

We should be glad and celebrate! Your brother was dead, but he's now alive. He was lost and has now been found.

Luke 15:32

Dear Parents/Carers

Happy Father's Day! I pray that you will all have a lovely day celebrating Fathers, Grandfathers, Uncles or special people as a family and that you can find a way to connect. Today we will be thanking God for how much he loves us as our heavenly Father, as well as for our dads.

Supplies

- Children's Bible
- Craft Supplies (paper, pencils, scissors, glue stick)
- Comfy Spot
- Three dolls or toys to be the Father and two sons in today story.

Worship

- Our God is a Great Big God - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=eSTfM8M2Md8>
- Jesus Loves Me Remix - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=IUePulhSqkQ>

Bible Verse

Today's Bible verse is Luke 15:24. Read this slowly with your children having them repeat each word after you. You may even like to clap out the words.

"He was lost and has now been found. And they began to celebrate."

Prayer

Ask your children for three special things that their dad or grandfather do with or help them with. Spend some time praying, thanking God for dads. Thank God that he is our heavenly Dad who loves us very much.

Story Time

Find a comfy spot in your home to read today's story. Check to see if the story of the Prodigal Son is in your children's Bible.

There was once a dad who had two sons. One day the younger son said he was going away and that he wanted half of all the money his dad had.

Children might like to give the dad and two sons dolls/toys names.

The younger son went far, far, far away. He spent all his money on silly things and had no money left to buy food.

Children can move the younger son far away from the Father.

He didn't know what to do. But he remembered, "People who work for my Dad always have lots of food. I will go to my dad and say sorry for going away and spending all the money. I will work for my Dad to earn money."

The younger son started the long walk back to his dad's house.

Children now move the younger son doll/toy back to the Father and older son.

When the son was getting near his Dad's house, his Dad saw him. His Dad was so excited to see his son, he ran all the way to him and gave him a kiss and a big hug.

The dolls/toys can give each other a big hug and jump up and down in celebration.

The younger son was very sorry and asked his dad to forgive him and to let him work for his dad. But his dad was so excited that he had come home, instead of making him work the dad wanted to have a really big party.

Have your children list off what they would like to have at a big party or celebration.

The dad made sure there was lots of food and that his son had nice clothes.

Everyone came to the party to welcome the younger son back home. The Dad said, "My son was lost and now he has been found, let's celebrate."

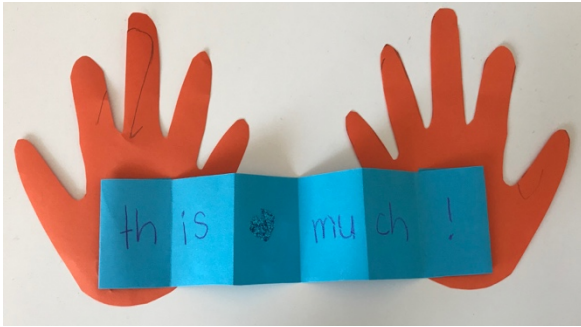
God is just like the Dad in today's story. He loves us so much! God our heavenly dad gets really excited when we come to him and want to talk with him. He is always ready to welcome us with a big hug. God also forgives us when we come and say sorry to him.

Craft

Today for Father's Day children can make an "I love you this much" card. You will need paper, scissors, pencils and a glue stick.



Trace both of your children's hands. On one hand write "I love you ..." and on the other "Love from ___" When you put the card together it is important that the thumbs line up.



Cut out a strip of paper and fold it accordion style. Along this strip of paper write the words "this much".
Glue the ends of the accordion strip to the inside of each hand.

