

# Prodigal Son Comes Home

Bible Visuals:  
*Little Hands Do His Will*  
Cards 19–22

Week

2

## Preparing to Teach

Have you asked forgiveness from someone recently? Perhaps you offended a co-worker. Perhaps you said unkind words to a family member. The cleansing words, “I forgive you,” can erase the guilt we feel when we offend others.

Christians should always be ready to confess our faults and be ready to forgive others, especially when we remember how much we have been forgiven by our Heavenly Father. *“And be ye kind one to another, tenderhearted, forgiving one another, even as God for Christ’s sake hath forgiven you.”*  
—Ephesians 4:32

### ■ Scripture to read

Luke 15:11–32

### ■ Goal for lesson

To help the children understand that God loves us even when we do wrong, and He is always ready to forgive

### ■ Class memory verse

*“I am the good shepherd: the good shepherd giveth his life for the sheep.”*  
—John 10:11

**Note:** Be sure to read pp. 6–8 for teaching songs, memory verses, Bible lessons, and other elements of the class time.

## Preparing Lesson Materials (marked in bold)

### for Arrival

- Tear out and write names on **Activity Book**, p. 11. Cut out the father’s face and the son leaving/returning, p. 29.
- Have activity pages, **cut-out pieces**, **crayons**, **paper fasteners**, and **tape** on each table.
- Have **attendance stickers** ready. (See center insert of Activity Book.)
- Write names on Week 2 **Take-Home papers** and have on tables.
- Mitten and Boots puppets
- Blanket or rug

### for Songs

- If possible, practice singing with the CD.  
*Praise Him, Praise Him* p. 39, track #12  
†*Jesus Bids Us Shine* p. 19, track #6  
*Zacchaeus* p. 48, track #17

### for Memory Verse

- Have **Verse Card 1** ready.

### for Bible Lesson

- Study and practice telling with Bible Story Visuals several times:  
***Prodigal Son Comes Home*** (*Little Hands Do His Will* Bible Story Visuals, Cards 19–22).

### for Craft

- Make a sample of p. 11 in **Activity Book** for children to see.

### for Character Story

- Study and practice telling aloud several times:  
***The Broken Window*** (*Little Hands Do His Will* Character Stories, p. 12).

### for Play/Story Reinforcement

- Have **blocks** for each table. (Optional: Bring several small pieces of cardboard to build a roof.)

† Visual available; see *Joyful Life* order form.



# Sunday at a Glance



Week  
2

**We arrive** 10 min \_\_\_\_\_  
Offering • Attendance • Color Take-Home paper


**We begin** 1–2 min  
Welcome children and call them to the story rug. Recognize birthdays and visitors.

**We sing** 1–2 min  
“Praise Him, Praise Him” p. 39 vv. 1–3 track #12

**We learn God’s Word** Memory Verse; 2 min  
John 10:11 **“I am the good shepherd: the good shepherd giveth his life for the sheep.”** John 10:11

**We pray** 1 min One child, \_\_\_\_\_, and teacher pray.  
Pray a short prayer, thanking God for our homes, our mothers and fathers, etc.

**We sing** 1–2 min  
“Jesus Bids Us Shine” p. 19 (sing 2x, last time standing) track #6

 **We listen to God’s Word** Bible Lesson; 8–10 min  
**Prodigal Son Comes Home** Ask review questions listed at the end (1–2 min); end lesson with prayer.

**We sing** 1–2 min \_\_\_\_\_  
“Zacchaeus” p. 48 track #17

**We make a craft** 8–10 min \_\_\_\_\_  
Activity Book p. 11. Place completed craft papers with Take-Home papers, ready to send home with parents.

**We listen** Character Story; 8 min  
**The Broken Window** Ask review questions.

**We play** \_\_\_\_\_  
Play with blocks on the floor.

**Teaching Tips**  
As children arrive, greet them with a warm smile. As they color their Take-Home paper, talk with them about their home (what color their house is, whether or not they have a pet, etc.).

Have Mitten or Boots recognize children who are working hard. Have those who seem to know the entire verse come and stand by you and say the verse together.

Use a child’s chair for this song. Have a child climb up and stand on the chair when you sing “he climbed up in a sycamore tree.” Be sure to stand by the chair to guard child’s safety.

Work through the craft, step by step, with the children. Show them how to turn the father’s face and how to flip the son over to show the son returning home.

Have the children build a house with the blocks. Sit with them as they build and talk about today’s Bible story. Emphasize that God has given them a good home. *Optional:* Place a cardboard piece over the blocks to make a roof for each house.