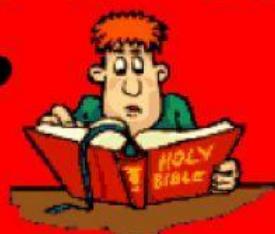


LOVE & FORGIVENESS NOTES



From the Bible we learn that,



- God's love and forgiveness extend to all who are lost.
- God is seeking those who are lost.
- God forgives those who ask for forgiveness.
- God rejoices when someone repents.



The following scriptures also support these ideas:

Luke 19:10- "The Son of Man came to seek and save the lost."

Psalm 86:5- "You are good to us and forgiving, full of constant love for all who pray to You."

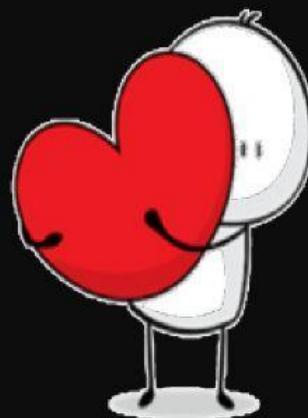
1 John 1:9-But if we confess our sins to God, He will keep his promise and do what is right: He will forgive us our sins and purify us from our wrongdoings.

Taken from the Good News Bible for Children

PARABLES ABOUT GOD'S LOVE & FORGIVENESS

In Luke Chapter 15, Jesus told three parables about God's love and forgiveness.

- The parable of the Lost Sheep
- The parable of the Lost Coin
- The parable of the Lost Son



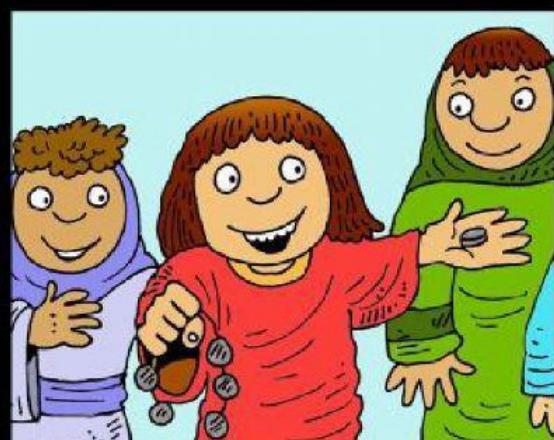
THE LOST SHEEP

In the parable of the Lost Sheep, the shepherd left the other sheep and searched until he found the one sheep that was missing. There was a celebration with friends and others.



THE LOST COIN

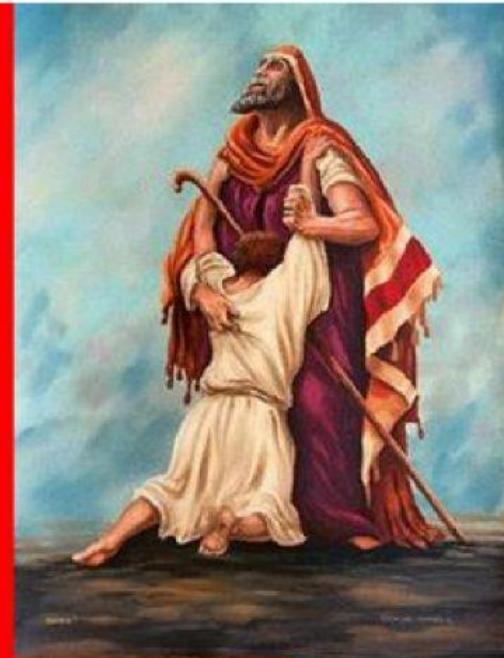
In this parable, a woman lost a coin. She searched carefully until it was found. She celebrated its discovery with family and friends.



THE LOST SON

(Adapted from: *The Children's Bible in 365 Stories* pgs. 328-329)

A landowner had two sons. The younger asked his father for his share of the family's fortune. The father gave it to him and the younger son left home. Once on his own, the younger son spent his money freely on fast living and soon had none left. He found a job looking after pigs but eventually decided to return home. His father gladly accepted him back and had a feast in his honour. When the older brother returned home he was not pleased with his father's actions.



How do we apply Jesus' teaching about love and forgiveness to our daily lives?

Jesus is love and if He lives in us we should love others. One way that we can do this is by forgiving those who have wronged us.



What about when we do wrong? How do we seek God's forgiveness?



- We all do wrong.
- When we want God's forgiveness we should use one of the most powerful things we can: prayer.
- God will hear us and forgive us, but we must come to Him with remorse and with a repenting heart.