

Youth Discussion Guide

For the week of June 16 - 22, 2019

Main Thought:

All throughout scripture, God is referred to as our “Heavenly Father,” but what does that mean? What does a relationship with our Heavenly Father look like? We all have some idea in our heads about what a father should be based on our experience with our earthly fathers (even if we’ve never met our earthly fathers, it affects our image of what a father looks like); but whether our earthly fathers have been good to us or not, they’re all only distorted images of what our Heavenly Father looks like. It’s kind of like looking through a camera with an unfocused lens, we only see a blurry image. To help us understand how much God loves us and how He relates to us as our Heavenly Father, Jesus gives us the parable of the Prodigal Son (Lost Son). We see from the parable that God is always searching and waiting for us to return to Him. He forgives us and welcomes us with open arms, and He does so because He loves us.

Main Passages:

“I will arise and go to my father, and I will say to him, ‘Father, I have sinned against heaven and before you. ¹⁹I am no longer worthy to be called your son. Treat me as one of your hired servants.’ ²⁰And he arose and came to his father. But while he was still a long way off, his father saw him and felt compassion, and ran and embraced him and kissed him. ²¹And the son said to him, ‘Father, I have sinned against heaven and before you. I am no longer worthy to be called your son.’ ²²But the father said to his servants, ‘Bring quickly the best robe, and put it on him, and put a ring on his hand, and shoes on his feet. ²³And bring the fattened calf and kill it, and let us eat and celebrate. ²⁴For this my son was dead, and is alive again; he was lost, and is found...” (Luke 15:18-24 ESV)

“...We implore you on behalf of Christ, be reconciled to God. For our sake he made him to be sin who knew no sin, so that in him we might become the righteousness of God.” (2 Corinthians 5:20-21 ESV)

Discussion Questions:

- What did you do for Father’s Day?
- What is one thing you appreciate about your father?
- Our earthly fathers are not perfect but our Heavenly Father is. How does our Heavenly Father’s perfect love cover the mistakes that our earthly fathers may have made?

Prayer:

- Pray for your dad.
- Pray for our upcoming Youth Camp. Pray for provision and favor, and that God would draw our friends to be at camp.