



Make it count!
Make it fun!

Parable of the Prodigal Son Life In the Fullest

by Len

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LESSON OBJECTIVE

Topics:

Parables, Foolishness, Heaven, Idols, Joy, Love, Mercy, Repentance

With this lesson the children should have a good idea on what matters in life. The choice between material possessions or relationship will determine how they would want to live their life, and hopefully make them realize that a life full of materialism can not fulfill an empty heart.

AS KIDS ARRIVE (10 minutes)

Things That Make Me Happy (Activity) [Click Here](#)

Hand out a copy of the worksheet to each child. Once completed, ask what item on their list would give them permanent joy. At the end of this lesson about the prodigal son's decision to rely on his acquired wealth, ask the kids if they would still choose the same item for permanent joy.

OPENING PRAYER AND PRAISES (5 minutes) Further info? [Click Here](#)

MEMORY WORK (12 minutes)

"We all, like sheep, have gone astray, each of us has turned to his own way; and the Lord has laid on him the iniquity of us all." Isaiah 53:6 NIV

Have the kids find the verse in their own Bible and read it several times. Then use hand symbols to act out the verse. For example: We all (point to the children), like sheep (wiggle fingers over other hand like moving legs), have gone astray (hand over brow looking around), each of us has turned to his own way (turn around), and the lord (hand the shape of an "L"), has laid on him (hands on top of shoulders), the iniquity (wag finger and shake head no), of us all (point again to the kids and yourself). After several tries, have the kids say the verse themselves without looking as you go through the symbols.

SCRIPTURE READING AND DISCUSSION (15 minutes)

Introduction:

Before reading the parable about the Prodigal Son, ask the class what does "inheritance" mean? You may also want to look up the definition in a dictionary.

A few moments ago you made a list of things that make you happy. Today, we are going to read about a young man who may have made a very similar list, right before he got a very large inheritance. He could buy whatever on his list he wanted. But before long he found out that his list was all wrong. Let's read and see what happened.

Luke 15: 11-32 (The Prodigal Son)

Read this passage to the kids with feeling, using slightly different voices for the father, younger son, servant and older son, or assign these parts to the children as you narrate the parable.

Discussion Questions:

1. Why do the younger son want his portion of his inheritance although his father was still alive?
(He didn't want his father to have control of all the wealth in the family)
2. Although the younger son was already living a rich life at home, why did he leave?
(He wanted to enjoy freedom and enjoy his riches his own way)

3. Why was it mention that the son was young?
(To show he was immature and unable to make right decisions)
4. Why was the father so worried about the younger son?
(He loved him so much and know he was not capable to take care of himself)
5. After the son spent all his money and came to his senses, where did he go? (Back to his father's house)
6. How does this parable compare to our relationship with God the Father?
(As Christians, we are considered God's children whom He loves dearly.)
7. As God's children, how do we behave like the prodigal son? (We can sometimes be rebellious, ignore what the Bible teaches us, be disobedient, and get caught up in materials things.)
8. The father in this parable loved his son so much, when he returned he killed the fatted calf. How does God the Father show how much he loves all of us? (His own Son was killed on the cross)

CLASS EXERCISES (20 minutes)

Want to Get Home (Game) [Click Here](#)

ALTERNATE CLASS EXERCISE (10 minutes)

The Missing Piece (Craft) [Click Here](#)

APPLICATION (4 minutes)

People can have so much wealth and knowledge, that they live their lives in their own control and sometimes think of themselves as superior because of their possessions. They fill their empty hearts with things but eventually realize that they are still unfulfilled. The only way to have true rich life is to live under the guidance and love of our Lord Jesus.

NEXT WEEK

Please choose another exciting lesson from Kid's Sunday School Place.

CLOSING PRAYER (2 minutes) Further info? [Click Here](#)