

FOR FAMILIES TO LEARN AND GROW TOGETHER IN JESUS

This lesson is produced by St. Paul's-Muskego KIDS CLUB for parents and children to use together at home. Portions of the "Dig In"® curriculum are used with the permission of Group Publishing, Inc.—Loveland, CO.

Week of September 13, 2020



DIGGING INTO



Fruit of the Spirit: Love

[Galatians 5:22-23](#); [Luke 15:11-32](#)

THE LESSON

Love is a fruit of the Spirit, and we can see God's loving heart in a story Jesus tells about a father whose son leaves to live wildly. When the son returns home, the father welcomes him with open arms. This is how God loves us, and his love should flow out of us, too!

Read the Bible texts above, then discuss the questions below about the *Parable of the Lost Son*, sometimes also called the Wayward Son or Prodigal Son.



THE POINT

Love is a fruit of the Spirit.

Let's talk about it

1. In this parable of Jesus (a parable is an earthly story with a heavenly meaning), a young son asks for his inheritance early. What's unusual about this?
2. Why might the father have been willing to give his younger son what he asked for?
3. What did the young son do with his inheritance?
4. This young son grew up on an estate, living a very good life, having everything he needed. Because of the bad choices he made, however, what does he find himself having to do to stay alive?
5. How do we know the young son had learned his lesson?
6. What was the young son going to say to his father when he returned?
7. How might we expect the father to respond to the return of his lost and wayward son?
8. How did the father actually respond? Why does he respond this way?
9. Who wasn't very happy about all the attention being given to the lost son?
10. How did the father explain his actions to the older son?
11. What did the father mean when he said, "This brother of yours was dead and is alive again; he was lost and is found."
12. In this parable, how is the father like God the Father?
13. In what way are all of us like the lost son who was dead but now is alive, who was lost but now is found?

*He was lost
but now
is found.*



[The Prodigal Son](#)



[The Prodigal Son](#)



[Two Sons & A Father](#)



[Prodigal Son-Short Film](#)

Family Together Time

Celebrate each other with a special meal like the one the father in the Bible story had for his son.

- Let everyone decide one element of the meal.
- During the meal, share things you love about one another.
- You can also talk about fun family memories and how you've seen God's love.
- Celebrate the ways you've seen God's love through each other!



Let's Pray Together

Dear Heavenly Father:

This week we begin a series of lessons on the "Fruits of the Spirit" with the first fruit being LOVE. Through your holy Word, continue to fill our hearts with your Holy Spirit so that the fruit of love for others grows bigger and stronger in us every day.

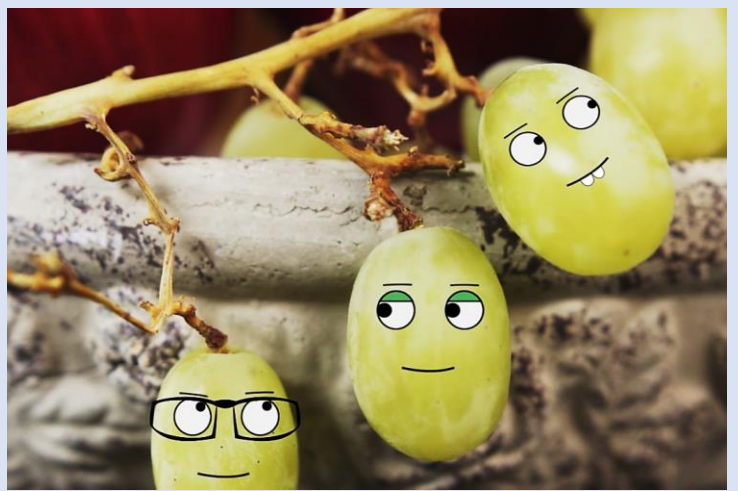
Help us to be like the father in, *The Parable of the Lost Son* who lovingly welcomed his wayward son back home. We praise and thank you for, in Christ, welcoming all of your lost children (including us) back into the family of God. We look forward to spending eternity with you in our heavenly home.

In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.

Click the Links and Join In!



[Living by the Spirit](#) [The Love of God](#) [You Forgive Me](#)



Watch & Then Talk

Watch the video, [The Lost Grape](#).

Then talk together using the questions below.

1. Why did Grape-Son want to get away from his home basket?
2. What did Grape-Son discover about being in the real world and away from his home?
3. What was the final experience that caused Grape-Son to come to his senses and return home?
4. What was Grape-Son willing to do in order to be accepted back into his home basket?
5. How did the other fruits respond to Grape-Son when he asked if he could come back home?
6. How is this video story like our Bible lesson this week about the Lost/Wayward/Prodigal Son?
7. To whom could you show the "fruit-of-the-Spirit-LOVE" this week?