

PRESCHOOL ACTIVITY GUIDE

TODAY'S STORY: The Prodigal Son

TEACHING TRUTH: God wants to forgive us

ACTIVITY 1: TEACHING TRUTH REVIEW – God wants to forgive us

SUPPLIES: Backpack, rocks

1. Gather everyone together. Have a backpack and a pile of rocks.
2. Let each person say things that people do or say that is a sin. Remind them that sin is anything we think, say, or do that is not pleasing to God.
3. For each sin, put a rock in the backpack. Fill up the backpack so that it is heavy, but still light enough for a 4-year-old to pick up.
4. Let each person try to pick it up. Ask them how they would feel if they had to carry this around all the time.
5. Remind them that **God wants to forgive us**. When we ask God for forgiveness, He takes our sin away and we do not have to carry it anymore. Then take all of the rocks out of the backpack.

ACTIVITY 2: STORY REVIEW – Lost but found

SUPPLIES: Three dolls or action figures, coin, toy pig, ring or robe, party horn or balloon

1. Place your set of items in front of you.
2. Hold up each item and help the kids figure out how it relates to the story. (See examples below.)
3. After you have reviewed the story you can play a memory game. Have the kids close their eyes and put one of the items behind your back. Have the kids open their eyes and guess which item is missing.
 - Dolls or action figures** – These represent the father and two sons.
 - Coin** – The son asked the father for money.
 - Pig** – When the son ran out of money, he had to take care of pigs.
 - Ring or robe** – When the son came home, the father put a ring on his finger and gave him a robe.
 - Party horn or balloon** – They threw a big party for the son that came home.

ACTIVITY 3: MEMORY VERSE REVIEW – John 14:6 – Musical Freeze

SUPPLIES: Memory verse song (on the Preschool Kids Kit page)

1. Explain that everyone is going to sing along with the song and move with the music however you tell them to move. (Examples: Slow-motion, crawling, wiggling, hopping, dancing, etc.)
2. Tell them that when you pause the song everyone needs to freeze and finish singing/saying the memory verse wherever the song left off.
3. After they finish the rest of the verse, give them a different movement and start playing the song wherever you left off.
4. Stop the song at various places and repeat the activity as many times as you want.