



Ages 4-5-K

Date: _____
Series: God Is Our King
Fall Year 1, Lesson 15

The Runaway Son Returns

Take Home Point: *GOD ALWAYS FORGIVES ME—*I will say I'm sorry.*

*Repeat this phrase throughout the lesson. The leader will say the first part of the phrase (CAPS). The children respond with the second part of the phrase (*italics*).

Bible Event: Luke 15:11-32

We will help children know:

- God wants us to ask for forgiveness.
- God always forgives us.

We will help the children feel:




- Secure that God loves them even when they sin.
- Confident they can ask for and receive forgiveness.
- Joyful that God forgives them.

We will help the children do:

- Interact with puppet presentation to introduce the Bible Event.
- Watch a DVD of the runaway son.
- Craft: Decorate a heart.
- Snack: Eat party food.
- Game: Play Pass the Balloon.
- Teach Albie the Take Home Point: GOD ALWAYS FORGIVES ME...I will say I'm sorry.
- Sing and Pray.

Kingdom Quest Year 1 - Lesson 15 - 1

THIS LESSON'S ROADMAP

DESTINATION	PAGE #	DISCOVERIES ON YOUR JOURNEY	SUPPLIES NEEDED
Large Group Opening 	3 4	Puppet Presentation Bible Event	<i>Puppet Presentation</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Bubba puppet wearing a baseball hat • lunchbox or small bag • Bible <i>Bible Event</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • television with DVD player • DVD of Prodigal Son (if unavailable, read story from Bible)
Small Group Application 	6 6 7 9	Activity 1: Craft Activity 2: Snack Activity 3: Game Prayer Time	<i>Activity 1: Craft</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Appendix A copied on pink or red paper, 1 per child • crayons or markers • stickers optional <i>Activity 2: Snack</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • napkins • cups • water or juice • any food served at a party (cake, cookies, chips, fruit tray, etc.) <i>Activity 3: Game</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • blown up balloon
Large Group Wrap-up 	10 10	Singing (Optional) Lesson Review with Puppet Skit	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • your choice of music • Albie puppet • Example of craft • Example of snack

Pre-Session Singing (10 minutes)

Purpose: When all children are in one group singing, it is easy for children arriving later to join the group and immediately get involved.

Large Group Opening (15 minutes)



Purpose: The puppet demonstrates today's lesson. The children are introduced to the take home point and experience the Bible event.

Puppet Presentation

Supplies: Bubba puppet, baseball cap, lunch box or small bag

Presenter: Boys and girls, let's call Bubba. (Children call "Bubba".)

Bubba: Bubba comes out wearing a baseball cap and carrying a suitcase (a lunch box).
Bubba answers in a grumpy or mad voice:
Hi everyone.

Presenter: Bubba, what's the matter?

Bubba: I am so mad I am running away from home. My daddy told me to clean my room and I don't want to. I am going to run away and be a baseball player. Then I will do whatever I want and go wherever I want. I just want to have fun, fun, fun.

Presenter: Well, Bubba, that sounds like a great idea.

Bubba: Really? I thought you would try to talk me out of running away.

Presenter: Well, I do have some questions for you.

Bubba: Okay.

Presenter: Where are you going to live?

Bubba: Ummmmm...

Presenter: Who is going to cook your food?

Bubba: I don't know.

Presenter: The baseball stadium is far away; how will you get there?

Bubba: I didn't really think about that.

Presenter: Who will read you a bedtime story and kiss you goodnight?

Bubba: My daddy always does that. I would be really sad if I could not see my daddy. I think he would miss me too. Maybe running away is not such a great idea.

Presenter: I think you are right Bubba.

Bubba: Now I am afraid to go home. My daddy might be mad at me.

Presenter: Bubba, this reminds me of what we are going to talk about today. It's about a son who took his father's money and ran away to have fun. Later, he realized that what he did was a sin. He went home and told his father he was sorry. His father was so happy to see his son. His father forgave him and threw a big party for him.

Bubba: Do you think my father will forgive me?

Presenter: Yes. Your father loves you and he will forgive you, just like God forgives us when we sin.

Bubba: That is good news!

Presenter: Yes it is Bubba. Remember that God forgives us just like the father forgave his runaway son.

Presenter: Let's practice the take home point. I'll say the first part and you say the second part.

Bubba: O.K.

Presenter: *GOD ALWAYS FORGIVES ME... now you say, "I will say I'm sorry."

Bubba: I will say I'm sorry.

Presenter: Do you think you can teach the boys and girls?

Bubba: Sure.

Presenter: OK everybody, *GOD ALWAYS FORGIVES ME...

Bubba: (and everyone): "I will say I'm sorry."

Presenter: Wonderful. Say "goodbye" Bubba.

Bubba: Bye everyone!

Bible Event: Video and Explanation

Cue your video. Dim the lights if possible.

Presenter holds the Bible

Today we are going to watch a movie about the runaway son. But first, let's practice the take home point together. I will say the first part and you repeat the last part. *GOD ALWAYS FORGIVES ME..."I will say I'm sorry."

(Play the movie now. If movie is unavailable, read the lesson from the Bible. If possible, have characters act out the parts of the father and the son.)

Let's fold our hands and pray. Repeat after me.

**Dear God,
We love you.
You always forgive me
When I say I'm sorry.
Thank you, thank you, thank you.
In Jesus' name.
Amen.**

Song:

Let's sing our song of the week. (To the tune of *London Bridge*)

Capitalized letters indicate emphasis on that syllable when the rhyme is sung.

**GOD al-WAYS FOR-gives ME.
FOR-gives ME. FOR-gives ME
GOD al-WAYS FOR-gives ME.
I will SAY I'm SOR-ry.**

Because of the long movie and for ease on a holiday weekend, the activities are simple and quick. Do as many as time allows.

Small Group Application (30 minutes)



Purpose: Children will break into small groups. Smaller groups enable children to develop closer relationships with adults and peers in the church. In your small groups you will reinforce the take home point with a fun hands-on activity and discuss the Bible event. Review questions help kids apply the take home point to their daily lives.

Activity 1: Craft: A Sorry Heart

Supplies: Copies of Appendix A on red or pink paper, one per child; crayons or markers; stickers optional

Today boys and girls, you can decorate your heart anyway you want. As the children decorate their hearts, review the lesson.

Review the Bible Event.

What did the son take from the father? (money)

What did the son want to do? (have fun, party, spend money)

Let's practice the take home point. ***GOD ALWAYS FORGIVES ME...** "I will say I'm sorry."

Let's fold our hands and pray. Repeat after me.

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Activity 2: Snack: Celebration Food

Supplies: Some type of party food (cake, cookies, chips, fruit tray, cup cakes, etc.), napkins, cups, water or juice

*****CAUTION:** Be aware of food allergies children may have, before you give them anything to eat.

Before we eat our snack, let's fold our hands and pray. Repeat after me.

Dear God,
We love you.
You always forgive me
When I say I'm sorry.
Thank you, thank you, thank you.
In Jesus' name.
Amen.

Boys and girls, today we are going to eat food you might have at a party. This will remind us that the father gave a party when his son came home. The father loved his son so much, he forgave him.

Review the Bible event.

Did the father forgive his son when he returned? *(Yes.)*

Why do you think the father forgave his son? *(He loved him. He missed him. He was glad he was back.)*

Let's practice the take home point. ***GOD ALWAYS FORGIVES ME...** "I will say I'm sorry."

Song:

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Activity 3: Game: Balloon Pass

Supplies: A blown up balloon

Today we are going to play a game with this balloon. Let's all sit in a circle and we will start passing the balloon around the circle. You will stop when I say "STOP!" I will ask a question to the person holding the balloon and you will tell me the Take Home Point (*I will say I'm sorry.*) Start passing the balloon.

What would you say to God if you were mean to your brother or sister? (child answers: I will say I'm sorry.) Start passing the balloon again.

What would you say to God if you stole a candy bar from the store? (child answers: I will say I'm sorry.) Start passing the balloon again.

What would you say to God if you yelled at your mother? (child answers: I will say I'm sorry.) **Start passing the balloon again.**

What would you say to God if you told a lie? (child answers: I will say I'm sorry.) **Start passing the balloon again.**

What would you say to God if you took money from your mother's purse? (child answers: I will say I'm sorry.) **Start passing the balloon again.**

What would you say to God if you would not let your neighbor play with you? (child answers: I will say I'm sorry.) **Start passing the balloon again.**

What would you say to God if you said mean things about someone? (child answers: I will say I'm sorry.) **Start passing the balloon again.**

What would you say to God if you took a cookie when you were told not to? (child answers: I will say I'm sorry.) **Start passing the balloon again.**

Continue with other examples or repeat the above until all children have a turn answering.

Let's practice the take home point. *GOD ALWAYS FORGIVES ME..."I will say I'm sorry."

Let's fold our hands and pray. Repeat after me.

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You always forgive me
When I say I'm sorry.
Thank you, thank you, thank you.
In Jesus' name.
Amen.**

Song:

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Prayer Time:

Did running away make the son happy? (No.) Was he happy when his father forgave him and welcomed him home? (Yes)

Ask children for prayer requests and pray as a group for child's request.

Let's practice the take home point. ***GOD ALWAYS FORGIVES ME...** "I will say I'm sorry."

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Safety and Security: Safety and security procedures are important for each church to carefully define and implement according to their unique needs. The security, safety, illness and accident procedures described in this curriculum are provided for example purposes only and may not be appropriate, applicable or adequate for every situation. Each church is responsible for determining whether any security, safety, illness and accident procedures contained in the curriculum are appropriate, applicable or adequate for its unique situation. The activities described in this curriculum require adult supervision and may not be suitable for each child and each situation. Each church is responsible for ensuring that adequate adult supervision is provided for all activities and for determining whether an activity is appropriate for each child and each situation. Kids Kount Publishing disclaims all liability for the implementation of any procedures or the performance of any activities described in this curriculum.

Large Group Wrap-Up (10 minutes)



Purpose: *The crazy bird puppet, Albie, struggles with learning the take home point. We try to teach him the take home point, but each time he confuses words or concepts. After three attempts, he finally gets it right.*

Singing: (Optional, two or three songs, as time allows)

Supplies: *Albie the puppet, sample of today's craft and snack.*

Lesson Review with Puppet Skit

Presenter shows Albie an example of each of the Activities done in small group. Then the kids attempt to teach Albie the take home point.

Presenter: We want to welcome all our guests today and thank them for coming. (If you give guests a gift for coming, do it now.)

Presenter: Albie, look at the craft the children made today. It reminds us that God always forgives us. The children are going to teach you our take home point. Listen carefully.

Presenter: (says to kids):

"GOD ALWAYS FORGIVES ME..."

Kids say:

"...I will say I'm sorry."

Presenter: (says to Albie):

"GOD ALWAYS FORGIVES ME..."

Albie says:

"...be sure to wear clean underwear!"



Presenter: Albie, look at the snack we ate. It reminds us of party food they ate in the Bible Event. Now listen carefully to the take home point.

Presenter: (says to kids):

"GOD ALWAYS FORGIVES ME..."

Kids say:

"...I will say I'm sorry."

Presenter: (says to Albie):

"GOD ALWAYS FORGIVES ME..."

Albie says:

"...even if I don't comb my hair!"

Presenter: Albie, today we played a pass the balloon game. Now, please listen closely to the take home point.

Presenter: (says to kids):

"GOD ALWAYS FORGIVES ME..."

Kids say:

"...I will say I'm sorry."

Presenter: (says to Albie):

"GOD ALWAYS FORGIVES ME..."

Albie says:

"...don't run over the cat's tail with the rocking chair!"

Presenter says:

"Albie, listen one last time."

"GOD ALWAYS FORGIVES ME..."

Kids response:

"...I will say I'm sorry."

Presenter: (says to Albie): **“GOD ALWAYS FORGIVES ME...”**

Albie's response: (Warms up his singing voice with “*Mee, mee, mee, mee...*” and sings in a silly dramatic opera-like voice)
“GOD ALWAYS FORGIVES ME...I will say I'm sorry.”

Presenter says to Albie: Good job, Albie!

Albie can leave stage or join in the prayer and song.

Let's fold our hands and pray. Repeat after me.

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Amen.**

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Goodbye boys and girls. Remember that God loves you and he will forgive us when we say “I'm sorry”.



God Always Forgives Me.

I will say I'm sorry.