

Beaded Rings

Collect

Bible, chenille wires, scissors, pony beads.

Prepare

Cut each chenille wire into four pieces, one piece for each child.

Do

Children string beads on chenille wires. Help children wrap chenille wires around fingers to make rings. Briefly tell today's Bible story.

Enrichment Ideas

1. Children make rings for themselves and several extras to give to family members.
2. Instead of making rings, children string circle-shaped cereal on full-length chenille wires to make necklaces or bracelets.



The Loving Father

Luke 15:11-24

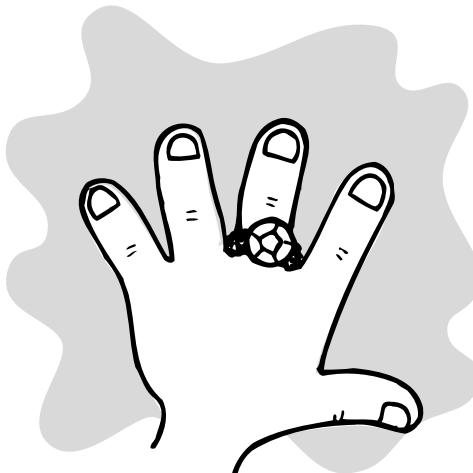
I show God's love when I am kind to my family and forgive them.

Talk About

☺ Our Bible story today tells about a father who loved his sons. One son went away from home and did wrong things. Later the son was sorry he had done wrong things. He went back home. The father was glad and forgave his son. He gave his son a ring. We're making rings to remind us of this story.

☺ Sean, your ring has four beads on it. It was kind of the father in our story to give his son a ring. Who in your family has been kind to you? What did your dad do?

☺ Rebekah, who is in your family? You are being kind to your little brother when you share a toy with him.





The Loving Father

Luke 15:11-24

Once there was a father with two sons. They lived on a big farm. The father loved his sons. He took good care of them. One day one son said, "Father, you promised to give me money someday. I want it NOW!" So the father gave his son the money.

The son wanted to live far away from his family. The son packed his clothes and began walking away. The father felt sad. While the son was gone, the father waited and waited for the son to come home.

When the son got to a new place, he spent his money until it was all gone. His nice clothes became dirty and torn. Soon he didn't have enough food to eat.

The son went to work feeding some pigs. As he worked, the son thought, *Even the men who work for my father have food to eat.* The son decided, *I'll go back home!*

So the son began walking home. He walked and walked and walked. Soon he saw his father's farm. When he was almost there, he could see someone running down the road toward him! It was his FATHER running to meet him!

"Oh, Father," the son said, "I spent ALL the money you gave me. I am very sorry." The father loved his son and was glad he had come back home. The father gave him new clothes and a ring and other good things. How glad the son was that his father loved him and forgave him.

Jesus told this story to help us learn that God is loving and kind, just like the father in the story. We can show God's love by being kind and forgiving to each other.