

K-2 | June 21

**Bible Story:** The Story of the Lost Son • *Luke 15:11-32*

**Bottom Line:** God wants everyone to be part of His kingdom.

**Conversation Starter:** What is the requirement to be in God's kingdom?

**Monthly Memory Verse:** *"May your kingdom come. May what you want to happen be done on earth as it is done in heaven."* Matthew 6:10 NIV

## 1. Opening Activity

### What You Need:

- Offering container
- Pig face printouts
- Baskets/containers
- Floor tape
- Beanbags/ball pit balls/snowballs

### What You Do:

#### *Before the Activity:*

- Print out a Pig face and tape it to the container or basket
- Make a start line opposite the "pig" with floor tape.
- Place the beanbags/ball pit balls at the start line.

#### *During the Activity:*

- Greet each kid by name with a fist bump, high-five, smile, or wave as they arrive!
- Invite any kids who brought an offering to place it in the offering container.
- Instruct the kids to line up on the start line.
- Tell them, "In our story today, someone gets very hungry and has to work with pigs! Let's see if we can feed the pig."
- Let the kids take turns tossing beanbags or ball pit balls into the pig's "mouth."
- Cheer for every attempt, whether the ball goes in or not.

### What You Say:

"Great job feeding the pig! You all have great aim. Today, we're going to hear a story Jesus told about a person who went on a journey and ended up feeding some pigs. Jesus used stories called parables to teach us about God's love and God's kingdom. Let's go hear the story!"

### **EveryChild Pro-Tips**

- *For kids who have difficulty with aiming or throwing, allow them to stand closer to the box, as close as they need.*
- *Use soft, lightweight balls (like ball pit balls) to ensure safety for everyone in the room.*

## **2. Video on Jellyfin**

Lead the children in worship to one song and then watch today's video lesson.

## **3. Prayer**

"Let's open up today in prayer. Dear God, thank You for being like the father in the story and always waiting for us with a big hug. Thank You that no matter what we do, You still love us. Help us to remember that You want everyone to be in Your family. Help us to be welcoming to others, just like You are to us. We love You, and we pray these things in Jesus' name. Amen."

## **4. Father's Day Handprint Trophy Keepsake**

**"Hands Down, You're the Best Dad!"**

### **What You Need:**

- Trophy Picture frame activity page (one per child)
- Washable paint or ink pads for handprints/thumbprints
- Wet wipes
- Markers and colored pencils
- Stickers and decorative supplies
- Gold foil paper accents (optional)
- Glue sticks
- Table covering
- Whiteboard with prompts of ideas kids can write on their paper (ex. Love you Dad or Best Dad)

### **What You Do:**

#### **Before the Activity:**

Set out trophy picture frames and decorating supplies at each table. Prepare handprint or thumbprint stations and display a sample craft for inspiration.

#### **During the Activity:**

Help children add a handprint or fingerprints/thumbprints to their trophy. Encourage them to decorate and write short messages such as:

- "I love you Dad!"
- "You're the best!"
- "Happy Father's Day!"

Invite children to draw small pictures of their dad or family; or add fun themes like sports, tools, or favorite activities they enjoy with their dad.

**After the Activity:**

Ask children to share one thing they love doing with their dad or special person and remind them that thoughtful gifts can encourage others and show God's love.

**What You Say:**

**Before the Activity:**

"Welcome friends! Today we are making a Father's Day keepsake called, 'Hands Down, You're the Best Dad!' Your handprint will help make this gift extra meaningful because it captures how much you've grown. We're also going to decorate and add special words for our dads or someone special!"

**During the Activity:**

"I love all the creativity I'm seeing! Some of you are adding sports themes, fun colors, and kind messages. Tell me something you love about your dad or special person. (Pause.) Those are wonderful answers! Your words and artwork are going to make this gift so meaningful."

**After the Activity:**

"You all did an amazing job today! Your gift is more than just a craft—it's a way to show love and appreciation. The Bible teaches us to honor and care for others, and today you created something thoughtful and encouraging. I know your dads or special people are going to treasure these keepsakes!"

## **5. Memory Match [Optional]**

**What You Need:**

- Prodigal Son Memory Match
- Scissors

**What You Do:**

*During the Activity:*

- Give each kid the Prodigal Son Memory Match activity pages
- Explain that you're going to play Memory Match, but with pictures of today's bible story!
- Have the kids cut the pictures out and then shuffle the cards to mix them up.
- The kids may then pair up to play the game. Just play with one child's set of cards.
- When playing the game, put the cards in rows with the picture face down. Then the children flip over two cards, trying to find a matching pair of pictures from today's story.
- When a match is made, the kid who made it says, "God loves everyone!"

- Continue until all the matches have been found.

**What You Say:**

“We found all the matches from today’s bible story! This game reminds us that God knows each one of you by name, and He loves you so much.

“Sometimes, we’re like the younger son from the Bible Story. We do what we want instead of what God wants. We don’t feel like we’ve earned God’s love. But that’s the whole point! You can’t earn God’s love. God loves you because He made you. God’s love is deeper than your greatest sins or your biggest mess-up. There is nothing you can do that will make God love you any less.

“And the moment you turn back to God, you’ll find that He’s running to meet you. God is so excited when you return to His love that all of heaven celebrates! *(Point to kids.)* God wants you, and you, and you to be part of His kingdom. **[Bottom Line] God wants everyone to be part of His kingdom.**”

## 6. Hand Clap Game [Optional]

**What You Need:**

- No supplies needed

**What You Do:**

*During the Activity:*

- Invite the kids to join you sitting in a circle on the floor.
- Teach them a simple, repeating hand-motion pattern. For example: Slap your lap twice, clap your hands twice, snap your fingers twice. *(Slap, Slap, Clap, Clap, Snap, Snap.)*
- Practice the pattern together until everyone gets the rhythm.
- Explain the challenge: “We’re going to pass the motion around the circle. We can’t stop until everyone has done it!”
- Start the motion. The person to your right joins in on the next beat, then the next person, and so on, until the whole circle is doing the hand motions together.
- Try it a few times, and celebrate when the whole group is moving together.
- Challenge: see how fast you can all do the clapping motion pattern together.

**What You Say:**

“That was awesome! Look how we all worked together to do the same motion. Our circle wasn’t complete until everyone joined in. That reminds me of God’s kingdom. God wants everyone to be in His family. He doesn’t want anyone to be left out.

“Sometimes, we’re like the younger son from the Bible Story. We do what we want instead of what God wants. We don’t feel like we’ve earned God’s love. But that’s the whole point! You

can't earn God's love. God's love is deeper than your greatest sins or your biggest mess-up. There is nothing you can do that will make God love you any less. And the moment you turn back to God, you'll find that He's running to meet you. God is so excited when you return to His love that all of heaven celebrates!

“And sometimes, we're like the older son from the Bible Story. We feel like we've done all the right things and earned God's love, so we deserve for Him to give us what we want. But you can't earn God's love in those times either! God wants you to rest in His love and all the good things He's already given you. And then you can pass on that love to other people when they mess up. Remember, God loves everyone, no matter what! And **[Bottom Line] God wants everyone to be part of His kingdom.**”

**EveryChild Pro-Tips:**

- *Encourage kids to carefully select motions so all kids can participate.*