

**Bible Story:** Please Forgive Me (The Story of the Lost Son) • *Luke 15:11-24*

**Bottom Line:** Everyone needs to be forgiven.

**Memory Verse:** *Put up with one another. Forgive one another if you are holding something against someone. Forgive, just as the Lord forgave you. Colossians 3:13 (NirV)*

**Life App:** Forgiveness—Deciding that someone who has wronged you doesn't have to pay

**Basic Truth:** I can trust God no matter what.

#### 4<sup>th</sup>&5<sup>th</sup>

The story of the father and his two sons is called a parable. What's a parable? (*a parable is a story used to teach something, Jesus frequently told parables to make His point*)

How can we sometimes be like the younger son?

How is the father like God? What is Jesus teaching us about God's forgiveness in this parable?

**Facilitate** discussion so the kids have the opportunity to tell the story of God's forgiveness. Just like the younger son did things that kept him from having a relationship with his father, we do things that keeps us from having a relationship with God. God sent Jesus to make a way for to fix our relationship with God so we have God's forgiveness and we can be with Him now and forever.

**Emphasize** that God's forgiveness is for everyone and God doesn't hold a grudge.

#### Personal Application Questions:

- What is one way you respond when you've done something wrong?
- When has someone forgiven you? **Encourage** kids to share examples and talk about how it felt to be forgiven.
- What about when you've forgiven someone else? How do you think they felt?