COPY MASTERS

GRADES 3-4
YEAR 1 | SPRING

Sunday School
I am the light of the world.  
Whoever follows me will never walk in darkness,  
but will have the light of life.

John 8:12  
(NIV 1984)
Younger son  
Father  
Older son  
God the Father  
Jewish leaders and others who look down on “sinners”  
Us sinners

Younger son  
Father  
Older son  
God the Father  
Jewish leaders and others who look down on “sinners”  
Us sinners
Look up each Bible passage to find out what God tells us about his love and forgiveness. After you read the passage, answer the question with a complete sentence.

1. Romans 3:23—Who needs forgiveness of sins?

___________________________________________________________________________________

2. Romans 3:20—What shows us that we are sinners?

___________________________________________________________________________________


___________________________________________________________________________________

4. Ephesians 1:7—Through what are we forgiven and made holy?

___________________________________________________________________________________

5. Galatians 3:26—Since God forgives us, as what does he welcome us?

___________________________________________________________________________________

6. Ephesians 4:32—Because God has so wonderfully forgiven us, how does he want us to act towards others?

___________________________________________________________________________________
A Father Shows Great Love

Complete each sentence with a word from the Bible lesson. Then circle the words in the word search puzzle below. The words may be found going across, down, or diagonally.

1. Jesus told this __ __ __ __ __ __ about a father’s great love.
2. A certain man had two __ __ __ __ .
3. One son left home and __ __ __ __ __ __ his money on wild parties.
4. About that same time a very bad __ __ __ __ __ __ came to that land.
5. The son fed the __ __ __ __ and wished he could eat their food.
6. He realized that he had __ __ __ __ __ __ against God and his father.
7. When he arrived home, he told his __ __ __ __ __ __ he did not deserve to be his son.
8. The father welcomed his son home because he __ __ __ __ __ __ him.
9. A calf was prepared for a __ __ __ __ __ __ to celebrate.
10. But the __ __ __ __ __ son refused to come in to the celebration.
11. The father said, “Your brother was __ __ __ __ and has come to life again.

He was __ __ __ __ and now has been found!”
12. When we come to God in repentance, we know that he will __ __ __ __ __ __ __ us.

Write a sentence to tell how God our heavenly Father is like the father in the parable.

______________________________________________________________________________________
Welcome Home

PART 1

Pretend that you are the son who has returned home. Write a paragraph telling what you now think about the sinful life you led. Also tell how you feel now that your father has forgiven you and has welcomed you back as his son.

__________________________________________________________________________________
__________________________________________________________________________________
__________________________________________________________________________________
__________________________________________________________________________________
__________________________________________________________________________________

PART 2

You know that as a sinner, you are like the younger son. God has forgiven you and welcomed you back as his child just as the father in the parable did. Write a paragraph telling how you feel knowing that God loves you, forgives you, and welcomes you back as his child.

__________________________________________________________________________________
__________________________________________________________________________________
__________________________________________________________________________________
__________________________________________________________________________________
__________________________________________________________________________________
__________________________________________________________________________________
When Heaven Celebrates

Luke 15:1-10

Lost and Found

One day Tina went shopping at a new mall with her mother. The mall was very large and crowded with people. Her mother said, “Tina, stay close to me. I don’t want you to wander off and get lost.”

But soon Tina saw an interesting game in a shop window. She forgot what her mother had told her and went into the store to look at it. After a few minutes, Tina went back out into the mall to find her mother. But she couldn’t see her anywhere. Tina realized she had no clue where her mother was. Tina began to feel frightened.

Meanwhile, Tina’s mother was looking all over for her. She kept asking people if they had seen her daughter. And she kept calling Tina’s name.

How do you think Tina’s mother felt when she finally found her daughter?

Tina’s mother rejoiced when she found Tina. She gave her daughter a big hug. How relieved she felt when Tina was once again safe in her care!

In today’s Bible reading, Jesus tells us what causes God and the angels to rejoice in a similar way. We’ll learn the answer to the question,

What causes God and the angels to rejoice?
Luke 15:1-10

1. Now the tax collectors and “sinners” were all gathering around to hear him. 2. But the Pharisees and the teachers of the law muttered, “This man welcomes sinners and eats with them.”

3. Then Jesus told them this parable: 4. “Suppose one of you has a hundred sheep and loses one of them. Does he not leave the ninety-nine in the open country and go after the lost sheep until he finds it? 5. And when he finds it, he joyfully puts it on his shoulders and goes home. Then he calls his friends and neighbors together and says, ‘Rejoice with me; I have found my lost sheep.’ 7. ‘I tell you that in the same way there will be more rejoicing in heaven over one sinner who repents than over ninety-nine righteous persons who do not need to repent.

8. Or suppose a woman has ten silver coins and loses one. Does she not light a lamp, sweep the house and search carefully until she finds it? 9. And when she finds it, she calls her friends and neighbors together and says, ‘Rejoice with me; I have found my lost coin.’ 10. In the same way, I tell you, there is rejoicing in the presence of the angels of God over one sinner who repents.”

1. Read verses 1 and 2. With whom did Jesus gather and eat?
2. Who didn’t like what Jesus was doing? (verse 2)
3. What did the Pharisees and the teachers of the law refuse to believe about themselves?
4. The Pharisees didn’t realize that, like all people, they were sinners who needed Jesus to be their Savior. Who are sinners in need of a Savior?

All _____________ are sinners in need of a Savior.

5. What did Jesus say that a shepherd would do if one of his sheep became lost? (verse 4)
6. How would this shepherd show his happiness when he found his lost sheep? (verse 6)
7. Just as each sheep is important to a shepherd, each sinner is important to God. God wants each sinner to repent of his sins and be saved. Over what do God and all of heaven rejoice? (verse 7)

God and all of heaven rejoice over each _____________ who repents.

8. What did Jesus say that a woman would do if she lost one of her silver coins? (verse 8)
9. Whom would the woman call to rejoice with her when she found her coin? (verse 9)
10. Who rejoices with God whenever a sinner repents? (verse 10)

The _____________ rejoice with God whenever a sinner repents.

What causes God and the angels to rejoice?

God and the angels rejoice over each _____________ who _____________.
Words to Treasure
Luke 19:10
The Son of Man came to seek and to save what was lost.

Table Talk

• What does it mean to repent of our sins?
• How often should we repent of our sins? Why?
• Why is it dangerous if we refuse to see our sins and repent of them?
• Who suffered the punishment for our sins? When did he suffer the punishment we deserve?
• Why is this lesson a comfort for those who think that God doesn’t care about them?
• Why is it important that we hear the message of God’s law often? Why is it important that we also hear the message of the gospel often?

This Week’s Family ✔ List

• The next time you pray together as a family, allow a few moments of silent prayer for each person to confess personal sins to God. Then close your prayer by thanking God for the forgiveness he has given each of you through Jesus.

• Use an object lesson to teach your family what can happen when a person refuses to repent of her sins. Put water in a bowl, and explain that the bowl of water represents a person’s heart. Then put the bowl into the freezer, and check it periodically. Point out that at first the water gets cold. Then it begins to harden until it is frozen solid. So also, the heart of a person who refuses to repent of her sins can become hardened in sin and unbelief as she wanders away from God. Remind your family that God still loves this sinner and rejoices if the person is brought back to him through his Word.

• Read Matthew 3:1, 2, and answer the following questions: As John the Baptist preached to the people, what did he urge them to do? Why is John’s message still important for people to hear today?

• Does your family know someone who appears to be wandering away from God? Pray for that person, and invite him to attend church or Bible class with your family.

• Discuss why human pride sometimes makes it difficult for us to repent. Pray that God would help each of you confess his sins and need for the Savior.
2 Together

- **Responsive Reading:** Confess your sins by reading responsively Psalm 51:1-12, the psalm of repentance King David wrote after he had sinned. Divide into two groups, and have one group read the lines that are not indented, while the other reads the indented lines.

- **Hymns to Sing:** Rejoice in the forgiveness that Jesus won for us by singing one or more of the following hymns: “Come unto Me, Ye Weary” (hymn 336), “Amazing Grace—How Sweet the Sound” (hymn 379), and “Chief of Sinners Though I Be” (hymn 385).

- **Bible Study:** Read Luke 17:3b,4, and discuss the following questions: What does God want us to do if someone who has sinned against us repents? What does God want us to do if that person keeps sinning and repenting over and over again?

- **Replay:** Divide into two groups. Have one group act out Luke 15:4-7 and the other act out Luke 15:8-10. This can be done as a pantomime or with a narrator. Then have each group explain the meaning of its parable.

### Prayer

*Dear heavenly Father, we sin against you so many times each day. How thankful we are that you love each of us so much and are willing to forgive us over and over again for Jesus’ sake! Help us always remain your dear children. Amen.*

**Answers:** 1. tax collectors and “sinners”; 2. the Pharisees and the teachers of the law; 3. They too were sinners. 4. people; 5. He would leave his other sheep and go after the lost sheep until he found it. 6. He would call his friends and neighbors and ask them to rejoice with him. 7. sinner; 8. She would light a lamp, sweep her house, and search until she found it. 9. her friends and neighbors; 10. angels

*God and the angels rejoice over each sinner who repents.*