

Preparation date	Jan 29, 2013	Service date	Feb 3, 2013
Lesson's title	The prodigal son		
General purpose	(*) Love	(*) Faith	(*) Hope
Resource	Bible Suscopts.org		
Introduction	Today, we are going to learn from Luke 15:11-32 about repentance. (The prodigal son) Ask kids to read the story.		
Lesson	<p>Let's look at the <u>steps of the repentance</u> we learned from the prodigal son.</p> <p>The first step for the repentance is 'He began to be in want' Why do we feel 'want'. I want this, I want that. Why did God give us a feeling of wanting something? Is feeling want a bad thing?</p> <p>What happened to the prodigal son? (hungry and thirsty)</p> <p>If we are full and satisfied, do you ever feel the 'want'? No. If we are self-satisfied and admire self-righteousness and filled with pride because of our human virtues, we don't feel the need of Christ of sinners.</p> <p>We need to feel that we 'want' God.</p> <p>Hunger and thirst for righteousness is the main gate through which repentant enter.</p> <p>And what did the prodigal son do after he felt hungry and thirsty? Luke 15:15-16 'He went and joined himself to a citizen of that country, and he sent him into his fields to feed swine. And he would gladly have filled his stomach with the pods that the swine ate, and no one gave him anything.'</p> <p>If we encounter problem, what is the first thing we do? We tend to do consult first to 'self', then 'friends', then 'teacher', then.... Do we communicate with God and His Saints (everyday)?</p> <p>So, it's important that we always talk to God. So, the first step in repentance is to want to be with God.</p> <p>The second step is, he came to himself. True repentance does not mean just grief. 2 Corinthians 7:10 The blessed grief is the grief for the sake of God – accompanied by tears but through it we have hope. There IS pain, there IS weeping, but there is also confidence in the Father's bosom.</p> <p>(Isaiah 1:18) (Micah 7:8) (also proverb 24:16) Psalm 113:7 & 1 Sam 2:8</p> <p>1 Kings 21:25-28 – example. Ahab did evil, but he fasted and lay in sackcloth – then the Lord said to Elijah "Have you seen how Ahab has humbled himself before me? Because he has humbled himself before me, I will not bring evil in his days" Also people of Nineveh</p> <p>God does not treat us according to our sins but according to His great mercy. So, we need to think how we can humble our hearts when we fast & pray.</p>		

	<p>Third Step: Now we know what we must do, what do we do? Looking at the prodigal son, “He rose and came to his father” Repentance is a change of attitude and a deep change of the heart’s attitude. This situation has two sides: the inner side and outer side.</p> <p>What’s the inner change: it is represented in the holy grief, contrition, faith and the confidence in the promise of God.</p> <p>What’s the outside: The outer side has two phases. The first phase is to manifest this internal movement in the form of actions, situations and conduct before God and men.</p> <p>The second phase is to go to confession. (The confession comes AFTER repentance)</p> <p>If you really repented, then you desert the egocentric life and adopt the life of Christ in us.</p> <p>So, the final step is the confession. It is the final step which is declaring the inner repentance and the change of situation, and showing what happens inside man to the priest to whom you entrust your secrets and confessions and who is given the power of loosening and binding according to the apostolic power.</p>
Conclusion	Always remember Jesus on the cross and repent & confess after the sin
Lesson application	Fast (on Wednesday & Friday), pray & read the Bible everyday – so that we can always be near Our Lord Jesus Christ.