

## Three Parables

### Babies and Toddlers

**Bible Passage:** Luke 15

**Key Passage:** Mark 6:34

**Main Point:** Jesus told stories about God.

### The Bible Story (Watch this week's [IDC Kids Preschool Video](#))

Jesus told a story about a man with two sons. The younger son said, "Give me my money." Then he left home and wasted his money. He got a job feeding pigs. He was so hungry, he wanted to eat pig food! He said, "My father's workers have plenty of food. I do not deserve to be his son. I will ask to be his worker." But when his father saw him coming, his father ran to his son, hugged him, and kissed him. His father said, "Let's celebrate! My son was lost and now is found!" The older son was angry. He told his father, "I have always obeyed you, and you threw a party for your foolish son!" The father said, "Everything I have is yours. We must celebrate! Your brother was lost, but now he is found."

### Gospel Gems

Jesus told a story about God's love.

The father was happy when his son came home.

God is happy when we trust Jesus.

### Babies Activities

#### Look in the Bible

Provide hand-size Bibles for babies to handle. Open your Bible to Luke 15. Say the Gospel Gems.

**Say: Jesus told stories about God.** Jesus told a story about God's love. God is happy when we trust Jesus.

#### Sing a Song

Sing the first verse of "Tell Me the Stories of Jesus."

"Tell me the stories of Jesus I love to hear;

Things I would ask Him to tell me if He were here;

Scenes by the wayside, tales of the sea,

Stories of Jesus, tell them to me."

**Say: Jesus told stories about God.** Jesus told a story about God's love. God is happy when we trust Jesus.

#### Make a dirty pig painting

Cut out a pig outline from pink construction paper for each baby. Place it inside a ziplock bag along with a squirt of brown paint and seal it with duct tape. Babies will squeeze the bag to disperse the paint. Remove the art and set it aside to dry.

Say: **Jesus told stories about God.** The son took care of pigs. The father was happy when his son came home!

#### Play hide-and-seek

Hide a person figure under a blanket and invite babies to find it. Cheer when the baby finds the figure. Play as time allows.

Say: **Jesus told stories about God.** Jesus said God loves and searches for people who do not know Him.

## Toddler Activities

### Play Hide-and-seek

Invite toddlers to hide. Search for the toddlers high and low, rejoicing when you find them. Play several rounds as time allows.

Say: **Jesus told stories about God.** In our story, the father was happy when his son came home. God is happy when we trust Jesus.

### Explore a Parable box

Place items from the Bible story in the parable box, such as people figures, a sealed bag of coins, toy pigs, a ring, and toy food. Invite toddlers to handle items as you review the story.

Say: **Jesus told stories about God.** Jesus told a story about God's love. God is happy when we trust Jesus.

### Watch videos about pigs

Use an electronic device to play videos showing pigs wallowing in mud and eating. Talk about the Bible story.

Say: **Jesus told stories about God.** In today's story, the son was so hungry he wanted to eat pig food! Instead he went home. The father was so happy! God is happy when we trust Jesus.