

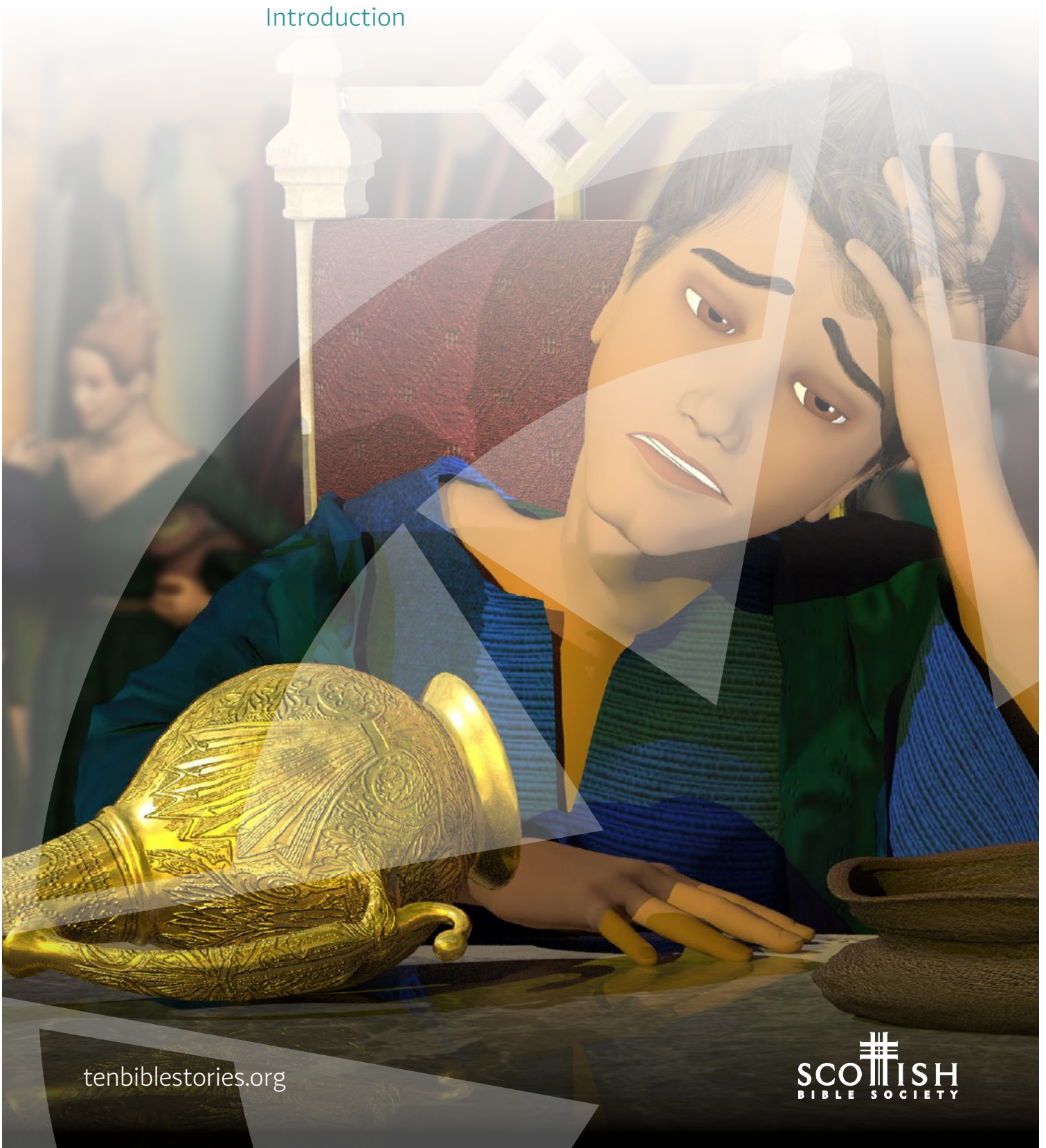


MUST KNOW BIBLE STORIES

stories worth exploring

The Prodigal Son

Introduction



Introduction

This topic is part of a suite of classroom resources developed by Ten Must Know Bible Stories. It is available as a First and Second Level resource.

These resources are designed to support learning across the curriculum and demonstrate how RME can be embedded within learning and will support the values and ethos of the school. This fits with the 4 capacities and the 4 contexts of learning.

The Prodigal Son Learning Resource can be used:

- When you're looking at **parables** within the RME curriculum.
- When you're discussing **saying sorry** and **showing forgiveness**.
- As a stand alone topic you can **link to other areas of the curriculum**.



Note to Head Teachers:

This topic delivers key parts of the RME curriculum, and supports Literacy, Health & Well-being and Outdoor Learning. In helping children to explore wrongdoing, repentance, forgiveness and restoration, it also supports the wider school culture, ethos and values. It can further help the school support families and develop wider community links, e.g. with charities and faith groups.



Note to Teachers:

The Prodigal Son is a parable. A story Jesus told to help people understand more about their own wrong doing and God's love and forgiveness. As children explore the story and the Christian beliefs contained in it, they also discover the relevance to their own lives.

The story raises questions that allow children to explore and express their own beliefs and thoughts on how the world should work.

- **Saying sorry:** Are words enough? How can our actions show we are sorry?
- **Forgiveness:** Do we need to forgive anyone? Can you forgive even if the other person hasn't said sorry?
- **Restoring friendships:** How do we show we've forgiven someone? How can we restore broken friendships?

The section of the Bible on which this topic is based is: Luke 15:11-31.



Note to School Chaplains or School Workers:

You can work in partnership with teachers in your school to help deliver this material. Some of the resources can also be adapted to create really lively Time for Reflection school assemblies.



How to use the material for this story

As with all other Ten Must Know Bible Stories, you need to start with Session 1: Hear and Explore the Story. You can then 'pick and mix' from the sessions that follow. Each session can stand by itself or can be combined with other sessions depending on the age of your children and the length of your lesson.

First Level

Session 1: Hear and Explore the Story.

Session 2: Choices.

Session 3: Saying Sorry and Offering Forgiveness.

Second Level

Session 1: Hear and Explore the Story.

Session 2: Exploring Sin, Repentance, Forgiveness and Restoration.

Session 3: Reflecting on the Story.

Additionally you can access

Additional Resources for the Prodigal Son.

Tale of Two Sons: PowerPoint. (This is a free downloadable resource from the Scottish Bible Society. The images can be used to help you tell the story or for activities such as sequencing.)

Each session supports learning across the curriculum for example Literacy, Health & Well-being and Social studies.

Although we don't provide resources to do this, this learning could easily be extended to consider what other faith or ethnic or non faith groups believe about wrong doing, consequences and forgiveness.

The sessions are designed to be extended with learning across the curricular areas. This will increase the depth and richness of the children's learning, ensuring they know the story and have been allowed to explore the many aspects of it. Some ideas are provided below but we're sure you'll have more of your own.



Extending the Learning across the Curriculum

Expressive Arts

- What would the characters say about what happened? Create a play script. Hot Seat.
- Use old/traditional children's Bibles with graphics and compare them with the Scottish Bible Society images. Which do children prefer and why?
- Create some outdoor artwork using natural objects.
- Tell the story with music to reflect the changing emotions.
- Create artwork focussing on the facial expressions the characters might have shown.

Social Studies

- Find out about Jewish Kosher food.

Languages

- If telephones had been invented ... imagine a conversation between the younger and older brother.
- Write a postcard home as if you were the younger brother.
- Create a comic strip of the story.
- Add speech bubbles to pictures of the story.
- Pretend to be an agony aunt replying to letters from the characters.

Health and Well-being

- Plan a menu for a feast
- Link it to emotions, friendship, bullying.

Numeracy

- Could you budget better than the younger brother?