

# God Is In Our Hearts: A Lesson on Forgiveness and God's Love

## GRADES 1-3 - Lesson I (Year III, Day 5)

**Goal:** To introduce children to the concept of forgiveness and how much God loves them.

**Lesson:** Sometimes, we choose to do the wrong thing. These choices are called sins. Our sins hurt God and others. We know that God loves us no matter what. He forgives us when we sin. He asks us to forgive others.

### Discussion:

Read: [The Prodigal Son](#)

Why did the younger son want his father to give him money?

How did the father feel—what did he tell his son?

Did the son spend the money wisely? What did he do?

How did the son feel when he had no more money?

What did the son decide to do?

How did the son say he was sorry?

How did the father answer him?

How did the older son feel about his brother when he returned?

What did the father tell the older son?

Were both sons wrong? Why?

Did the father forgive both sons?

### Activity:

Act out the story of the Prodigal Son. Identify students for the parts of: father, first son, second son, pig-owner (boss), animals and party-goers. Prepare the students for their parts for just a few minutes. . Act out the story, allowing the children to make up the words and have fun with the story.

**Prayer:** Dear Jesus, I'm sorry for the times I have chosen to do the wrong thing. Thank you for forgiving me. Help me to forgive other people. Amen.

*Lesson adapted from the plans on the Archdiocese of Los Angeles Office of Life, Justice and Peace website*