

FALL: SIN SEPARATES, BUT GOD FORGIVES




FAMILY WORSHIP GUIDE

Remember this: Sin leads us away from God, but God welcomes back sinners who turn to Him.

Read this: Luke 15:11–32

Say this: The story of the lost son always reminds me of how kind and gracious his father was. Last week we talked about how sin came into the world through Adam and Eve’s disobedience. They listened to the lie of the snake and believed things about God that were not true.

Today we read a story of a boy who left his father’s home to find happiness his own way. This story reminds us that we all need God’s help. What we need more than anything else in this world is forgiveness. Paul tells us in Romans that all of us have sinned. We have all disobeyed God on accident and on purpose. We have broken His commands. Like Adam and Eve, we have believed things about God that are not true and decided that our own happiness is what we should chase after.

The most amazing part of this story is not the sin of the son but the kindness of the father. In verse 20 it says, *But while he was still a long way off, his father saw him and felt compassion, and ran and embraced him and kissed him.*

The forgiveness of the father is so moving because he could have said, “See, I told you so.” But he didn’t. He ran to his son. He was filled with love and compassion. He hugged and kissed his son. This is the kind of grace-filled love that is available to us as sons and daughters of God. We serve a good God who, when we turn to Him, runs to us with arms wide open.

We all need forgiveness. Think of this week. Have you said something unkind, thought something wrong or treated someone rudely? Wanting something that isn’t yours, lying, taking something without permission, or getting so angry that you never want to speak to someone again are all actions that break God’s law.

If we can’t keep God’s commands no matter how hard we try, then what purpose do they have? There are three things the law does for us: It shows us how perfect God is. It shows us our sinfulness. And it shows us our need for a Savior.

God sees us in our sin, in our inability to keep His commands, and instead of just saying, “I told you so” He runs to us through sending His own Son as a Savior. God doesn’t want us to be distant like the prodigal son who ran away. He wants to be near, so much so that He comes to us! If not for the law, we would never see how sinful our hearts are or how much we need to be forgiven.

Let’s pray the following prayer together. I’ll pray a line and you repeat after me.

Pray this: Lord thank you that you are a good father. *[Everyone repeat.]* I realize I need your help, your grace and your forgiveness *[Everyone repeat.]* Please forgive me for my sins *[Everyone repeat.]* Help me to love you more than anything else. *[Everyone repeat.]* Teach me to follow you. *[Everyone repeat.]* When I do sin, help me to turn quickly toward you. *[Everyone repeat.]* Thank you that you love me and by grace allow me to turn to you. *[Everyone repeat.]* Thank you for your love toward me in Christ. *[Everyone repeat.]* In the name of Jesus Christ we pray, amen.

Sing this: “Jesus Loves Me”

Week 4 | FALL: SIN SEPARATES, BUT GOD FORGIVES



MEMORY VERSE

- ★ **Romans 5:6–8** : For while we were still weak, at the right time Christ died for the ungodly. For one will scarcely die for a righteous person—though perhaps for a good person one would dare even to die— but God shows his love for us in that while we were still sinners, Christ died for us.



MAKE A SONG

Song Reinforcement | Make it Stick

1. Add hand motions.

Work through the song phrase by phrase and create a motion for each idea. Pay special attention to the contrast: what do you do with your body for “still weak” and “still sinners”? What do you do for “Christ died for us”? Let your body show what the words mean.

2. Make a music video and send it to someone who loves you.

Film yourselves performing the full song with motions and dance. Try to do it from memory if you can. Then send the video to one person outside your family, someone who will love seeing it. No editing required.



SUMMER CHALLENGE

Bake bread or cookies and celebrate God's mercy.

Make a family list of ways God has been kind.

Make a “forgiven” sign or banner.

Have a family bonfire. Ask each person to write out a sin they struggle with and then throw it in the fire to remember God's forgiveness.

Act out the parable of the lost son.

Wave hello at everyone you see today.

Invite a family who is new to your church over for lunch after service.

COLOR THE ILLUSTRATION



FINISH THIS DRAWING



Finish this picture! Turn this shape into something creative.

DOTS & BOXES

Find a partner.
Take turns connecting two dots, either side-to-side or up-and-down.
When someone makes a box, write their initial.
The player with the most boxes at the end wins!



