

Lost Son Skit

Actors/Helpers

- Narrator
- Prop assistant
- Father
- Son
- Friend of son
- Pig 1
- Pig 2

What You Need

- Bible
- Picture of a pig or toy pig
- Bag in which to place pig
- Two bathrobes or Bible times robes
- Money (play money or real money)
- Suitcase
- Two party hats
- Candy bar
- Ball
- Bag of peapods (to represent the pods the pigs ate; the pods were likely seeds of the carob tree)
- Ring for son's finger
- Pair of sandals or slippers

(Beforehand, choose your narrator, prop assistant and actors. Adult leaders are best for the roles of the narrator, prop assistant and father. Preteens or teenagers are best for the roles of the son and son's friend. Cubbies are best for the roles of the pigs.)

(Just prior to the start of the skit, give the narrator the Bible and a bag with the pig toy or picture in it. Give the father a robe to wear and the money. Give the rest of the props to your prop assistant, so he or she can help actors during the skit.)

NARRATOR: Cubbies, in this bag is something from our story today. Who would like to come up and pull the item from the bag?

(Narrator chooses a Cubbie volunteer to pull the pig toy or picture from the bag and show it to the group.)

A pig! Are you wondering how a PIG will fit into our story today? Well, we will have to wait and see. *(Narrator opens Bible to Luke 15:11-24.)* When Jesus lived on earth, He liked to tell stories to help people learn about God. These stories are called parables. One day, Jesus told a parable about a father who lost his son. Here is the story Jesus told:

There was a man who had two sons.

(Father and son enter. Father is wearing robe and carrying money.)

The youngest son said to his father —

SON: Father, give me my inheritance.

NARRATOR: Cubbies, do you know what an inheritance was? An inheritance was the money the father promised to give his son when the father died. But the father wasn't even dead yet, and his son was demanding his money. That's sort of rude, don't you think?

But the father was kind, so he gave his son the money.

(Father hands son the money and exits. Son puts money in his pocket.)

A few days later, the son packed up all this things.

(Prop assistant gives son the suitcase.)

He set out on a long trip to a faraway land.

(Son travels around the room carrying his suitcase and then returns to the front of room and sets down suitcase. Friend enters.)

When the son got to the faraway land, he had wild parties with his friends.

(Prop assistant puts party hats on son and friend and gives son a candy bar. Son and friend laugh and look like they are having fun.)

He ate whatever kind of food he wanted.

(Son unwraps candy bar and takes a bite. Then prop assistant takes away the candy bar and gives him a ball.)

He played all day with his friends.

(Son and friend play catch with the ball.)

The son did some very bad things in the faraway land. He broke the rules his father had taught him, and he did whatever he wanted! He was so happy to be rid of his father and his rules forever. He felt so free!

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(Son dances and jumps around joyfully.)

But one day all his money was gone. He had spent it all!

(Son hands all his money, the party hat and the ball to the prop assistant.)

Then a famine came to the land — which means that it was very hard for people to find food. The son was hungry and alone. All his friends left him.

(Friend exits and waves to the son.)

Things weren't fun anymore. So the son decided to get a job feeding pigs.

(The two pigs crawl on the floor near the son and make oinking sounds. The prop assistant gives the son the bag of peapods and he drops them on the floor for the pigs.)

He was so hungry that he wished he could eat some of the pods that the pigs ate, but no one said he could have any.

After a while, the son didn't like living in the faraway land anymore. He said —

SON: My father's servants always have plenty of bread, but I'm starving over here. I will go back to my father and tell him I've sinned and I'm sorry.

NARRATOR: So the son started to go home to his father's house.

(Son picks up suitcase and starts walking around the room again.)

Cubbies, what do you think will happen next? How will the father treat his son when he gets home? Will the son be punished (get in trouble)? Will the father be angry? *(Allow speculation.)*

(Father enters and holds his hand above his eyes as if he is looking off into the distance. Son stays towards the back of the room.)

While the son was still a long way from home, the father saw him. Every day, the father had been watching for him. The father was filled with great love for his son. He left his house and ran to meet his son.

(Father pretends to spot son and runs to the son in the room. Father hugs and pretends to kiss the son on the cheek.)

But the son said —

SON: Father, I have sinned against God and against you. I am not good enough to be your son anymore. Please let me be your servant instead.

NARRATOR: But the father didn't like that idea at all. His son would ALWAYS be his son. He loved his son and he forgave him for the wrong things he had done. He said,

FATHER: Servants, bring the best robe and put it on him.

(Prop assistant puts the second robe on the son.)

Put a ring on his hand and shoes on his feet.

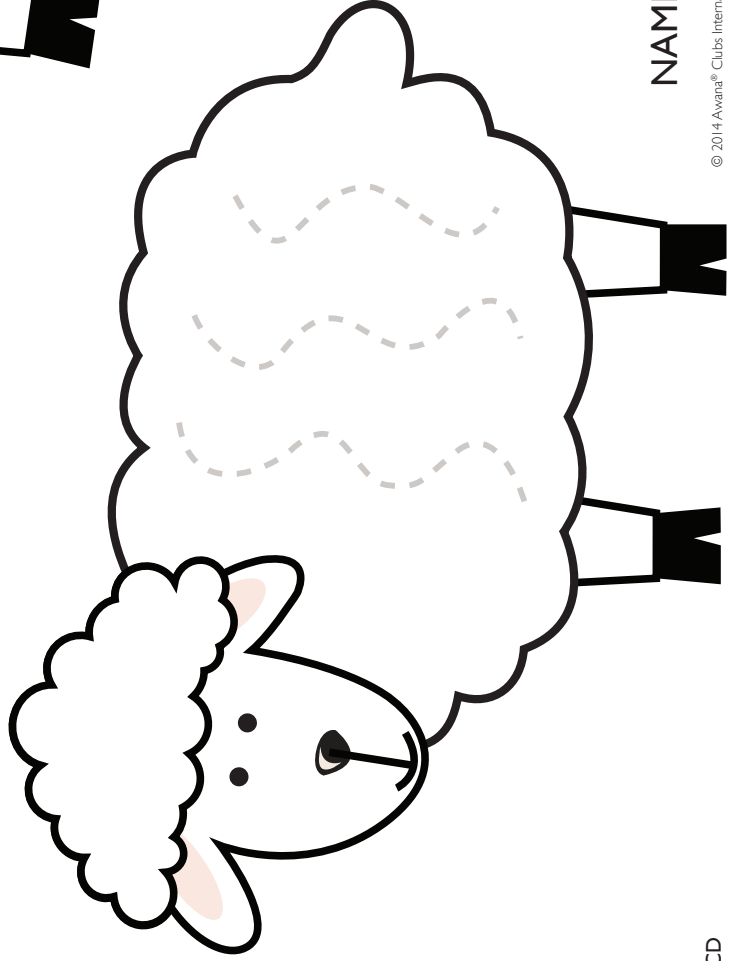
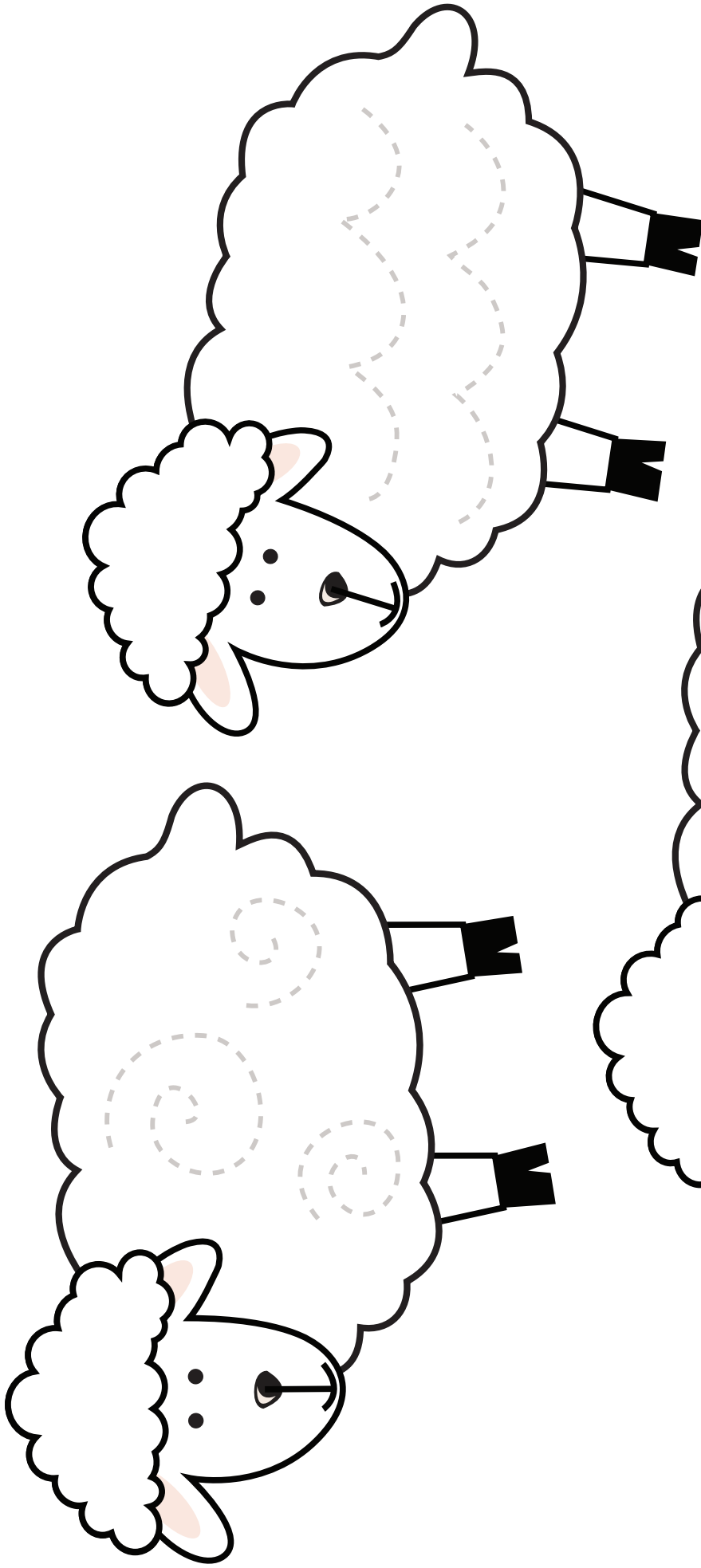
(Prop assistant puts the ring on the son's finger and sets out the shoes for him to slip on.)

Let's have a big party and celebrate! For my son was gone, and now he is back. He was lost, but now he is found!

(Father puts his arm around the son and they walk together as they exit.)

NARRATOR: Cubbies, what did you think of Jesus' story? Did you like it? *(Allow reactions.)* Is there anyone in the story who acted like Jesus, our Good Shepherd?

(Narrator helps Cubbies to identify that the father forgave his son when he did wrong, just like Jesus forgives us. Like Jesus still loves us when we sin, the father still loved his son, even though the son sinned. The father was happy when his son came home, and Jesus is happy when we come to Him and pray and tell Him we are sorry for our sin and we want to obey Him.)



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