He Saw, He Ran, He Gave

A 5-minute Father's Day devotional · Luke 15:20–22 (KJV)

Read Luke 15:20 aloud (or Luke 15:11–24 if you have time), **talk** through the three points, **ask** the questions, and **pray**. About 5 minutes, for kids church or the family table.

Read (Luke 15:20, KJV)

"And he arose, and came to his father. But when he was yet a great way off, his father saw him, and had compassion, and ran, and fell on his neck, and kissed him."

Talk: three things the father did

1. He saw. His son was "yet a great way off", but his father saw him. God sees every one of us, wherever we are. Every child here has a Father in heaven: the Bible calls God "A father of the fatherless" (Psalm 68:5).

2. He ran. The father "had compassion, and ran". He didn't wait for his son to reach the door. God is ready to forgive us: "If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins" (1 John 1:9).

3. He gave. The son came home with nothing, and his father said, "Bring forth the best robe, and put it on him; and put a ring on his hand, and shoes on his feet" (Luke 15:22). God gives good things to His children.

Ask

- What did the son plan to say to his father? (Luke 15:18–19)
- How do you think he felt when his father ran to him?
- Is there something you need to tell God you're sorry for? He is ready to forgive.

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For dads, and every man who cares for a child

"And, ye fathers, provoke not your children to wrath: but bring them up in the nurture and admonition of the Lord." (Ephesians 6:4, KJV)

"And thou shalt teach them diligently unto thy children, and shalt talk of them when thou sittest in thine house, and when thou walkest by the way, and when thou liest down, and when thou risest up." (Deuteronomy 6:7, KJV)

This week: let your children hear you read God's Word and see you pray. Talk about Luke 15 at the table or on the way to church, just as Deuteronomy 6:7 says.

Pray

Dear God, thank You for being a Father who sees us, runs to us and forgives us. Bless every dad, grandpa and man who cares for a child here today. Help us come to You quickly when we do wrong. In Jesus' name, amen.

Memory verse (1 John 1:9, KJV):
"If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins, and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness."

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