

God Is in Our Hearts
A Lesson on Forgiveness and God's Love
PreK, TK and Kindergarten Lesson

Goal: To introduce children to the concept of forgiveness and how much God love them.

Lesson:

1. Play the music video of [Jesus Loves Me](#) , and have the students sing along at home
2. Have the students watch the [Story of the Prodigal Son](#) Animated video of the great Bible story of forgiveness. 26 minutes. (Shorter version: [Prodigal Son video](#). 2.5 minutes) – if possible show it to them through a screen-share, and pause it at times to explain that what is happening in the video is an example of forgiveness and God's love. Or watch shorter version.
3. Have the students print out the [maze](#). and help the prodigal son find his way home.
4. Have the students print out the [Coloring page](#) for Prodigal son and color
5. Have a discussion with the students about forgiveness and God's love.

Explain that God loves each one of us because we are special to him. Tell the children that when we love someone, we feel it in our hearts and it is a joyful feeling. Let the children know that God is in the hearts of every person. (Use examples such as Mom, Dad, siblings, aunts/uncles, friends, people in other countries or seen on the news, people who don't have friends or who are homeless)

Discussion:

(Materials: A cut out heart, separated down the middle to use as an example during the discussion of forgiveness.)

Discuss that when someone hurts us or when we hurt someone else, they/we are displeasing to God because God is in each of our hearts. Discuss how the children might feel when someone takes a toy or candy away from them (sad.)

Forgiveness puts our hearts back together and makes us happy. Give examples.

Show the children a broken heart- and explain that forgiveness and God's love helps put the heart back together.

Ask them to name things that might displease God (saying mean things, taking what isn't theirs, not sharing. With each example, move the pieces of the heart apart.)

Next, ask them what might make God happy (sharing, playing with someone who doesn't have anyone to play with, helping Mom or Dad. With each example, move the pieces of the heart together.)

Pray the prayer below with the students to thank God for loving us and being in our hearts.

Prayer of Thanks

We thank you, God, for all of the wonderful things you have made for us—the trees, the grass, and the flowers; the sky, the birds, and all of the animals.

We thank you, God, for giving us people to love us— Mom and Dad, brothers and sisters; for grandmas and grandpas, aunts and uncles, cousins and friends.

We thank you, God, for loving us and for being in our hearts to see can love others too.

Amen