



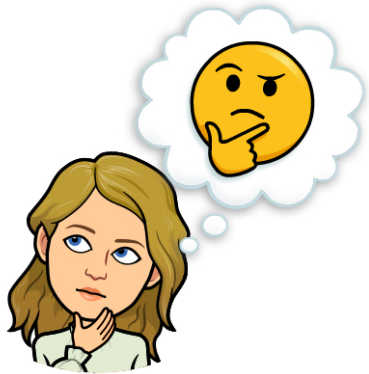
Good afternoon, Year 3 ☺

Today, we will be continuing our new RE topic all about **Reconciliation**. We will be learning all about this special Sacrament of forgiveness, reflecting on some important Bible stories and thinking about the different choices that we make in our lives.

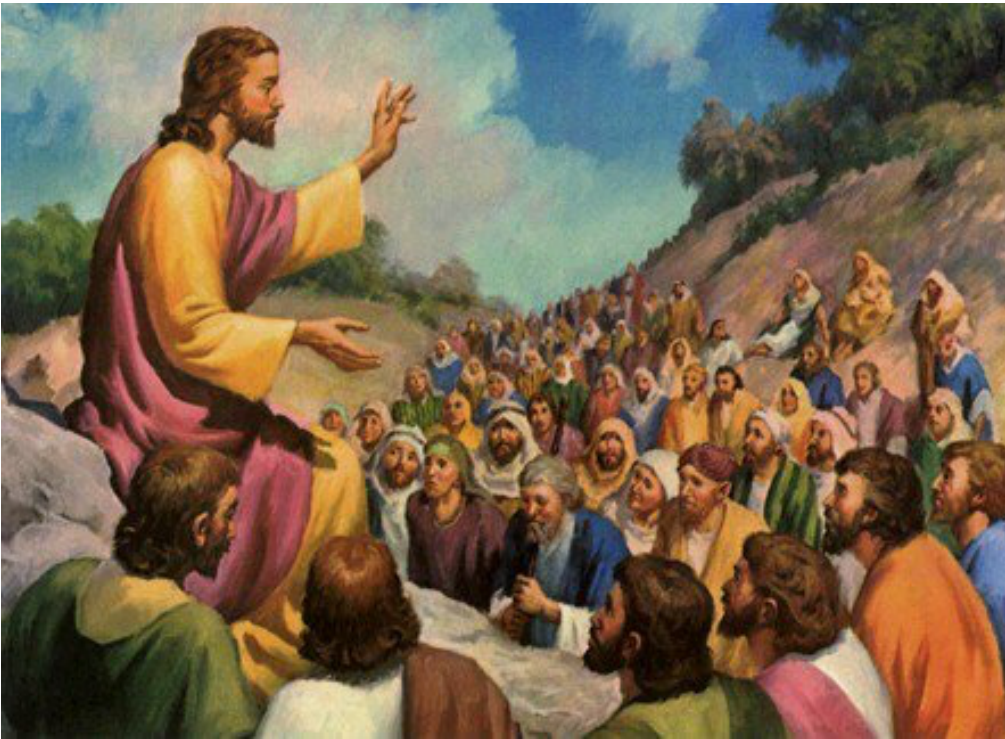
Last lesson, we thought about **choices** and how God has given us a special gift to make our own choices.

Today, we will learn about a special parable that Jesus told all about the importance of choices.





What is a parable?



A **parable** is a special story that Jesus told with a **special meaning**.

Jesus sometimes used parables to **help people understand the consequences of their choices** and about the **love and forgiveness of God**. Can you think of any parables?



Good Samaritan



Good Samaritan

Parables of

JESUS

- The Sower •
- The Talents •
- The Lost Son •
- The Lost Sheep •
- The Mustard Seed •
- The Good Samaritan •
- The Wise and Foolish Builders •



The Sower



Wise and foolish builders

Today, we are going to learn about one of the most famous parables.

This parable is called the **prodigal son** or it is sometimes called the **lost son**.



Read through the story on the next pages.

There is also a link to watch the story on the school website page.

There was once a man who had two sons.



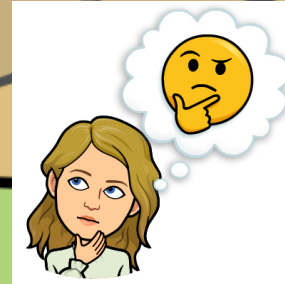
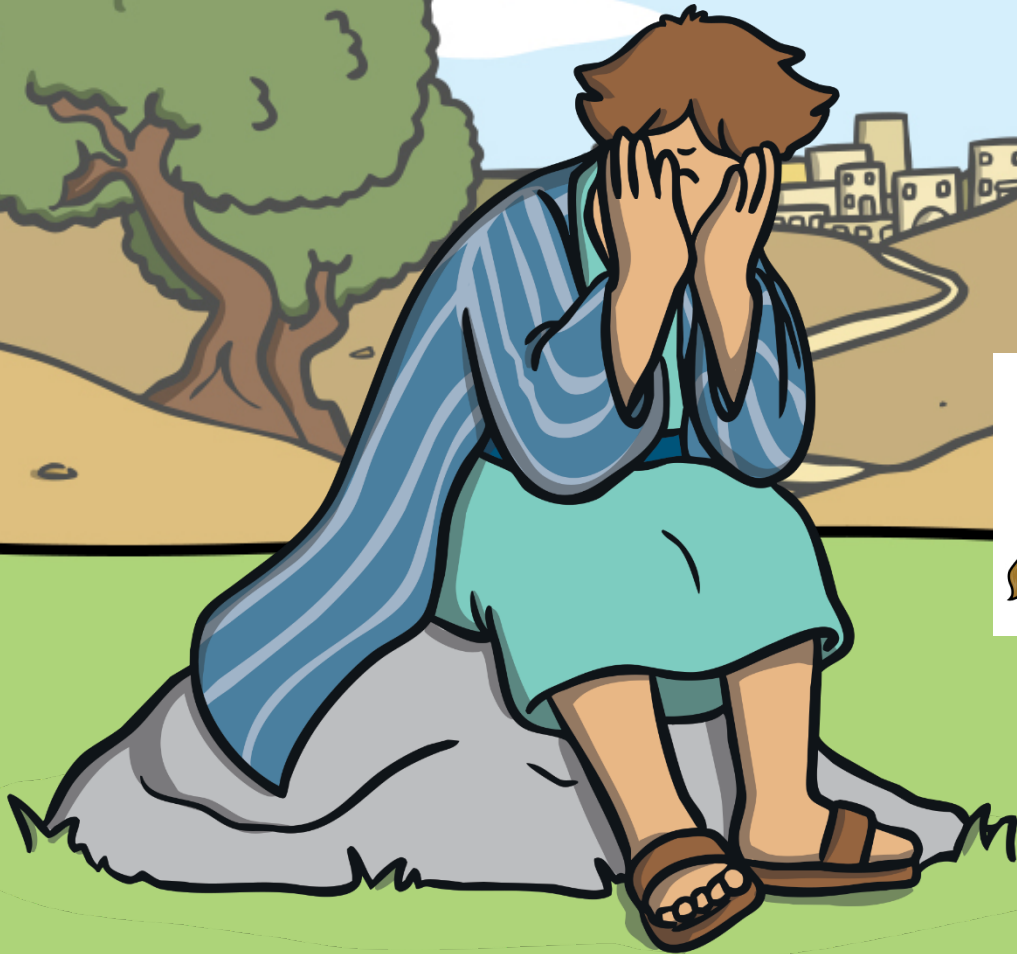
One day, the youngest son asked his father for his inheritance money.



The father thought about it and divided what he owned between them, giving his sons their inheritance.

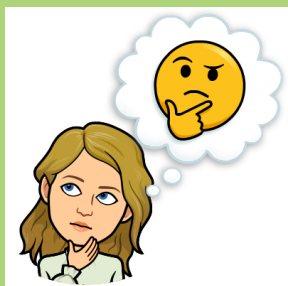


The youngest son moved far away and very soon spent all of his money.



What do you think he spent it on?
Why did he spend it so quickly?

He was very hungry and had no place to live, so he decided to get a job. He was given a job feeding pigs but no-one gave him anything to eat.

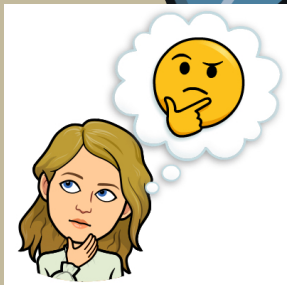
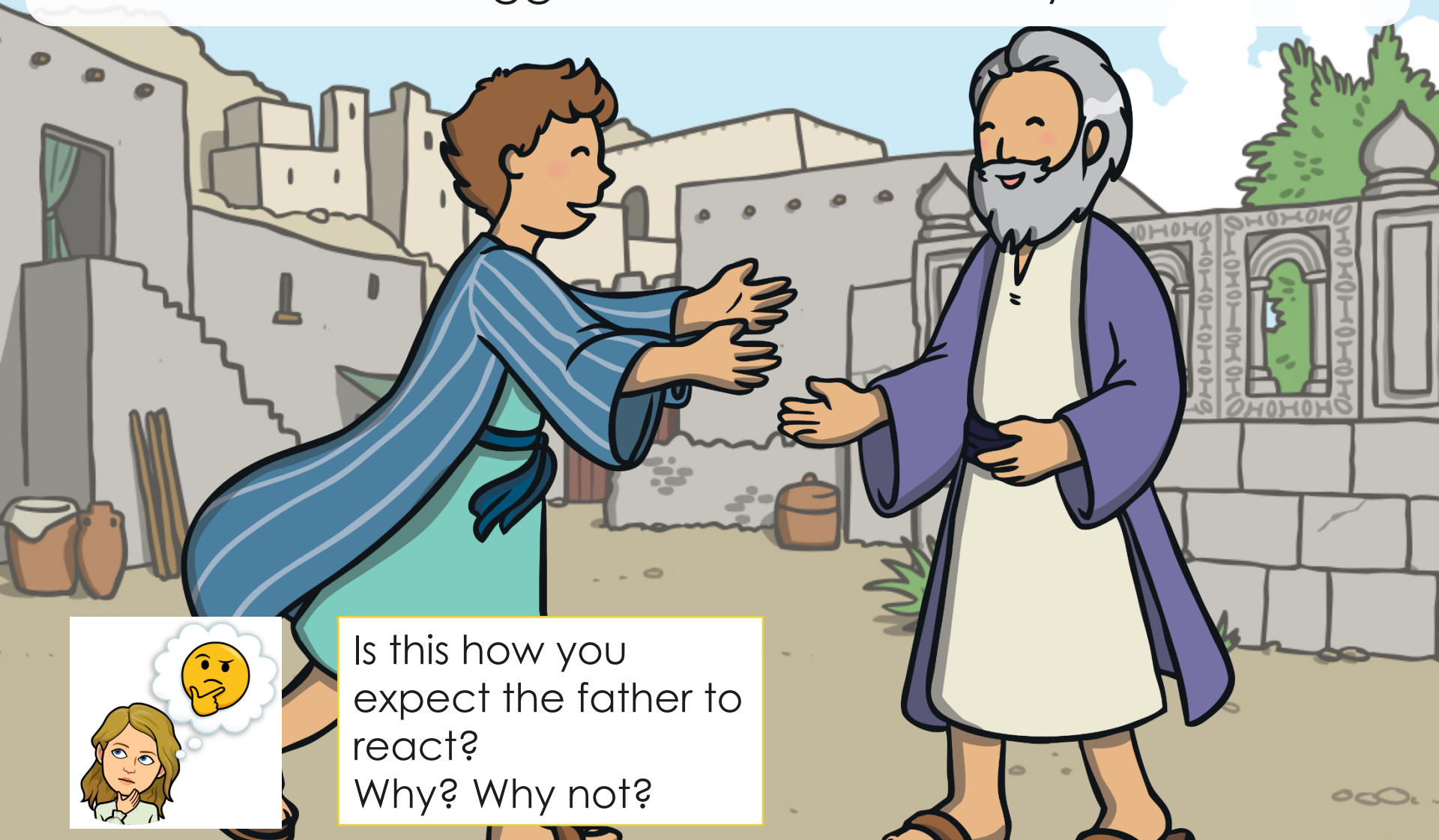


How would this make him feel?

The son was very sad and very sorry for what he had done. Back home, even his father's hired men were fed well. He decided to go back home, say sorry and ask his father for a job as a servant.



When the father saw his youngest son returning, he was filled with great joy and ran to greet his returning son. He hugged and kissed the boy.

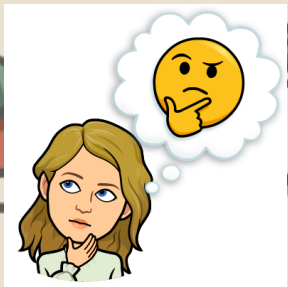


Is this how you expect the father to react?
Why? Why not?

The father dressed him up in the best robe, some new sandals and put a ring on his finger. The father was so happy that his son had returned that he threw a great feast to celebrate!



While the younger brother had been away, the older brother had been working hard for his father and saved all of his inheritance. When he heard that his brother had returned with nothing and a great feast was being thrown for him, he felt very angry and jealous.



Why do you think he was angry and jealous?



But the father did not want his son to be jealous and angry. "We must celebrate and rejoice," he told his older son, "because it is as if this brother of yours was dead and has come to life; he was lost and has been found."



Key questions:

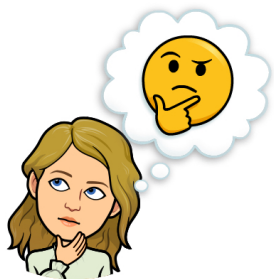
What choices did the two sons make? Why?

What choices did the Father make?

What is the Father like?

How does this parable affect our lives?

Do you think the Father's choice was easy?



If you aren't sure of the answers to these questions, there are answers on the next slides 😊



What choices did the two sons make? Why?

- The youngest son made the choice to spend his inheritance quickly.
- He also made the choice to return home and say sorry.
- The older son made the choice to stay at home and help his father.
- He also made the choice to be angry at his brother at the end of the story.



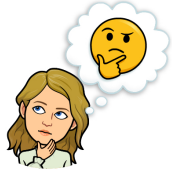
What choices did the two sons make? Why?

- The youngest son made the choice to spend his inheritance quickly.
- He also made the choice to return home and say sorry because he realised that he was lost without his father and he needed him.
- The older son made the choice to stay at home and help his father.
- He also made the choice to be angry at his brother at the end of the story because he was jealous of him.

What choices did the father make?

The father made the very important choice to forgive his younger son because he was truly sorry. The father knows the importance of forgiveness.

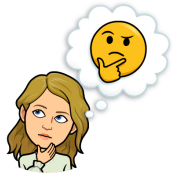




Who is the father like?

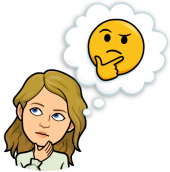
The father is like God. He shows us that forgiving others is really important especially when they are truly sorry for their actions. Forgiving others isn't always easy but we have to try to find it within our hearts to forgive.

How does this parable affect our lives?



It shows us the importance of forgiveness and that God loves us no matter what. It is okay to make mistakes as long as we are truly sorry for them and ask for forgiveness.

Do you think the father's choice was easy?



I think the Father's choice was difficult because his son had been away for a long time and made lots of mistakes. However, the father loves his son very much and knew that he was truly sorry. He knew that the right thing was to forgive him.

Your task: Create your own **story board of the story**. Draw a picture of the key events in the story and write a sentence or two about each picture. See my example below, the word mat and the templates on the next few pages to help you 😊



There was once a man who had two sons. The youngest son asked his inheritance.

Easier template

Write a sentence about each picture.





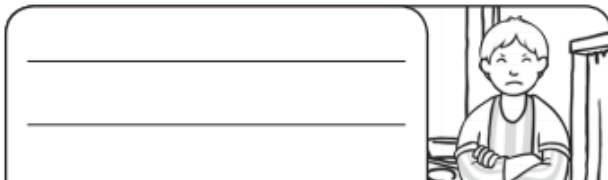


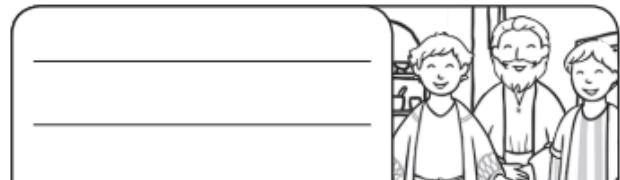












The Prodigal Son Word Mat



prodigal son



sons



father



jealous



robe



return



inheritance



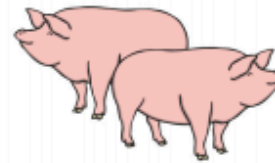
hugged



feast



run



pigs



money

younger

older

party

kissed

servant

happy

welcomed

forgave

sorry

Challenge: What does this parable teach us about forgiveness?



Reflection: Think about your actions over the last few weeks. Is there anyone in your family who you need to say sorry to? How could you show them that you are truly sorry?

Optional task: Make them a forgiveness hug like the one below.



Dear God,
Sometimes it's hard to believe how much you love us. Thank you, that like the father did for his son in the story, you love and forgive us, no matter how far we've strayed. Help us to see the blessings you provide and not take them for granted. Thank you for your love and forgiveness.

Amen





Thank you for working so hard.
You are all superstars.
Please send in any photos of your work to
yearthree@st-jo-st.dudley.sch.uk