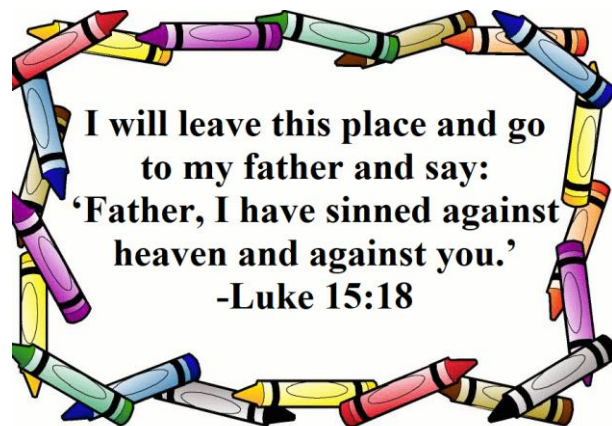


“Be Reconciled to God.” Fourth Sunday of the Lent

Children’s Liturgy Activity March 27th, 2022



Gospel: Luke 15:1-3,11-32

In the gospel today, we see Jesus telling a Parable to the pharisees and scribes who complained of Jesus for sitting with the sinners and tax collectors. Jesus tells the parable to reveal the heart of God and His purpose of coming. He also revealed the state of heart of those who felt righteous.

Jesus narrated the parable of a father who had two sons. The younger son in the great desire for worldly life and freedom demanded for the share of father’s wealth. He left fathers house to live freely. He didn’t know how to use the wealth wisely and squandered father’s wealth in reckless living. He ended up in a pig sty. He came to his senses during the hard experiences. He realised the love and providence of his father, repented in truth and returned back to the father. He thought his father will not receive him back as his son. Have we sometimes felt the same after committing a wrong? or felt lost by ignoring advices?

The Father received him back in great love. ‘While he was still a long way off, his father saw him and was moved with pity. He ran to the boy, clasped him in his arms and kissed him tenderly. He restored his son back to the house. He celebrated the return of his son. He said, “this son of mine was dead and has come back to life; he was lost and is found.” Our Lord is like the father, who waits for us to return. When we say sorry and return sincerely, He runs to us to receive us back in his love. Are we ready to return?

But the elder son was angry and complained about the celebration for sinful son’s return. He was jealous of how the father received back his younger brother despite being sinful. It was difficult for the elder son to rejoice in his brother’s return. But the father said he loved him very much and that everything he has belonged to him. And that he must be happy and accept in love the sincere return of his brother.

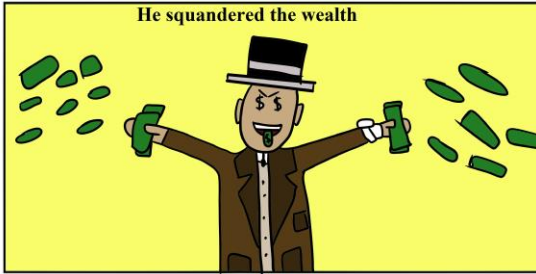
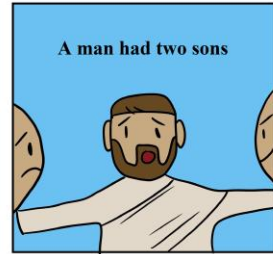
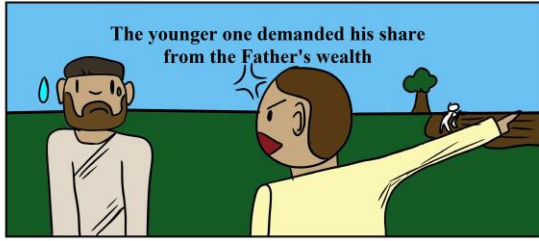
Have we thought how much our lord is serving us? Are we serving our lord in love or for rewards? Do we find hard to accept others transformation and how God accepts them? Do we help others to come back to God?

Jesus reveals that God receives a humble sinner with true repentance. Jesus asks us to realize the Lord’s love and his providence. He asks us to come back in true repentance to the father. Our father is waiting in love for our return. In our lords love we are led to the truth and have protection. God looks into our heart - our sincere repentance and transformation. Jesus asks us to become more like our Father in Heaven. To respond with compassion and joy when others repent. To Accept others in forgiveness and love just like our heavenly father accepted us.

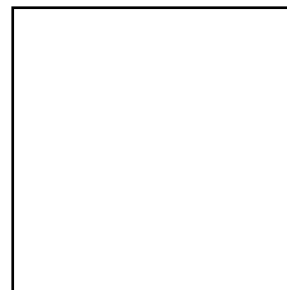
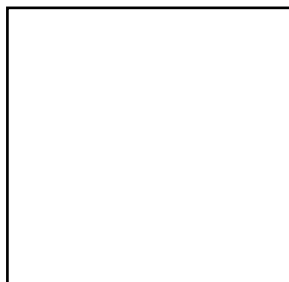
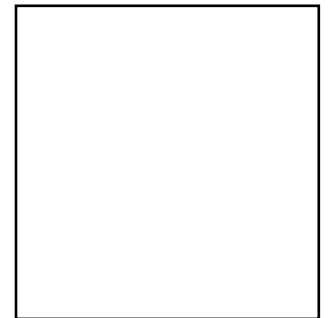
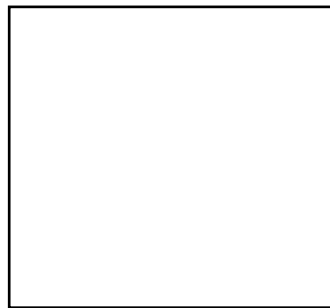
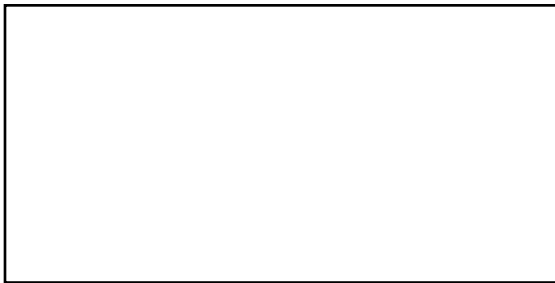
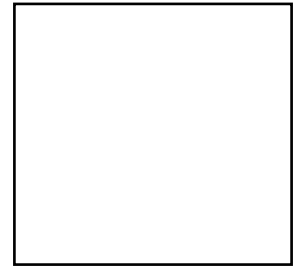
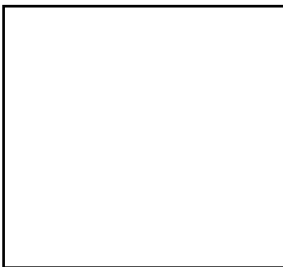
How can we return? Through Jesus who came down “to seek and to save the lost”. God in Christ was reconciling the world to himself, not holding men’s faults against them. Let us be reconciled to God in Christ. Repent and say sorry to God in truth.

Being reconciled, let us live a new life in Christ bearing the fruit of repentance. Let us remember God is merciful and full of compassion waiting in love for those who repent and return to Him in truth. Let us have the same attitude to our fellow beings too and accept everyone in our lords compassion.

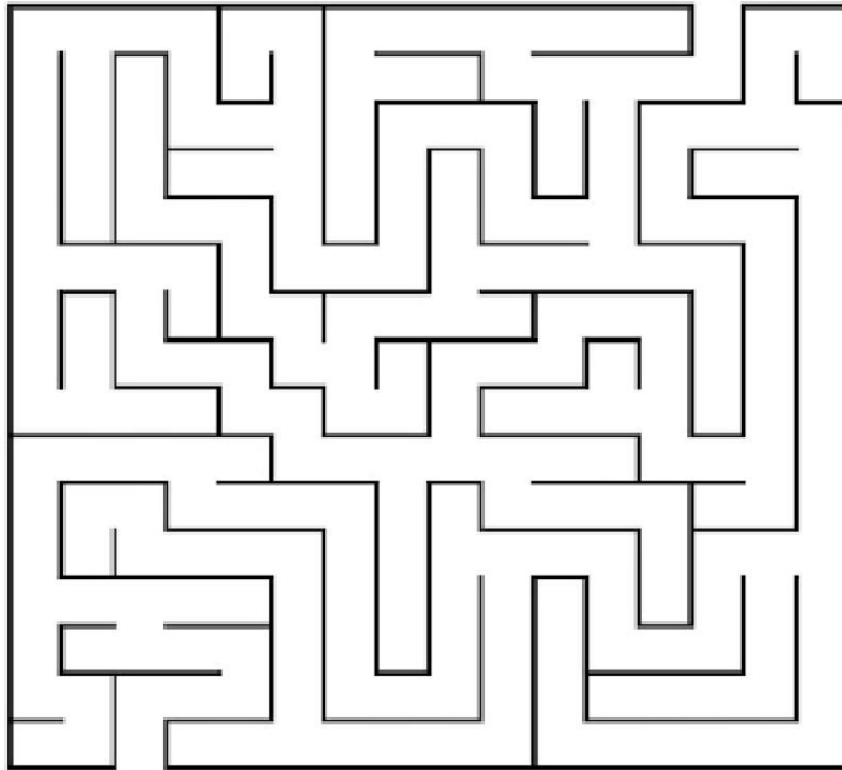
Cut and paste the story strips in the right order in the given box to complete the Gospel.



The Prodigal Son



Can you help the younger son to find the way back to the father?



Complete the verses from the Gospel using the correct words given below.

His father saw him and was moved with ----- . He ----- to the boy, -----
him in his arms and ----- him tenderly. (Luke 15:20)

ran sad jump clasped pity bend kissed hugged

