

FATHERS DAY EDITION!

SONGS: Click here for Sunday's worship set. Be sure to subscribe to our channel!

See the **next page** for any additional resources, including any activities that can be done with young children.

This week read about fathers of the Bible:

- **Enoch** (Genesis 5:24, Hebrews 11:5, Jude 1:14)
- **Moses** (Exodus 18:2-4 and the father of the nation Israel, Exodus-Deuteronomy)
- Joseph (Matthew 1:18-25; 2:13-15,19-23, Luke 2:22, 41-42: 3:23)
- Father of the Prodigal son (Luke 15:11-32)

Now answer the following questions:

- 1. What can we learn from these fathers?
- 2. Who are their children?
- 3. How did you see God through these father's lives?

Now take some time and pray for all fathers that you know and ask God to fulfill His plan in their lives.

Additional Resources

For younger children:

Happy Father's Day!

Luke 15:11-32

¹¹ And he said, "There was a man who had two sons. ¹² And the younger of them said to his father, 'Father, give me the share of property that is coming to me.' And he divided his property between them. ¹³ Not many days later, the younger son gathered all he had and took a journey into a far country, and there he squandered his property in reckless living. ¹⁴ And when he had spent everything, a severe famine arose in that country, and he began to be in need. ¹⁵ So he went and hired himself out to one of the citizens of that country, who sent him into his fields to feed pigs. ¹⁶ And he was longing to be fed with the pods that the pigs ate, and no one gave him anything.

¹⁷ "But when he came to himself, he said, 'How many of my father's hired servants have more than enough bread, but I perish here with hunger! ¹⁸ I will arise and go to my father, and I will say to him, "Father, I have sinned against heaven and before you. ¹⁹ I am no longer worthy to be called your son. Treat me as one of your hired servants."' ²⁰ And he arose and came to his father. But while he was still a long way off, his father saw him and felt compassion, and ran and embraced him and kissed him. ²¹ And the son said to him, 'Father, I have sinned against heaven and before you. I am no longer worthy to be called your son.' ²² But the father said to his servants, 'Bring quickly the best robe, and put it on him, and put a ring on his hand, and shoes on his feet. ²³ And bring the fattened calf and kill it, and let us eat and celebrate. ²⁴ For this my son was dead, and is alive again; he was lost, and is found.' And they began to celebrate.

²⁵ "Now his older son was in the field, and as he came and drew near to the house, he heard music and dancing. ²⁶ And he called one of the servants and asked what these things meant. ²⁷ And he said to him, 'Your brother has come, and your father has killed the fattened calf, because he has received him back safe and sound.' ²⁸ But he was angry and refused to go in. His father came out and entreated him, ²⁹ but he answered his father, 'Look, these many years I have served you, and I never disobeyed your command, yet you never gave me a young goat, that I might celebrate with my friends. ³⁰ But when this son of yours came, who has devoured your property with prostitutes, you killed the fattened calf for him!' ³¹ And he said to him, 'Son, you are always with me, and all that is mine is yours. ³² It was fitting to celebrate and be glad, for this your brother was dead, and is alive; he was lost, and is found.'"

Ask: What brother asked for his share in the property (inheritance). What did he do once he received his inheritance? How did he use his inheritance?

Ask: What do pigs eat and how do they live and act? Can you make a pig noise? What do pigs smell like?

Ask: After the younger son lost all his inheritance and was living with pigs, what did he realize and what did he decide to do?

Ask: When the younger son was heading home, but still far away, what did his father do? How did the father feel toward his son?

Ask: What does it feel like when you have done something wrong, and someone forgives you? How does it make you feel when mom or dad hug you?

Ask: What did the younger son say to his father?

Ask: Why did the father throw a party for his younger son?

Ask: How do you think the older brother felt about how the father responded to the younger son's return?

Ask: Have you ever felt angry when someone did not get the punishment you thought they deserved?

Say: We have a Heavenly Father that is like the father in this story. He is always waiting with a compassionate heart ready to embrace, forgive and celebrate everyone who returns to him.

Pray: Confess any sin and give thanks for the Lord, our Father, loves us and is compassionate toward us.

Activity: Talk about what celebration might look like in Heaven when a sinner returns to God. Plan and prepare a celebration meal. Gather party decorations and pick out some praise music and eat your favorite meal together.

