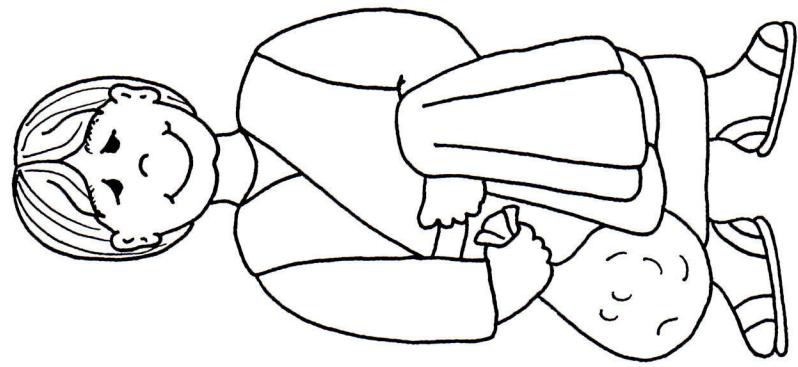
You forgave someone of a misdeed.



Collect 1
Cob of Corn

Go Ahead
2 Spaces

<p>You spent your inheritance on foolish things.</p> <p>Go Back</p> <p>3 Spaces</p>	<p>You sinned but later repented of your sins.</p> <p>Go Ahead</p> <p>5 Spaces</p>	<p>You forgave someone who sinned against you.</p> <p>Go Ahead</p> <p>4 Spaces</p> <p></p>	<p>You disobeyed your parents and went against their wishes.</p> <p>Go Back</p> <p>4 Spaces</p>
<p>Your brother sinned against your family and you would not forgive him.</p> <p>Go Back 2 Spaces</p>	<p>You were wise and did not waste your inheritance.</p> <p>Go Ahead</p> <p>3 Spaces</p> <p></p>	<p>You did not give up on a wayward family member.</p> <p>Go Ahead</p> <p>5 Spaces</p> <p></p>	<p>You obeyed your father and did as he asked you to.</p> <p>Go Ahead</p> <p>3 Spaces</p> <p></p>
<p>You did not repent of a sin.</p> <p>Go Back</p> <p>4 Spaces</p>	<p>You were disrespectful to your parents.</p> <p>Go Back</p> <p>3 Spaces</p> <p></p>	<p>You were unkind to a sibling.</p> <p>Go Back</p> <p>2 Spaces</p> <p></p>	<p>You shared your excess with another.</p> <p>Go Ahead</p> <p>2 Spaces</p> <p></p>



Luke 15:4-5

"What man of you, having an hundred sheep, if he lose one of them, doth not leave the wilderness, and nine in the wilderness, and go after that which is lost, until he find it?

And when he hath found it, he layeth it on his shoulders, rejoicing."

