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# CONFESION

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## Part 2

Once you have completed watching the online video - [www.stcatharine.com/first-confession](http://www.stcatharine.com/first-confession) - here are a few things you can put into practice to begin preparing your child for their first confession.



## God's Love For Us

God loves us unconditionally. He never stops loving us. We know this by what is revealed to us in the Bible. Here are two events from the bible that show us how strong God's love is for us.

### **Abraham and Isaac**

There was a man named Abraham who loved God very much. But Abraham was sad because he didn't have any children. One day, God spoke to Abraham: "Your wife will have a baby soon. And someday you will have grandchildren, and great-grandchildren. Then the family of Abraham will be one of the biggest families of all!" God promised that the family of Abraham would always be very special to Him.



Soon Abraham's wife had a baby. She named him Isaac. Abraham loved his little boy very much.

One day, God tested Abraham. He told Abraham to give up his son. This probably made Abraham afraid and sad, but he wanted to obey God. Abraham trusted God. When he was all ready to do what God had asked, an angel came and said, "Stop! You can keep Isaac with you. God just wanted to see how much you loved Him. God will bless you for being so obedient."

As God promised, the family of Abraham grew very large, and God took care of them all. Many of Abraham's descendants are living today, They are the Jewish people.

*Faith and Life: Grade 2 - Chapter 7 pg. 37*

Discussion questions:

1. How did Abraham respond to God with faith? *Answer: Abraham had such faith in God that he was ready to give even his beloved son to God (CCC 59).*
2. How is Abraham and Isaac similar to God the Father and Jesus? *Answer: God the Father gave us His only beloved Son, Jesus, to die for us.*

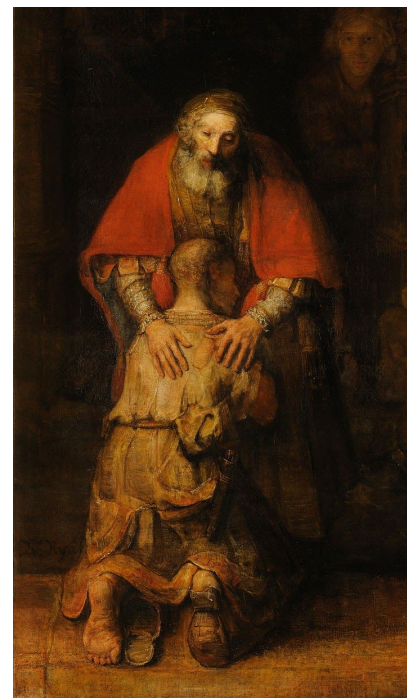
***"The Lord is merciful and gracious, slow to anger and abounding in mercy." Psalm 103:8***

## The Prodigal Son

Sometimes we break God's Laws. We commit a sin. What happens then? What does God do, and what should we do?

Although God hates sin, he loves you very much. He is always ready to forgive you when you are sorry for the sins you committed. Jesus told this story to show how God loves and forgives.

There was once a rich farmer who had two sons. The younger son said, "Father, I know that someday when you die, my brother and I will get all your money. Well, I want my half right now." So the father gave him the money. The son ran away and spent the money unwisely. Soon he had wasted it all, and he was now poor and hungry. He found a job herding pigs, but he was still hungry and lonely. One day, he said, "I've been so bad that my father won't want me for his son anymore. But maybe I can get a job on his farm. At least that way I will be near my home."



The son was wrong. His father saw him coming. He was so happy that he did not care about how bad his son had been. The son said, "Father, I have sinned against heaven and you. I am not good enough to be your son." But the father was happy to have him back. He knew that his son was sorry. He forgave his son and showered his love upon him. He invited all his friends to a big party to celebrate his son's return.

Our Heavenly Father is just like the father in the story. Sometimes we sin and "run away" from God like the younger son. That makes us sad because when we sin we offend God Who loves us very much. But God wants us to be happy. He wants us to come back to him. All we have to do is admit that what we have done is wrong. And then we must be truly sorry that we have offended God. God will be waiting for us with open arms.

God will always forgive us. There is nothing we can do that is so bad that God won't forgive if we are truly sorry. It shows God that we really love him when we tell him we are sorry for having offended him and want to be forgiven.

*Faith and Life: Grade 2 - Chapter 17 pg. 85-86*

Discussion question:

1. What is sorrow for sins? *Answer: Sorrow for sins is the sadness we have for the sins we have done, and the wish never to do them again. We have sorrow for sins because we are sad that we have offended God, or because we fear His just punishments (CCC1451-53).*

### **Act of Contrition**

O my God, I am heartily sorry for having offended You. I detest all my sins because of Your just punishments, but most of all because they offend You, my God, Who are all good and deserving of all my love. I firmly resolve, with the help of Your grace, to confess my sins, to do penance, and to amend my life.  
Amen.