

## Children's Church at Home 6 September 2020

Matthew 18:15-20 and Luke 15:3-7

Dealing with sin (and sorting out problems with friends)

**Craft ingredients:** cotton wool, pipe cleaners, beads (optional), pritt stick, cardboard tube (or card you can cut and roll up to make a tube), scissors.

**Introduction:** Jesus said we should look after each other, just like the way he looks after us. (John 13:15). Read or watch this story about a shepherd who realises that one of his sheep is lost. Luke 15:3-5, Lion First Bible pages 378-383 or

**Story:** <https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=Luke+15:3-7>

**Video:** <https://youtu.be/Ry2MaMyvGo>

**Game:** (Note to adults: read this slowly aloud and ask the children to stop you and correct the mistakes when they hear them. )<sup>3</sup> Then *Superman* told them this story: <sup>4</sup> "Suppose one of you has *25 guinea pigs*, but one of them gets lost. What will you do? You will leave the other *43 pigeons* there in the field and go out and look for the lost *elephant*. You will continue to search for it until you find it. <sup>5</sup> And when you find it, you will *cry and cry*. You will carry it <sup>6</sup> home, go to your friends and *teachers* and say to them, 'Be angry with me because I found my lost *puppy*!' <sup>7</sup> In the same way, I tell you, heaven is a happy place when one sinner decides to change. There is more joy for that one sinner than for 99 good people who don't need to change.

**Think:** well, if we are to act like Jesus, what do we do when someone is nasty to us? Should you

- A. Say something even nastier back?
- B. Decide never to talk to that person again?
- C. Tell your friends to keep away from them?
- D. Tell them that what they said made you sad, but you'd like to be friends again?

Or, if you got cross and said something nasty to someone else, what could you do?

Maybe it would be helpful to have a grown up to help you if it's going to be a difficult conversation. But we can be sure that Jesus wants us to be friends, and look after each other, and work together. That means saying sorry quickly. And sweetly saying 'that's ok' when someone says sorry to us. Whatever happens, we must be happy and friendly, like the shepherd in the story. Then, together, we can ask Jesus for anything, anything at all. (Matthew 18: 19-20)

Now read Matthew 18:15-20.

<https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=Matthew+18%3A15-20&version=ERV>

**Craft:** see video.

**Activity:** this is a game for pairs, so you should be able to play at home!

### **Backwards Minefield Walk**

One person will be the walker and the other person will give directions. Set up a "minefield" with a variety of obstacles that the kids must avoid. You can use chairs, tables, toys or any other objects you have available. The walker must walk backwards through the minefield without stepping on or bumping into anything. They must also avoid bumping into other kids walking through the minefield. They must trust their partner to guide them safely through the minefield telling them how many steps and in which direction. If a walker gets nervous and turns around, the pair has to start over. When a team successfully makes it through, have them switch places and repeat the exercise.

(thanks to <https://howtoadult.com/trustbuilding-exercises-kids-10797.html> for the idea!)

**Prayer:** this is a repeat after me prayer:

Dear God,  
Dear God, (and so on ..)

Thank you for Jesus

who teaches us

how to stay and work together

so we can better share

your love and healing with others. Amen.

Father God, please bless and care for our brothers and sisters, (you could say their names aloud) and all families. Amen.

The Grace: May the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ and the love of God and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with us all, evermore. Amen.