

# KIDS' DEVOTIONAL AT HOME

**For Sunday - March 22, 2020**

**For your family worship time, we have prepared 4 short activities that you can do together:**

1. Kids' worship songs
2. A Bible story from YouTube
3. Questions for discussion and reflection, Prayer
4. Optional: crafts, activities and songs

**Prepare these items before you begin:**

1. Smart phone or computer to play the worship songs
2. Youtube video: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=kfDfMZ6MTJs>
3. For the optional crafts and family games:
  - Coloring page
  - Hide and seek
  - Skit
  - Celebrate
  - Expansion Suggestions

## **Step 1. Worship Time**

1. Gather your family and open with a short prayer. This could be as simple as thanking God for the day and for allowing you all to worship together and learn more about God's character.
2. Choose a song or two to sing/listen/do actions together!
  - Unstoppable God [YouTube video with music and lyrics](#)
  - Only King Forever - [YouTube video with music and lyrics](#)
  - Super Wonderful For the younger kids: [YouTube video with music and lyrics](#)

## **Step 2. Optional Attention Grabber**

Before you dive into the story, start with an “attention grabber” to set the scene for younger kids:

Parent: What kinds of things do you do that might do that would make Mom or Dad angry, upset or get you in trouble.

Encourage your children to share openly, you may want to throw in some examples if needed.

Parent: Is there anything from this list that would be bad enough for Dad or Mom to stop loving you? Why or why not?

In our story today, we are going to hear how God’s love is everlasting and unstoppable. This love from the Heavenly Father helps us as parents love our kids unconditionally as well.

## **Step 3. Bible Story Discussion**

Watch the YouTube video Bible Lesson on the Prodigal Son

Key story points to make:

- The son doubted the love of his father because he was tired of his dad telling him what is good for him
- The son rejected the father and his care for him
- Having realized his mistake, the son wanted to go home
- The love of the father does not change
- The grace and mercy that the father shows his child when he returns home

### **Basic questions:**

1. What did the son decide to do? Why?
2. What did the son do with all the money he got from his dad?
3. How did he end up at the pig sty?
4. What made him decide to go home?
5. What was the son worried about?
7. What was the father doing every day?
8. When the father saw the son, what did he do?
9. We are like the son and God is like the father in the story, could we ever be too far away from God to come back to him?

**Advanced questions:**

1. What about his father did the son doubt?
2. How would you describe the son's relationship with his father when he took the money and left?
3. If you were the son and decided to go home, what do you think you would say to your parents when you got home?
4. On his way home, the son started doubting his father's love. What did he think that his father would do when he returned? Was he right?
5. What is surprising about the father's response? (the father waited every day and he ran to his son)
6. Why is there a celebration? What does this tell you about the father?
7. What does this story show us about God's love for his people and how does this relate to us?

It is easy for us to doubt the love, grace and mercy of the father. We see this in our everyday lives. Just as the son took the father's money and ran away in this story, children sometimes can say in their anger, "I don't want you anymore!" or "go away, don't touch my toys!"

**Application questions: (Opt. Further discussion)**

1. Share and discuss things that make you upset or go against God's way. What makes us behave like that?
2. How does knowing God's love, demonstrated through sending Jesus to save us, teach us to forgive others?
3. God desires people to turn back to him. How do we play an active part in bringing people back to God?

**Step 4. Prayer**

Pray together as a family before wrapping up the devotional or proceeding to optional activities. Feel free to pray first to model prayer, then ask your child to pray after you:

- Thank God for His love, grace and mercy
- Ask for forgiveness for times when we choose to leave and reject God
- Ask God to help us turn back and remember His love through Jesus dying on the cross for us
- Ask God to help us to share the good news of His love to people around us

## Step 5. Optional activities

### Activities for Younger Kids:

1. Print the coloring page for kids to color

### Activities for the Whole Family:

1. Hide and Seek of a Precious Item

- Ask the child for a favorite or precious item
- Take turns to hide the item while the other person will find it
- Start by making it easy to find the item but gradually, hide it in more difficult places. The idea is to seek something we treasure despite the difficulty. This reminds us of how God's love is the same; no matter where we hide, He will find us. He loves us so much that He wants us to be found.

2. Act out the Bible story, giving everyone in the family a part. If you're feeling really adventurous, record it and post to the Mama Musings page 😊

3. Imagine if someone you love that you thought was gone forever surprised you and came back.

- How would you celebrate?
- Have a party to celebrate—dress up, dance and have a feast!

### Extension Activities:

- o If you have a 2-to 4-year old, the Bible App for Kids has fun resources for your smartphone or tablet. It is interactive and engaging for our younger kiddos.
- o Pinterest has fun crafts related to this story if your kiddos are crafty.













