



Family Catechesis for First Reconciliation (Session 3) The Good Father and the Son who Came Back Home

Aim: To continue to share the Story of the Prodigal Son with your child and the other members of the family.

NOTE: This parable which Jesus told, is traditionally called the “Parable of the Prodigal Son”. Today we will find that the story can also be called, “*The Parable of the Good Father*”.

(If you have a cloak and a ring and a pair of sandals you might like to use them at the proper moment in the story.)

Parent: Invite and welcome the child and other members of the family to gather in a circle at home.

- ❖ Tell everyone: Today we are going to continue our story that we started last time.
- ❖ Let us imagine that Jesus is here in our home and it is he who will tell us the story.
- ❖ Invite all to be quiet and in their hearts welcome Jesus into their room with them.
- ❖ Last time we heard Jesus telling a story about a young man who decided to leave home.

Parent: Invite your child and the other members of the family to recall what happened in the first part of the story.

Parent: Now begin to tell the second part of the story, helped by other members of the family, who take different parts, telling the story, (Just like the last time):

The Parable of the Prodigal Son (Part 2):

M. Then the son came to his senses.

P. He said: “Here am I starving, while the servants in my Father’s house have plenty to eat.

I will go back to my Father and say:

“Father I have sinned against heaven and against you.

I am no longer worthy to be called your son.

Let me back as one of your servants.”

M. So he left that place and went back to his Father’s house.

Parent: Invite the children to share:

- **How was the young man feeling as he returned homewards?**
- **How was his Father feeling?** Then continue...

M. While his son was still a long way off, his Father saw him coming.

His heart filled with pity,

He ran towards his son.



P. He held him in his arms. Kissed him tenderly.

His son said: **M.** “I no longer deserve to be called your son.

Treat me as one of your paid servants.”

His father ordered his servants:

P. “Bring out the best robe and put it on him. **(Place a “robe” on your child)**. Put a ring on his finger. **(Place the ring on the finger of your child)**.

Put sandals on his feet. **(Place the sandals on the feet of your child)**.

M. (Only the members of the family had robes and rings and sandals. The servants did not.)

Parent: Invite the child and the other members of the family to share:

- **What was the Father doing to the son who came back home?**

Confirm their answers by sharing: The Father said to his son who had come back home:

- ❖ You are my son!
- ❖ I am so happy you have come home again!
- ❖ So, he ordered his servants to kill the fatted calf and have a feast in celebration.

Invite the child and other members of the family to share: **What do you think of the Father?**

**** Celebration:** Share some juice and biscuits among the family.

**** Promise:** Next time we will continue the story and find out about the other son who did not leave home.