



BIG IDEA

Jesus shows us God's love.

GOD STORY

The Prodigal Son (Luke 15:11–32)

KEY VERSE

...let's love each other, because love is from God... (1 John 4:7a, CEB)

MUSIC

"J-E-S-U-S" (*The Meeting House Kids*)

1 | Start

SUPPLIES

- Action strips
- Container
- Hidden Pictures activity page
- Marker

BEFORE THE ACTIVITY

- Cut out the action strips and place them in a container.

TIPS

- To review today's story, read Luke 15:11–32.
- The actions could also be done as a recall activity to review the Bible story.

INSTRUCTIONS

- Demonstrate how to find a picture shown in the legend on the activity page and circle it.
- Guide the children to find the rest of the pictures. Help them if needed.
- When all the pictures are found, introduce today's Bible story about the prodigal son. Explain that parts of the story are described on the papers in the container.
- Guide the children to take turns pulling out a paper, then lead everyone to act out what's on each one. Have fun with it!

2 | Watch

SUPPLIES

- Media player

INSTRUCTIONS

- Watch this week's video from the Now Playing Early Years playlist on the One Story YouTube channel.

3 | Pray

SUPPLIES

- Notebooks
- Colouring and writing supplies (e.g., crayons, markers, pens, etc.)

INSTRUCTIONS

- Encourage each child to use a notebook as a prayer journal. Prompt them to draw or write all kinds of prayers to God.
- Remind them that when we record our prayers in a journal, we can go back and read them to see how God is working in our lives!
- Review prayers from the previous weeks and reflect on how God has answered them.



4 | Craft

SUPPLIES

- Father cutouts
- Son cutouts
- Craft sticks
- Colouring supplies
- Tape

INSTRUCTIONS

- a. Give each child a father cutout, a son cutout, and two craft sticks.
- b. Place the colouring supplies where everyone can share them.
- c. Guide the children to colour on their cutouts.
- d. Help them tape their finished cutouts onto their craft sticks to make puppets.
- e. Demonstrate how to hold the father and son together so they "hug" each other.
- f. Encourage the children to use their puppets to tell the part of the story when the son asks his father for forgiveness and they hug!

5 | Key Verse

SUPPLIES

- Key Verse sign
- Wall-safe tape
- Key Verse words printed on cards
- String

TIP

- Re-use the supplies from Weeks 1 and 3.

BEFORE THE ACTIVITY

- Place the sign where everyone can see it.
- Mix up the Key Verse words.

INSTRUCTIONS

- a. Review the Key Verse for this series. Point out the words on the sign as you read 1 John 4:7.
- b. Work together to arrange the words on the cards in the correct order.
- c. String the verse together.
- d. Take the cards off the string and do it again.
- e. Repeat saying the verse out loud together.
- f. When you're done, display it somewhere that your family will see it as a reminder.