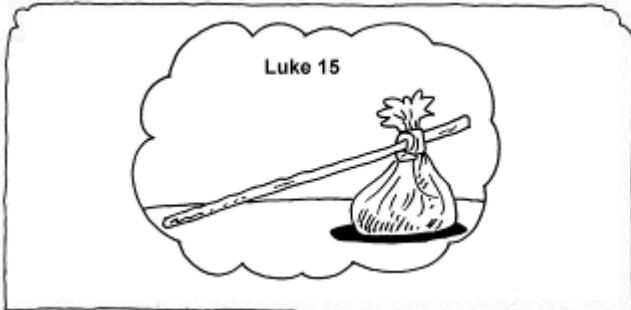


THE lost son comes home

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By Jill Kemp

Illustrated by Richard Gunther



Jesus told this is a story,
called "the Prodigal son,"
to show us how
much God loves us.



"A farmer had two big boys.
They lived and worked on their dad's farm.
Some day, when their dad died,
they would share all the money he had.



One day the youngest boy said,
"Dad give me half of your money.
It might be a long time until you die.
I want to have a good time, now."



The dad gave the boy half of his money.
He was sad when the boy went away.
The dad prayed the boy
would come home again.



The boy had fun and spent lots of money.
He had big parties and gave his friends presents.
Soon all the money was gone.
He didn't even have a house to live in.



He had to work looking after pigs.
It was dirty and it was smelly.
He was hungry. He wanted to eat the pig's food.
The boy thought about his dad and was sad.



"I will go home and be my dad's servant," he said.
"My dad gives his helpers good food."
The dad was always watching for his boy
to come home and he ran to meet him.



"I am very happy because my boy has come home!
We will have a party," said the dad.
Jesus was reminding us that God
is always waiting for us to come to him.