

Pre-Lesson Downloads

#29 The Prodigal Son

Find recorded lessons at – montevista.org/vistastream

Also find our online worship services at the same site.

Dear Families: The teaching stories of Jesus were full of deeper meaning than just on the surface. There is always something more we can learn from the lesson. The prodigal son teaches us that we will always be loved no matter how far we stray from what is right and that we will always be welcomed home again by the Father. But often we must still pay consequences. He used up his entire inheritance. We also can learn that true friends are not those who only take from us. We also need to see the underlying point that feeding pigs was absolutely one of the lowest points a Jewish person could be driven to go to survive. We need to learn a lesson from the son that stayed faithful to his father. Put simply, don't whine. He didn't have to learn about people using him and taking all he had. He didn't have to see how low he could go; and he did not squander all his money and property on frivolity.

Biblical Text: Luke 15:11-32

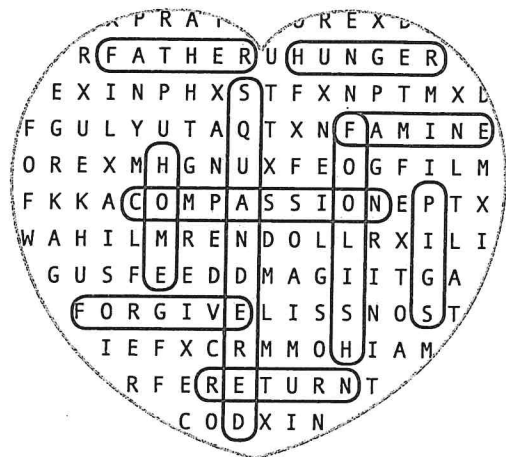
Then Jesus said, "There was a man who had two sons. The younger of them said to his father, 'Father, give me the share of the property that will belong to me.' So he divided his property between them. A few days later the younger son gathered all he had and traveled to a distant country, and there he squandered his property in dissolute living. When he had spent everything, a severe famine took place throughout that country, and he began to be in need. So he went and hired himself out to one of the citizens of that country, who sent him to his fields to feed the pigs. He would gladly have filled himself with the pods that the pigs were eating, and no one gave him anything. But when he came to himself he said, 'How many of my father's hired hands have bread enough and to spare, but here I am dying of hunger! I will get up and go to my father, and I will say to him, "Father, I have sinned against heaven and before you; I am no longer worthy to be called your son; treat me like one of your hired hands." So he set off and went to his father. But while he was still far off, his father saw him and was filled with compassion; he ran and put his arms around him and kissed him. The son said to him, 'Father, I have sinned against heaven and before you; I am no longer worthy to be called your son.' But the father said to his slaves, 'Quickly, bring out a robe—the best one—and put it on him; put a ring on his finger and sandals on his feet. And get the fatted calf and kill it, and let us eat and celebrate; for this son of mine was dead and is alive again; he was lost and is found!' And they began to celebrate.

"Now his elder son was in the field; and when he came and approached the house, he heard music and dancing. He called one of the slaves and asked what was going on. He replied, 'Your brother has come, and your father has killed the fatted calf, because he has got him back safe and sound.' The he became angry and refused to go in. His father came out and began to plead with him. But he answered his father, 'Listen! For all these years I have been working like a slave for you, and I have never disobeyed your command; yet you have never given me even a young goat so that I might celebrate with my friends. But when this son of yours came back, who has devoured your property with prostitutes, you killed the fatted calf for him!' Then the father said to him, 'Son, you are always with me, and all that is mine is yours. But we had to celebrate and rejoice, because this brother of yours was dead and has come to life; he was lost and has been found.'"

Bible Verse: Choose a verse from your Lenten Bible verses. There are a few good ones: Psalm 136:1 – Give thanks to the Lord, for He is good. His love endures forever. Or, Romans 10:13 – Everyone who calls on the name of the Lord will be saved. There are a couple of other good ones too. Write the one you choose on a page in your homemade Bible and draw a picture about the verse. Or, decorate it with stickers or a picture you cut out of a magazine.

Materials: *3 pages to color *3 puzzle pages *1 Word Tiles page *1 Maze page

Answers to Puzzles:



The Prodigal Son Coded Words

F A T H E R
6 1 20 8 5 18

F O O L I S H
6 15 15 12 9 19 8

S O N
19 15 14

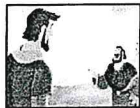
T R A V E L
20 18 1 22 5 12

R E T U R N
18 5 20 21 18 14

C O M P A S S I O N
3 15 13 16 1 19 19 9 15 14

Jesus teaches us

T O F O R G I V E
20 15 6 15 18 7 9 22 5



The Prodigal Son Word Scramble

Unscramble each of the clue words. Take the letters that appear in the circle boxes and unscramble them to find the answer to the last phrase.

GRENUH H U N G E R

RVATLE T R A V E L

AFTEHR F A T H E R

EHOM H O M E

HOOLISF F O O L I S H


Jesus teaches us

T O F O R G I V E



www.benscoloringpages.com

Forgiveness Coloring Page



Jesus
teaches
me to
f♥rgive.

Be kind,
and forgive one
another.

The Parable of the Prodigal Son

Connect the dots.

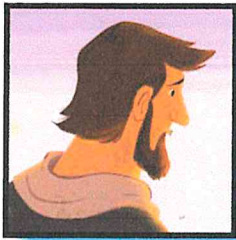


Our Father forgives us.

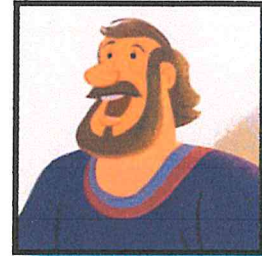
Like the father in the story of the prodigal son,
God rejoices when we return to Him.

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The prodigal Son Word Tiles



Cut the tiles along the dotted lines, shuffle the tiles, and have the student reassemble them to make the phrase.



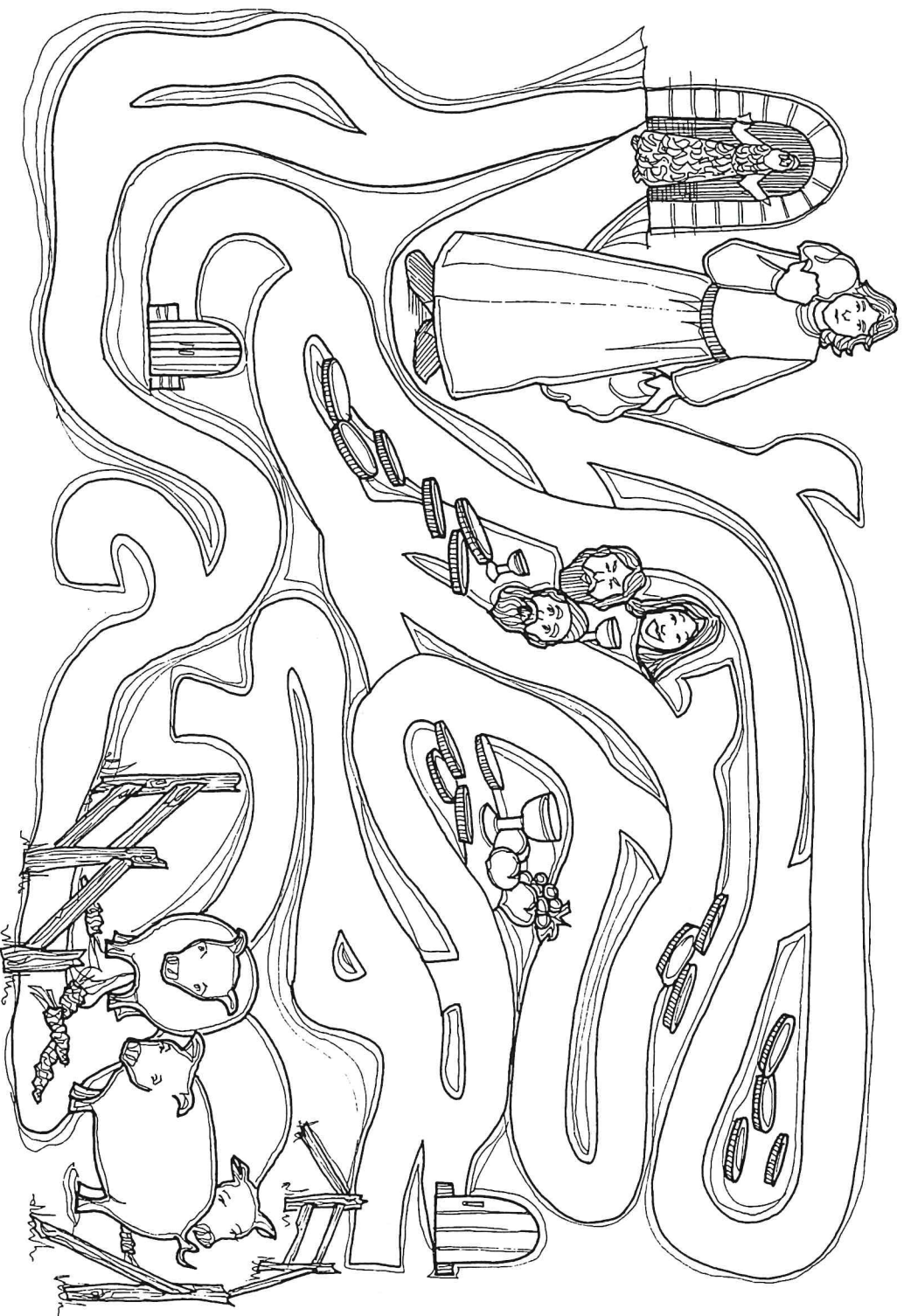
THE FATH

ER FOR

GAVE HIS

S ON

When he left home and had money, he had lots of friends and fun. Soon his money and friends were gone. He was lonely, poor and hungry. He got a job feeding pigs.



Follow the young man as he leaves home. Work him through the maze and get him home again.

The Lost Son Word Search

Find the words on the list that are hidden in the puzzle. The words can be right to left, up and down, or diagonally.

X P R A I J R E X D
R F A T H E R U H U N G E R
E X I N P H X S T F X N P T M X D
F G U L Y U T A Q T X N F A M I N E
O R E X M H G N U X F E O G F I L M
F K K A C O M P A S S I O N E P T X
W A H I L M R E N D O L L R X I L I
G U S F E E D D M A G I I T G A
F O R G I V E L I S S N O S T
I E F X C R M M O H I A M
R F E R E T U R N T
C O D X I N

COMPASSION

FAMINE

FATHER

FOOLISH

FORGIVE

HOME

HUNGER

PIGS

RETURN

SQUANDERED

The Prodigal Son

Coded Words

Each number stands for a letter of the alphabet. Write the correct letter in the blank to find the coded words and phrase.

Code key

A 1	J 10	S 19
B 2	K 11	T 20
C 3	L 12	U 21
D 4	M 13	V 22
E 5	N 14	W 23
F 6	O 15	X 24
G 7	P 16	Y 25
H 8	Q 17	Z 26
I 9	R 18	

6 1 20 8 5 18

6 15 15 12 9 19 8

19 15 14

20 18 1 22 5 12

18 5 20 21 18 14

3 15 13 16 1 19 19 9 15 14

Jesus teaches us

20 15 6 15 18 7 9 22 5



The Prodigal Son Word Scramble

Unscramble each of the clue words. Take the letters that appear in the circle boxes and unscramble them to find the answer to the last phrase.

GRENUH

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RVATLE

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AFTEHR

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EHOM

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HOOLISF

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Jesus teaches us

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