



Overview - Lesson Four

Wow Theme Verse:

I can do all things because Christ gives me the strength.
Philippians 4:13 NLV

Key Word: Love

Unselfish care and affection for others.

Message: God Gives us Love!

Lesson Verse:

“For God so loved the world that He gave his one and only Son, that whosoever believes in Him shall not perish but have eternal life.” – John 3:16

Story:

Paraphrase from Luke 15:11-32 - The Prodigal Son

The son who ran away from home returns to the loving arms of a forgiving father.

A young man went to his father and asked him to give him the inheritance that would be his when his father died. But, even though the father was sad that his son wanted to leave, he gave him his share of the family fortune and the young man sold the property that he was given and took the money that he made and left home to go off to a distant land and travel all around the world. Since the young man had a lot of money, if he saw something he wanted, he probably bought it, and since he had a lot of money, he also had a ton of friends who liked to hang around him. After a while, the young man began to run out of money and then... he then ran completely out of money. When he ran out of money, guess what?, his friends decided to bail on him too. He was so desperate that he went to work for a man who sent him to feed his pigs.

“Then he came to his senses” and as he looked at the filthy pig pen, he thought about the mess he had made of his life. He thought about his father and the home he had left behind.

"Even a servant in my father's house lives better than this," the young man said to himself. "I will return to my father and tell him that I am sorry for the way I have behaved and ask him to give me a job as one of his servants."

Was the father was willing to take him back? Yes, he was. Did the father take him back as a servant? No, not as a servant, he welcomed him back home as a son. He called all of his servants together and told them, "Let's have a feast and celebrate. “My son was dead and but now he’s back to life... this son of mine was lost, but now is found."





Go Deeper - Lesson Four

Today's word of the day is **LOVE!**

For the last video, we heard the story of the Prodigal Son from Luke chapter 15. When the son told his father to give him his inheritance, he was basically saying he didn't care if his father lived or died. All he wanted was the money. Ouch.

After partying hard and wasting all of his money, the son had nowhere left to turn. We heard in the video that he got so hungry that he wanted to eat the food he was giving to the pigs – he was desperate, alone, and ashamed. He came up with a plan to return to his father's house to beg to be a servant – he didn't expect that his family would still **love** him at all.

Imagine together as a family what the son must have thought as he saw his father running down the road to meet him...

Was he angry?

Was he going to chase him away?

Did the son hold his breath, waiting to be yelled at, or worse?

The last thing he would have expected was the response he got:

His father threw his arms around him and kissed him.

His father rejoiced that he was alive and found.

His father **loved** him.

After all that he had done. After all that he had thrown away. After all...His father **loved** him.

Talk together about how this story tells us about the **love** of God. What can we learn about God from this?

Work together to memorize our key verse: "For God so **loved** the world that He gave his one and only Son, that whosoever believes in Him shall not perish but have eternal life." – John 3:16

There is no **love** that compares to this.

No **love** so deep, no **love** so wide, no **love** so strong, no **love** so permanent.

Can you think together of five different words for God's great **love**?

_____		_____
_____		_____

Take some time to thank God together for the amazing **love** He gives.





Go Deeper - Lesson Four Game Activity

HIDE AND SEEK

The cool thing about the **love** of God is that it is ALWAYS seeking us. Even when we'd like to hide, God's love is pursuing us.

Today's game is one you've probably played before, but it's a good one! Pick a "seeker" to close their eyes as the rest of the participants find places to hide. After a while (maybe counting to 30), the seeker's job is to find the hiding ones! The last one found can be the seeker for the next round.

Have fun!

Go Deeper - Lesson Four Craft Activity

PAPER HEART POUCH

Click the link to view the craft video for lesson four: <https://youtu.be/naFMVMoc07c>

Materials Needed:

- 8x11 sheet of pink paper
- Scissors
- Yarn
- Stickers
- Staples or Scotch tape
- Something to put inside







Quiz - Episode Four

- 1 Who was the co-host game today?
- 2 What is the word for the day?
- 3 At the end of Mr Tim's trick, how many dots were on the card?
- 4 Fill in the blank
"For God so loved the world that He gave his one and only _____, that
whosoever believes in Him shall not perish but have eternal _____."
John 3:16
- 5 What is the story for the day?



LOVE

For God so loved the world that He gave His one and only Son, that whoever believes in Him shall not perish but have eternal life.

John 3:16



BIG IDEA

Eternal life is made possible by God's eternal love.

GOD GIVES US LOVE