

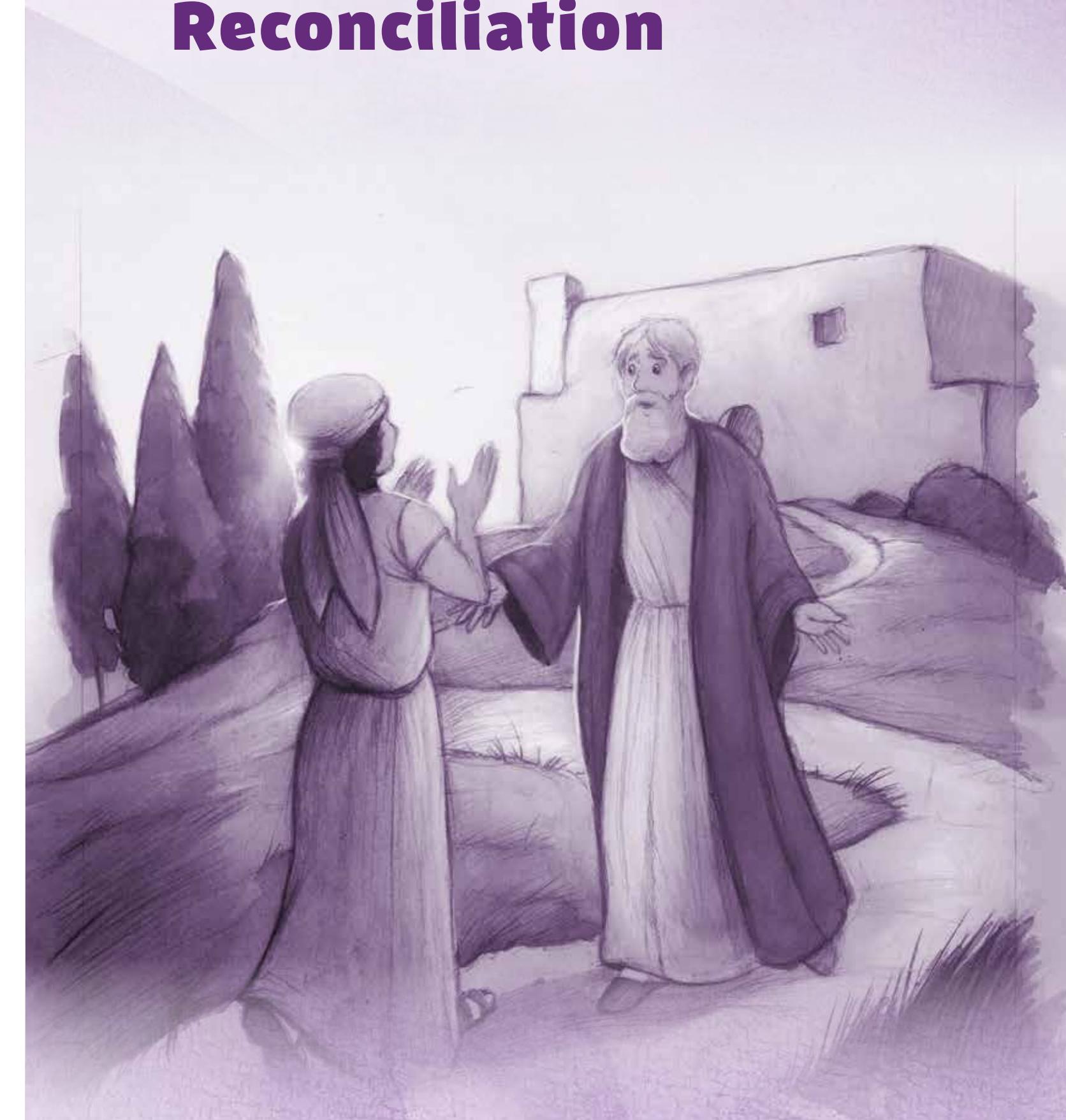
## Flash Cards

Key Words – Session 6 (definitions)

The bishops and priests to whom the Apostles passed on their leadership in Christ's Church.

# Session 7

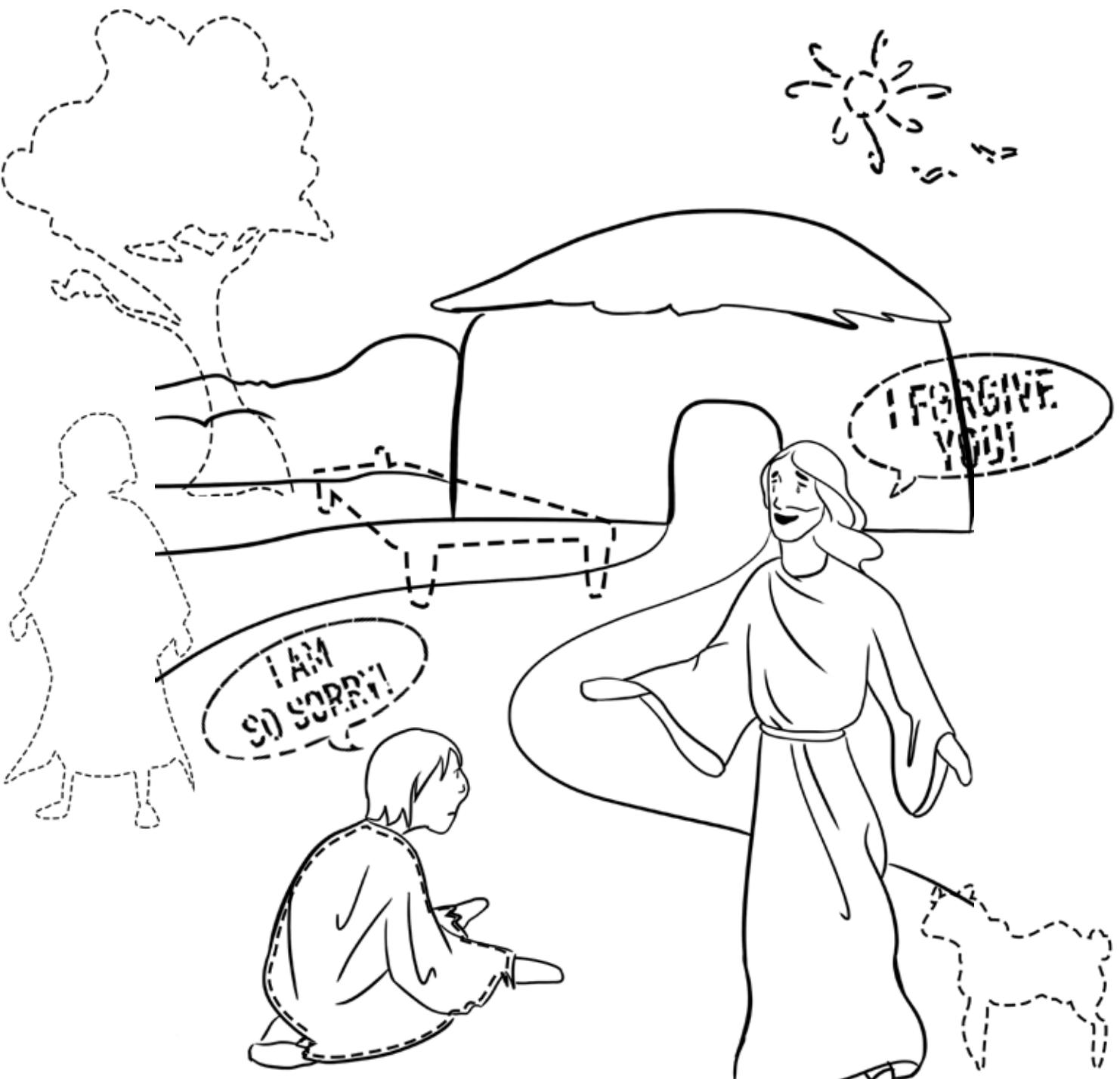
# Celebrating Reconciliation



## Connect—Opening Activity

### Our Father Always Forgives

Today we will read a parable about a boy who hurt his father. Even when we sin and run away, he is so happy when we are sorry and come back to him!



## Let's Live It

### Let's Get Ready!

First Reconciliation is a very special event in your life. You will remember this day as a special time of closeness with Jesus and with your family, too! Put a check mark in the box as you finish each step.

#### CHECKLIST

##### Am I Ready for My First Reconciliation?

- 1. Practice the 7 Steps to Receiving the Sacrament of Reconciliation with someone in your family:
  - Think of your sins and how sorry you feel.
  - Greet the priest and make the Sign of the Cross with him.
  - Confess your sins to the priest.
  - The priest will then talk to you and give you your penance.
  - Pray an Act of Contrition prayer.
  - The priest will then forgive all your sins. Make the Sign of the Cross with him, and he will tell you to go in peace.
  - Go to a quiet pew in the church to do your penance.
- 2. Practice your Act of Contrition – Do not worry if you don't have it memorized! You can bring a copy to read, or even just pray a prayer saying you are sorry for your sins to Jesus from your heart.
- 3. Begin to examine your conscience. If you want, you can make a short list of your sins to take with you.
- 4. Pray that God will give you a holy First Reconciliation.

*"The Lord passed before him, and proclaimed, 'The Lord, the Lord, a God merciful and gracious, slow to anger, and abounding in mercy and faithfulness.'"*

—Exodus 34:6

## Growing Closer to God

Like the son in the Bible story this week, when we are sorry for our sins we turn to God and receive his love and forgiveness. Write on the lines below one way that preparing for Reconciliation brought you closer to God. Then draw a picture of how you think God would look if you could see him on the day of your Reconciliation.

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*"You are a God ready to forgive, gracious and merciful, slow to anger and abounding in mercy."*  
—Nehemiah 9:17

## Things We Learned This Week

1. The seven steps for going to Confession.
2. Examination of Conscience: We ask the Holy Spirit to reveal our sins so we can make a good confession.
3. Confession of Sins: We tell the priest our sins, starting with the most serious sins.
4. Penance: We receive a penance from the priest to make satisfaction for our sins.
5. Absolution: The priest gives us absolution for our sins and the Holy Spirit comes to forgive us of our sins.

## Let's Talk about It

1. How is God like the father in the below Scripture verses? And how are we like the sons?

2. How is the love we experience in our family like the love God has for us? Because we are humans, our love is not as perfect as God's love. Sometimes it is very hard for us to be sorry or to forgive when we have been hurt, but God will always forgive us.

3. Isn't it wonderful that we can always go to Confession and receive God's forgiveness? Is there anyone that you need to forgive in your family or at school? Pray this week that you can forgive that person, just as God is forgiving you.



## Let's Read God's Word

### Lost and Found

The Scripture reading for this week's lesson was from Luke 15:11–32. Please take time to read and reflect on these passages as a family.

## Lo que aprendimos esta semana:

1. Aprendimos los pasos necesarios para confesarnos.
2. Examen de conciencia: le pedimos al Espíritu Santo que revele nuestros pecados y que hagamos una buena confesión.
3. Confesión de los pecados: Le decimos al sacerdote nuestros pecados, comenzando con los pecados más graves.
4. Penitencia: Recibimos una penitencia del sacerdote para reparar los daños causados por nuestros pecados.
5. Absolución: El sacerdote nos da la absolución de nuestros pecados y el Espíritu Santo viene para perdonar nuestros pecados.
6. Debemos ir a confesarnos regularmente para recibir la misericordia amorosa de Dios.

### ¡Hablemos Sobre Esto!

1. **¿Cómo es Dios como el padre de la historia? ¿Y cómo somos nosotros como los hijos?**
2. **¿Cómo es el amor que experimentamos en nuestra familia como el amor que Dios tiene por nosotros? Porque somos humanos, nuestro amor no es tan perfecto como el amor de Dios. Algunas veces es muy difícil para nosotros arrepentirnos o perdonar cuando hemos sido lastimados, pero Dios siempre nos perdona.**
3. **¿No es maravilloso que podamos siempre ir a la confesión y recibir el perdón de Dios? ¿Hay alguien a quien necesites perdonar en tu familia o en la escuela? Ora esta semana para que puedas perdonar a esa persona, así como Dios te está perdonando.**

## Leamos la Palabra de Dios

### Perdido y Encontrado

La lectura de la Sagrada Escritura para la lección de esta semana fue del Evangelio de San Lucas 15:11-32. Por favor tomen tiempo para leer y reflexionar sobre este pasaje en familia.

## Family Fun Activity

This week, spend some time going over the checklist on your child's take-home activity page. Make this a joyful experience and be ready to answer questions and calm the last-minute jitters your child may have. It really helps to rehearse with children what they will experience at their First Reconciliation!

Perhaps make plans to go out for a special dessert after your child has received the sacrament. Just as the father in the Bible story said, "It is right for us to celebrate! It was like your brother was dead, and now he is alive again! He was lost, and now he is found!"

If you or anyone in your family has not received the Sacrament of Reconciliation in a while, this is the perfect time for all of the family to feel invited to come to the sacrament.

## Our Family Prays Together

### Parent:

Dear God, thank you so much for the love and mercy you have given us.

### Parent:

Come Holy Spirit, fill the hearts of your faithful

### Response:

and kindle in them the fire of your love.

### Parent:

Send forth your Spirit and they shall be created.

### Response:

And you shall renew the face of the earth.

### Parent:

Thank you for the grace in my heart and your life in my soul.

### Response:

Please give us the grace to live holy lives and sin no more.

Please help me to prepare my heart to receive my First Reconciliation.

### All:

Amen.



## ¡Actividad Familiar Divertida!

Esta semana, pasen algún tiempo repasando la lista de la página de actividad para llevar a casa, de tu hijo. Haz de esta actividad una experiencia alegre y prepárate para responder a las preguntas que tenga tu hijo, así como calmar sus inquietudes de último momento que pueda tener. ¡Realmente ayuda ensayar con los niños lo que experimentarán en su Primera Reconciliación! Tal vez pueden hacer planes de salir por un postre especial una vez que tu hijo haya recibido el sacramento, así como el padre en la historia de la Biblia dijo: "Había que hacer fiesta y alegrarse, puesto que tu hermano estaba muerto y ha vuelto a la vida, estaba perdido y ha sido encontrado".

## ¡Oremos Juntos En Familia!

### Oremos

#### Papá/Mamá:

Ven Espíritu Santo,  
llena los corazones de Tus fieles,

#### Respuesta:

y enciende en ellos el fuego de Tu amor.

#### Papá/Mamá:

Envía Señor Tu Espíritu, y todo será creado.

#### Respuesta:

Y se renovará la faz de la tierra.

#### Papá/Mamá:

Gracias por la gracia en mi corazón y Tu vida en mi alma.

#### Respuesta:

Te pedimos Señor la gracia para vivir vidas santas y para no pecar más.

Te pido que me ayudes a preparar mi corazón para recibir mi Primera Reconciliación.

#### Todos:

Amén.



### Flash Cards

Key Words – Session 7



Penance

Penitent

Examination of  
Conscience

Perfect  
Contrition

Imperfect  
Contrition

Absolution

## Flash Cards

### Key Words – Session 7 (definitions)

The person who goes to Confession.

An act done to repair the damage caused by our sins, usually through prayers or good works.

When we are sorry for our sins because we love God and are sorry for having offended him.

Looking at our thoughts, words, and actions and recognizing how we have sinned.

The words said by the priest that forgive us of our sins in the Sacrament of Reconciliation.

When we are sorry for our sins because we are afraid of being punished or are horrified by the ugliness of sin.