The Prodigal Son: Picture It!

Materials Needed

paper and pencils for each team, word list for teacher *optional for small group game:* timer, separate spaces for two teams



This story review is played out as a team drawing game. Divide students into teams of 4-6. Teams should play in different spaces where they cannot hear or see each other. The team guessing all the words in the list first, wins.

Playing the Game

1. Divide the group into (evenly-matched) teams.
2. Send teams to their allocated places and ask each team to send one student back to the teacher to start the play.
3. The teacher whispers one story review word (see box below) to both students, who then run back to their teams. As soon as they get to their teams, they may not speak.
4. Students who know the word will draw pictures of the idea until someone guesses it correctly. Students may not use letters or numbers in their drawings.
5. Once a student correctly guesses the word, he or she races back to the teacher and whispers the word just guessed. The teacher then whispers the next word on the list to the student who runs back to his or her team and begins to draw.
6. Play continues until all the words have been guessed.
7. The first team to bring back the last word correctly wins.

Small Group Game Option: Instead of dividing into teams, play "beat the clock". Have students make a random guess about how long it will take to complete the game and write their guesses on scraps of paper. Start a timer and play the game with all the students acting as one team. When the game has finished, stop the timer and see who came closest to the actual time.

Story Review Words:

lost	feast	sandals	father	inheritance	swine	forgive	robe
ring	found	dancing	servant	far country	music	brother	goat

New Church Concept The Prodigal Son

The prodigal son symbolizes those who are prodigal or wasteful of spiritual riches. His return to his father and his confession that he was not worthy to be called his son symbolize repentance of heart and humility. The best robe that is given to the son means important first truths. The ring means the conjunction of good and truth in the internal person and the sandals mean that conjunction in the external person. The fatted calf symbolizes the goodness of love and of charity. The eating and being merry mean heavenly joy and affection. See *Apocalypse Explained* 279

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