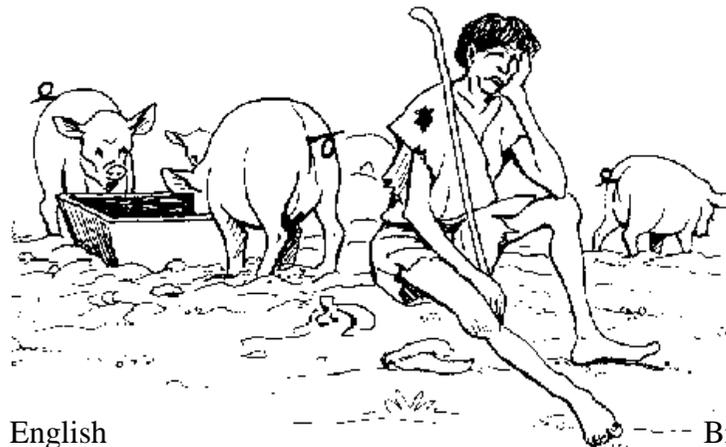




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The Lost Son



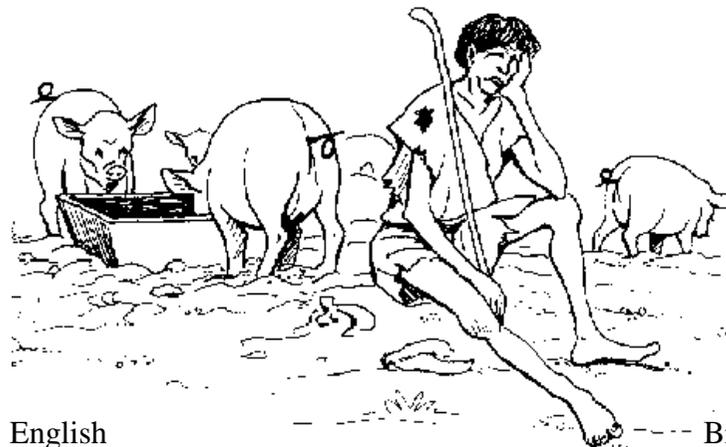
English

----- Bible Story



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English

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Optional: put a memory verse here. Ephesians 2:8,9,10? Otherwise, delete the number on the page and leave the page blank. But do not delete the page.

17

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“...But God is so merciful and loves us so much, that even when we were dead because of our sins, he gave us life when he raised Christ from the dead. (It is only by God’s special favor that you have been saved!)”
Ephesians 2: 4-5



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The Father said to his eldest son, “Everything I have is yours, so you have no reason to be angry or jealous. Instead, we must celebrate on this happy day because your brother was dead, but now he is alive again. He was lost, but now he is found!”

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To show how happy God is when a person repents, Jesus told this story:

A man had two sons. The younger son told his father that he wanted his inheritance now instead of when his father died. The father agreed and gave it to him.

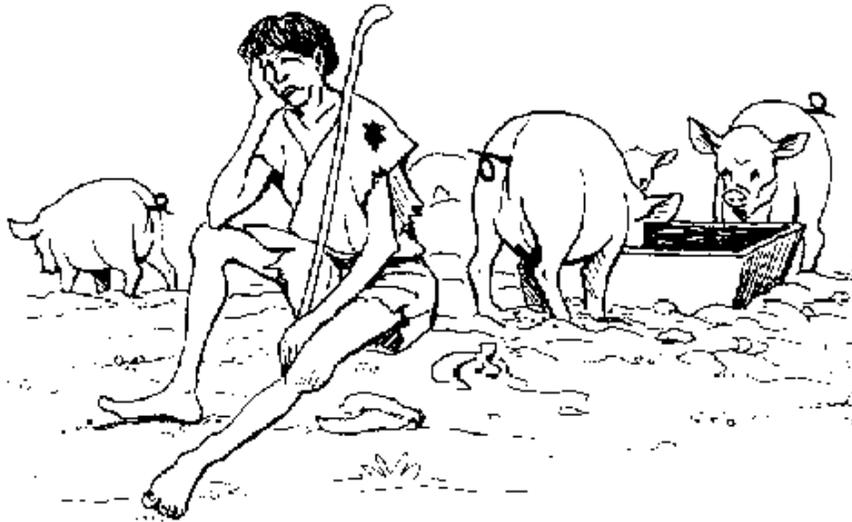
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So the father came out and begged his son to be joyful.

But the older son cried, “Why do you celebrate this son who has wasted your money on prostitutes?! You’ve never even killed a small goat for me and my friends!”

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When the boy's money was finished, a famine hit the land. Finally, the boy found work feeding pigs. He was so hungry the pig's food looked good to him. After a while, the boy came to his senses. He knew his father's hired help were given plenty of food. He decided to return to his father and say, "I have sinned and I am no longer worthy to be your son. Please let me be one of your hired men."

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Meanwhile the older son was busy working hard in the fields. When he finished his work and came home he heard music and celebrating. The older son asked a servant, “What’s going on?”

He was told, “Your father ordered the fat calf to be killed for a great feast to celebrate the safe return of your brother.”

The older brother was angry and would not go into the feast.

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So the boy returned home to his father. When the son was a long way away, the father saw him coming. Filled with love, the father ran to his son and hugged and kissed him, warmly welcoming him.

The son said, “Father, I have sinned against you and God and I am no longer worthy of being your son.”



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But the father said to his servants, “Quick! Bring the best clothes in the house to put on my son! Bring shoes for him and a nice ring! Kill a fat calf and prepare a feast! We will celebrate because my son was lost, but now he is found; he was dead but now he has returned to life!”

Soon a happy celebration began to take place.

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