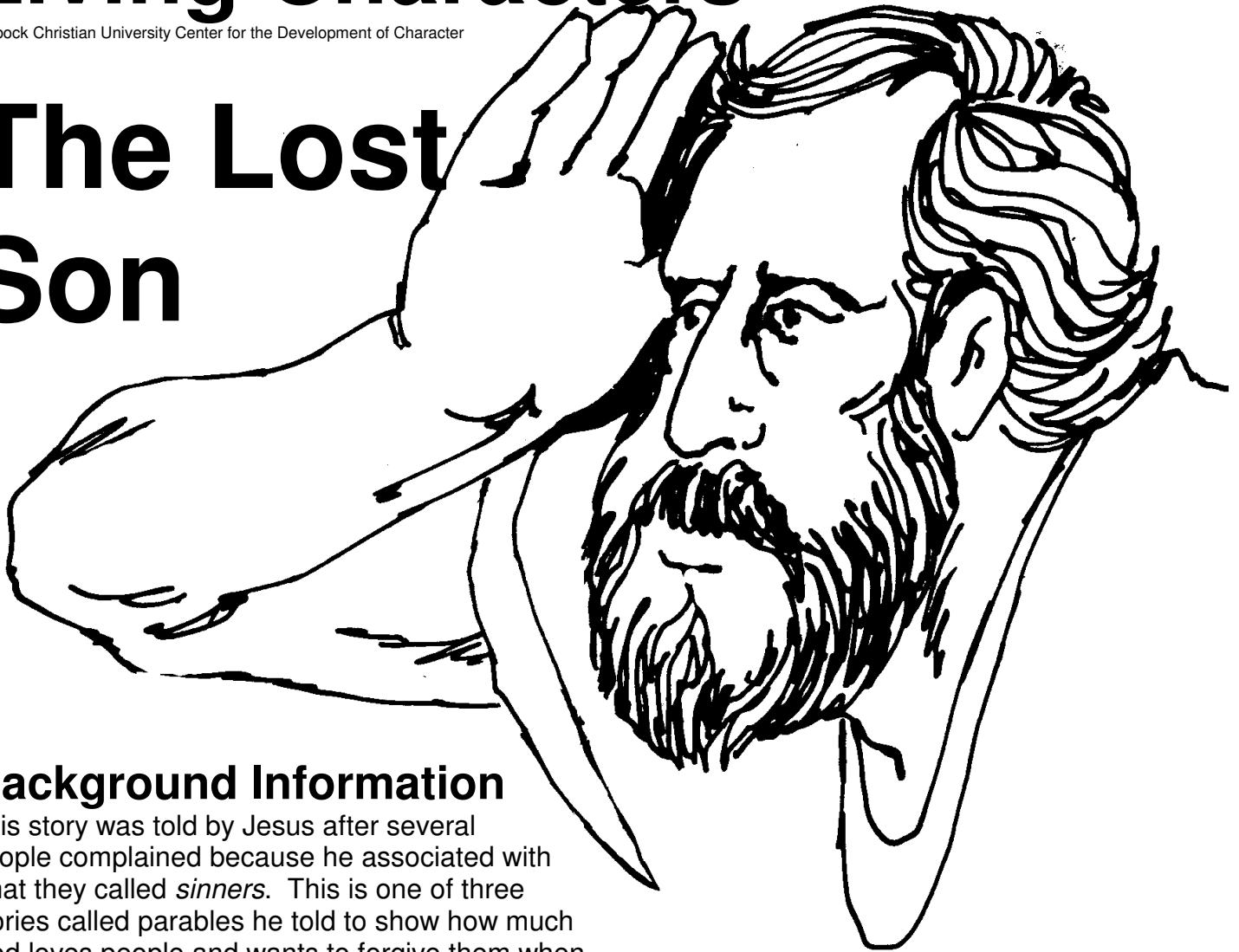


Living Characters

Lubbock Christian University Center for the Development of Character

The Lost Son



Background Information

This story was told by Jesus after several people complained because he associated with what they called *sinners*. This is one of three stories called parables he told to show how much God loves people and wants to forgive them when they do wrong.

We want to find out what bad character principles caused the lost son to leave. What good character principles in the father caused the son to want to come back?

Give a brief outline of the story.

Who were the main characters?

What did the son want to do? What did the father do?

What happened to the son?

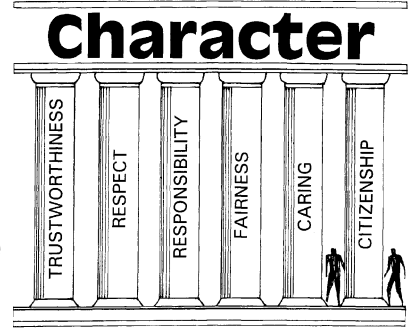
What did the father do when the son came back?

Six Pillars of... Character

Understanding Values and Virtues

Every nation has a set of values that its people are expected to live by. The Jewish system was based on the Laws given to Moses.

The 6 pillars of character are found in the Mosaic Law. Our challenge is to study these principles and find out how we can apply them and make our live better.



The Ethical Process in finding solutions to any problem.



Think

Weigh all the parts which make up the problem. Separating the symptoms from the causes.

Investigate the perception of the ethical dilemma. Is it based on selfishness, self-interest, self-protection or self-righteousness. (The four natural enemies to ethics.)

Now, is right or wrong involved? How do we determine which is involved?

Know your ethical vocabulary (six pillars). Review and reflect on their supporting words.

Look for the higher ethic or standard.

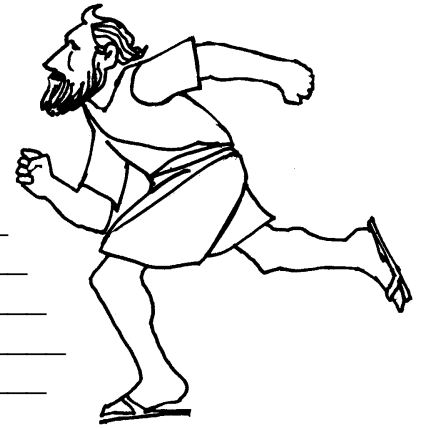
Evaluate the outcome. Is it truly a good character decision?

Find and describe how the Character Words are used in this story.

(Use the T.W.I.N.K.L.E. process.)

	Father	Son
Trustworthiness		
Respect		
Responsibility		
Fairness		
Caring		
Citizenship		

Brainstorm



What **character words** do we find in this story that demonstrate the value of the father running to meet his lost son?

What additional **character words** can we use to describe the father hugging his lost son?



Am I glad when I see **Good Character Words** demonstrated in other people?

Part 2

Character is what I do!

What can I learn from the story of the lost son that will help me continue to develop good character in my life?

Be specific, listing each character word used.

As a person

With my family

In other relationships

Diary

What **Character Words** have I applied in **my** life this week?

Did I show sincere appreciation with a hug, etc.? When?



Was I quick to go to the rescue of a friend in need? When?



Did I patiently wait for a friend to do what is right? When?

