

RESCUED

Family Page • Session 6: Come Home • Luke 15:11-24

WHAT WE READ

We flashed back to Isaiah 55: return to the Lord, and he will abundantly pardon. Then, in the present: a son asked for his inheritance early, left home, wasted everything, and ended up feeding pigs, so hungry he wanted their food. He came to himself and headed home, planning to ask for a job as a servant. But his father saw him while he was still far off, ran to him, and embraced him before he could finish his speech. Then the father gave him a robe, a ring, shoes, and a feast: my son was dead and is alive again; he was lost and is found.

THE BIG IDEA

God is like this father. He runs when we turn around. The Church uses this story to describe what happens in Confession (CCC 1439): we tell the truth to the priest, and through his absolution Jesus himself forgives us and welcomes us home. Coming back to God is not about getting the speech right. It is about turning around and walking.

MEMORY VERSE

“While he was yet at a distance, his father saw him and had compassion, and ran.” (Luke 15:20)

ONE QUESTION FOR DINNER

What is the difference between feeling sorry about something and actually taking a step to put it right? Parents, share a time you had to walk home.

THIS WEEK'S ONE STEP

Help your child take the appropriate next step. Those already prepared for Confession can go with the family before the next session, each person making a private confession; the parish schedule came home tonight. Those preparing for Baptism or First Reconciliation should speak with the parish about preparation. Do not ask your child to tell you what they confessed.

A PRAYER FOR THE WEEK

Father, you saw us while we were still far off, and you ran. Give our family the courage to turn around. Amen.

NEXT TIME

Session 7: You Are Not on Your Own. We read what happened when three thousand people asked, What shall we do? (Acts 2:37-47).