

March 22- Preschool

Jesus Told About a Loving Father

Life Point

Jesus taught that God always loves.

BIBLE PASSAGE

Luke 15:11-32

Weekly verse

We know God loves us.
1 John 4:16

Unit VERSE

God sent Jesus to teach the good news. *Luke 4:18*

Jesus Told About a Loving Father

—Based on Luke 15:11-32

Jesus was teaching people about God's love. He told a story about a father and his two sons.

"The younger son told his father he wanted his part of the family money and property. The father gave the son what he asked for. The son took all that was his and moved far away. He began to do many wrong things. He spent all his money. He did not have any food to eat, so he went to work taking care of pigs. The son remembered that his father's workers had food to eat. He decided to go home and work for his father.

"While the son was still far away, the father saw him. The father ran to him and hugged and kissed him. The son said that he had done many wrong things. He said, 'I should no longer be your son.'

"The father did not listen. He called to his helpers to bring the best robe and sandals for his son. He told the helpers to cook a big dinner. The father wanted to celebrate because his son had come home."

Jesus wanted the people to know that God is a loving Father like the father in the story.

-Say the Life Point. Remind your child that the father in the Bible story forgave the son and welcomed him home. Mention that Jesus taught people what God is like. Jesus taught that God always loves just like the father in the Bible story. Say the Life Point together: "Jesus taught that God always loves."

-Say the Bible Verse and pray.

-Remind your child that we can learn that God always loves.

SING TOGETHER

Sing to the tune of "London Bridge":

We know God always loves us.

God loves us; God loves us.

We know God always loves us.

Yes, He loves us.

BIBLE-LEARNING ACTIVITIES

***Cook Dinner**

Things you need: Crayons, toy food and dishes, basket

Invite your child to pretend to cook and eat dinner.

Remark that Jesus told a story about a boy who made wrong choices. He did not have enough food to eat.

Explain that when the boy went home, his father forgave him and had a big dinner for him.

Remind your child: Jesus taught that God always loves.

***Build a Fence**

Things you need: Bible, log blocks, wooden blocks, craft sticks, plastic animals

Suggest your child use materials to build fences for the animals.

As they play, mention that people help take care of animals by feeding them.

Remind them that Jesus told a story about a son. He had to take care of pigs because he did not have enough food to eat. Talk more about the Bible story.

State that Jesus wanted to teach the people that God always loves.

Open the Bible and read the verse.

***Make Coin Prints**

Things you need: Assortment of coins (real or play), playdough, rolling pins

Direct your child to use the rolling pins to flatten the play dough.

Suggest they press coins into the play dough to make prints.

Talk about the Bible story. Say that Jesus told a story about a son who made wrong choices and spent all his money. His father still loved him just like God still loves us.

***Decorate a Banner**

Things you need: Long piece of paper, washable markers, crayons, Stamps and pads if possible, tape

Place the paper on the floor. Write WELCOME on the banner.

Guide your child to use the washable markers and crayons to draw pictures and make designs around the word.

Help them press the stamps in the ink pads and on the paper.

Remind your child that Jesus taught that God always loves. Explain that the father always loved his son and welcomed him home even when he made wrong choices.

Consider hanging the banner in your house as a reminder of God's love.

***Review the story and sing**

Things you need: Coloring pages

Guide the children to color the coloring page.

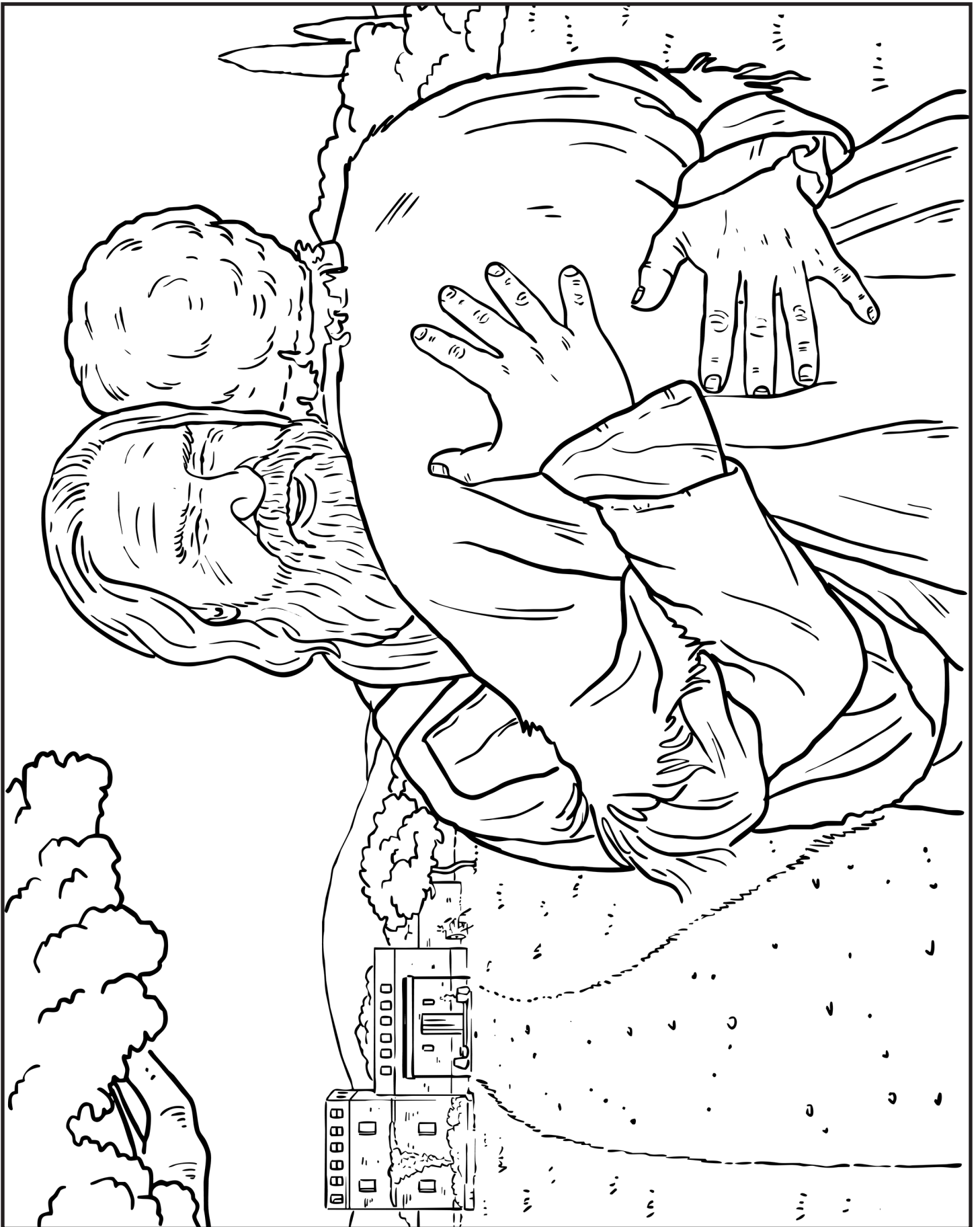
Explain that Jesus told the story about the father and son to teach the people that God always loves.

Say today's verse. We know God loves us. 1 John 4:16 Encourage your child to say the verse with you.

***Feed the pigs.**

Things you need: small balls (ping pong balls), small baskets/buckets

Place several cups on the ground. Guide your child to toss small plastic balls into the cups. Suggest they pretend they are feeding pigs. Comment that the son had to take a job feeding pigs when he spent all his money. Say that the son decided to go home and work for his father instead. His father was glad when he decided to come home. Add that Jesus taught that God always loves. Open a Bible to Luke 4:18 and read the Unit Verse. "God sent Jesus to teach the good news." Luke 4:18. Say that Jesus taught good news about God and God's love. Jesus wanted everyone to learn about God.



Jesus Told About a Loving Father

We know God loves us. 1 John 4:16

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JESUS TOLD ABOUT A LOVING FATHER

LUKE 15:11-32 • TEACHING PICTURE 4

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