



## May 16/17, 2020 – Week 3

**Bible Story Focus:** God loves me no matter what. Prodigal Son • *Luke 15:11-24*

**Memory Verse:** “Nothing at all can ever separate us from God’s love.” Romans 8:39, NIV

**Key Question:** Who loves you?

**Bottom Line:** God loves me.

**Basic Truth:** God loves me

## Make It Fun

### Emotions

- **What You Need:** Craft stick with a happy face on one side and a sad face on the other side.
- **What You Do:** Hold up the different faces to yours and talk about what makes you sad or happy, but that God loves you no matter what. Talk about how God loves you when you are happy, sad, excited, or scared.
- **What You Say:** “Come over and sit with me. We are going to talk about emotions. Emotions are how we feel, like when we are happy or sad, excited or scared. Here is my sad face. (*Hold the sad face up to your face.*) What makes you sad? (*Pause.*) Those are some sad things. Here is my happy face. (*Hold the happy face up to your face.*) What are things that make you happy? (*Pause.*) Those are great things! But the neatest thing is that God loves you no matter what. Today, we will hear a Bible story that tells us that God loves us when we are happy, sad, excited, or scared.”

## Make It True

### Worship

- **What You Need:** Worship song “God Loves Me Specially.”

### Bible Story

- **LEADER:** “Hello, everyone! I’m REALLY glad to see you today because I have an awesome story to tell you. It’s actually a story that Jesus told, so you know it’s a good one! This story is about a father and a son. It’s a story that teaches us that God loves us, no matter what! Are you ready to hear the story? If so, when I say, ‘Are you ready?’, you answer, (*give two thumbs up*) ‘I’m ready!’ So, are you ready?”
- **CHILDREN:** “I’m ready!”
- **LEADER:** “Awesome. One day, a son asked his dad if he could have a LOT of money that his dad was saving for when the son was MUCH older. The dad gave him the money. Then, the son packed up, took the money, and went far away. Once he’d arrived in this new place, he immediately spent his money on EVERYTHING. He bought clothes and toys and food. He kept spending his money until it was ALL gone. Everyone say, ‘Uh-oh!’”
- **CHILDREN:** “Uh-oh!”
- **LEADER:** “Uh-oh is right! All of his money was gone, and he was all alone. He didn’t have a house to live in, or money, or food. In fact, at one point, he was so hungry that he wanted to eat pig’s food. EWWW! The son knew he had made bad choices. And he was VERY sorry. He wanted to go back to his dad and tell him how sorry he was. So, he went back to his dad. When his dad



saw him coming, he ran down the road to hug him! His dad forgave him. He LOVED him. Nothing could ever change that. And do you know what? God loves you the same way the father in the story loved his son. God will never, ever, ever stop loving you. He loves you no matter what! Tell me, **who loves you?**”

- **CHILDREN and LEADER:** “**God loves me.**”
- **LEADER:** “That’s the truth, friends! There isn’t anything you could do to make God stop loving you! You are so special to God. Let’s pray and thank God for loving us no matter what!”

### PRAYER

- **LEADER:** “Heavenly Father, thank You for the story of this son. Even when he messed up, the father forgave him because he loved him. Thank You for loving us, no matter what! We love You! In Jesus’ name we pray, amen.”

## Make It Stick

### Made

- **What You Need:** “Made” Activity Page, happy face and heart stickers (5 of each)
- **What You Do:** Retell the story. Encourage children to fill in the first square with the happy face stickers and the second square with heart stickers.
- **What You Say:** “Today, we learned that of all the amazing things God made, you, and you, and you, and me are God’s most super, special creation! God made all of us! God loves you and **God loves me.** This square says ‘God made me.’ Place the happy face stickers in that square. *(Pause.)* Great! Now the other square says ‘God loves me.’ Place the heart stickers in that square. *(Pause.)* Terrific! God made you, and He loves you, too. **God loves me.** Say that with me. **God loves me!**”

## Dismissal

### Story Sequence

- **What You Need:** “Sequence” Activity Pages and wall tape
- **What You Do:** You will have three pictures. Spread the pictures on the floor in the activity area. Have the children sit in front of the pictures. Ask the children to work together to place pictures in order according of the story. The sequence is 1. Father gives boy money. 2. Boy is spending money. 3. Boy comes home and hugs father. Hang pictures on the wall as they are put in order.
- **What You Say:** “We heard an amazing story about how God loves us no matter what! I have pictures from our Bible story. *(Point.)* They are the father hugging his son, the father giving his son money, and the son spending money. Let’s work together to put them in the correct order of the story. Which one do you think is first? *(Pause.)* The picture of the father giving his son money is first. Great job! *(Hang the first picture on the wall.)* Which picture is next? *(Pause.)* You got it! The picture of the son spending all of his money. He did not make good choices, and he ran out of money. *(Hang the second picture on the wall.)* The last picture is of the son coming home and his father hugging him. Even though he made bad choices, the father still loved the son. *(Hang the last picture on the wall.)* Our Bible story tells us God loves us no matter what! Even if we make bad choices, God will always love us! **Who loves you? God loves me!**”