During this rotation we are learning about God as our loving Father, just as He is referred to in the Lord’s Prayer. The central story will be the Prodigal Son - otherwise known as the Parable of the Loving Father.

We hope that in this rotation kids will be able to:
- Explain what a parable is and why Jesus taught using them
- Retell the story and explain how the story teaches us about God
- Know where in the Bible the story is found and also some details about how the original audience would have understood the story.
- Understand that God’s compassion and forgiveness are always available to us
- Recognize that trials and trouble come from walking away from God
- Explore how the story relates to our own lives

STORY IN FOCUS:
Luke 15: 11-32

MEMORY VERSE
We encourage families to make scripture memorization a priority in their faith journey! Consider implementing an incentive program as a family to encourage your children in their memorization journey. This can be as simple as a sticker chart or even include prizes or special family activity rewards.

“See what great love the Father has lavished on us, that we should be called children of God! And that is what we are!”

1 John 3:1 - NIV

SPECIAL DATES
We will be getting ready for the Christmas Pageant soon. Please Mark these important dates on your Calendar!

Nov 16 @ 11:30 - K-1 Boys Prep
Nov 30 @ 9:30 - Preschool Prep
Nov 30 @ 11:30 - K-1 Girls Prep
Dec 7 @ 11:30 - Gr. 2-6 Prep
Dec 14 @ 9:30 - ALL AGES rehearsal

Dec 14 @ 6:00PM - Pageant & Dessert

PRESCHOOL
Preschoolers will also be learning the story of the Prodigal Son.
<table>
<thead>
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<th>PRESCHOOL</th>
<th>K - GR 1 BOYS</th>
<th>K - GR 1 GIRLS</th>
<th>GRADE 2-3</th>
<th>GRADE 4-6</th>
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| OCT 19 9:30 | 🗓️ | STORY KICK-OFF AND PRAYER STATIONS  
(Preschool children will head to the art studio for second half) | 🗓️ | 🗓️ | 🗓️ |
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**CURRENT VOLUNTEER SCHEDULE**

**Preschool Class @ 9:30**  
Steph Christensen  
Jennell Bertsch

**Preschool Class @ 11:30**  
Jennell Bertsch

**Fishermans.Net**  
Melinda Elgot

**Thou Art Studio**  
Miranda Lee

**Loaves & Fishes Cooking Company**  
Marla Cameron

**Movie @ Palestine Productions**  
Lucy Adamson

**Drama @ Palestine Productions**  
Deanna Fuellbrandt

**Games @ Bible Times Square**  
Andrea Anderst & Rena Bruins

**Soul Station**  
Debbie Streu  
Preschool Buddy – 11:30  
TBA  
Kinder - Grade 1 Buddy – 9:30  
Mike Christensen  
Kinder - Gr 1 Boys Buddy – 11:30  
Sterling Glanz/Brittany Weston  
Hall Monitor – 9:30  
Victor Elgot  
Hall Monitor – 11:30  
Marcia Barnard
VOLUNTEER UPDATE

THE CURRENT NEED!
Every week a group of caring youth and adults team up together to provide some fantastic programming for the kids of Zion. These volunteers give of their time to mentor, teach, encourage and inspire kids in their faith journey. It’s a huge blessing. It’s also a huge commitment!

We’ve crunched the numbers...

In order to provide excellent programs for our kids and to meet the safety ratios as outlined in Plan to Protect - the babies and kids of Zion require the help of 18-22 volunteers every single Sunday.

That’s a lot of people!

The need continues to grow as our attendance continues to increase. That’s great news - we have the opportunity to serve a lot of kids!

We have a group of VERY committed volunteers that fill a handful of these spots every week and we’re looking for people to join them.

You’ve likely heard the request before - and the need continues. To keep serving our kids we need to keep recruiting volunteers.

CAN YOU?
INCREMENT the amount you are currently serving to help share the work evenly amongst able adults?

SIGN-UP for the first time, even for just one rotation to give a regular teacher a refreshing break?

RECRUIT a friend or two from within the church to come and experience the joys of hanging with our Street 2:52 kids?

JOB SHARE a teaching position or more with a partner if your schedule doesn’t allow for a commitment that lasts several weeks in a row?

NEW WAYS TO STAY INFORMED!

There are 2 new ways to keep up-to date on volunteer opportunities and schedules:

- Check out the Street 2:52 bulletin boards with sign-up sheets and job descriptions at the church. This hard-copy format is quick and easy to view and is located in the stairwell leading to the toddler room.

- We’ve set-up an online sign-up sheet too! We’re using a free website that will provide you with a chance to sign-up with the click of a button. This site also includes job descriptions, the option to swap weeks with people if needed, transfer dates to your digital calendar or partner with people to fill a need. VISIT THE SITE AT http://vols.pt/Lm4R5v

We’ll take care of transferring information between the two formats above so that all sign-up sheet remain current with the same information.

If you have any questions at all, our volunteer coordinator Amy Thiessen would love to chat with you. You can reach her at street252@zbcc.ca or at 780-218-8013
Overview of Workshops and Objectives:

Throughout an entire rotation children learn through a variety of learning styles, repetition and varying story viewpoints. The entire rotation is designed to increase memory retention, dig deep into scripture and inspire a long term faith journey.

To get the best view of the overall teaching objectives, we’ve broken them down by workshop for you to see.

Thou Art Studio
This lesson explores the loving and forgiving character of God as children will make wire sculptures of father and son posed at the moment of forgiveness.

Drama @ Palestine Productions
The focus of this workshop is to simply learn the story of the Prodigal Son (also termed the Parable of the Loving Father). Students will learn an elaborated version of the story as they get into character and act out scenes in the provided drama.

Games @ Bible Times Square
Students will explore the story through a variety of fun games.

Loaves & Fishes Cooking Co.
Kids will make a fruit salad, using the rinds to create a pig slop as they learn more about the Bible story in focus. Younger children will learn simple story details and basic application while older children will discuss more in depth the love of God and the consequences of life apart from our Heavenly Father.

SOUL STATION
Children will hear the story of the Prodigal Son with a bag of props. Children will also make their very own story bag to take home.

MOVIE
Children will watch an animated film about the story of the Prodigal Son

FISHERMANS.NET
Kids will learn through interactive PC program that teaches the Bible story in focus.

Food Alert!!

Listed below are the foods that will appear during this rotation. If your child has allergies, sensitivities or restrictions, it is the parent’s responsibility to provide an alternative food option. If you have any further concerns please talk with Andrea or Marla at least one week prior to the session of concern.

Leaves & Fishes Cooking Co.
• Fruit Salad
• The following food items will be played with but not consumed: Jello, kitchen scraps

MOVIE
• Pretzels
• Juice

Preschool Lesson
OCT 19 & 26 @ 9:30
• Twizzlers

NOV 2 @ 9:30
• Chocolate Coins
• Corn Flakes Cereal
• Ring Pop Candy Rings

NOV 9 @ 9:30
• Pretzels

Prayer Stations
We’re really excited about a new addition to our programming this year! During the kick-off Sunday of each rotation we’ll be taking the kids on an interactive prayer walk. We’ll spend time visiting hands-on prayer stations that teach us some of the how, what and why’s of praying.

Ever hear of fizzing prayers? What about discovering items of prayers on Jenga blocks? Did you know a Salad Spinner can help us talk to God? You may want to ask your kids to tell you all about it!

Some Zion youth and young adults are going to help us lead this experience and we’re stoked about this opportunity to explore prayer with children and spend some quality time talking with God!
Main Points of the Story:

- A man had two sons; the younger son wanted his inheritance, which his father gave to him.
- This son left home, went to a distant country and spent all his money foolishly.
- There was a famine where he was and since he was hungry, he took a job feeding pigs.
- The son was miserable working with pigs. He realized how foolish he had been; He decided to go back home and ask his father for forgiveness.
- The “prodigal” son went home. His father saw him coming, ran out and welcomed him, even ordering a feast in his honor.
- Meanwhile, the older son came in from the fields & heard a party. He asked the servants what’s going on. He was angry and refused to join the celebration.
- The father explained to his older son why they must celebrate.

A Parable:
Jesus often taught using parables. Parables are stories that use examples from everyday life. They are stories told by Jesus to teach His listeners something. The intent is for ordinary people to understand God. This isn't always easy. Don't forget that in the Bible we see instances of the disciples not understanding Jesus’ parables. We can take this to mean that it’s ok for us to ask questions, and re-read or retell the story in order to find it’s deeper meaning. We can encourage this same activity with our kids.

About the story:
In our story, Jesus tells the parable of a once wayward son reunited with his father and family after having squandered all his possessions. Like so many impatient people today, the younger son wanted to be free of parental restraints and have his father’s inheritance to spend as he chose.

After losing it all, he comes to his senses, and realizes how good his ‘former’ life was. He resolves to go home and confess his unworthiness to be called his father’s son. His father welcomes him home with compassion and love, and wants to celebrate, for “his son who was dead, is alive again; he was lost and has now been found” (paraphrase of Luke 15:24).

Through this parable, Jesus illustrates the overwhelming love encompassing someone who returns to God after having repented of his foolish ways. This story is one of the most well known of Jesus’ parables and is called “The Prodigal Son.” The word “prodigal” means reckless or wasteful. While this aptly describes the young son in this parable, our story could also be titled “Our Loving Father.” Though the focus is on the reckless son, the outcome of everything in the story depends on how the father reacts to his wayward son. The father could have refused to even see his son again after he left home and wasted his money. Upon his return, the father could have hired him back as a servant for the rest of his life to teach him a lesson. Instead, we see a compassionate father that waits for his son to come to his senses, realize his mistake, and come home again.

God’s Promises:
Taking a look at the Old Testament we can be reminded of God’s promise to make Abraham the father of a great nation. Abraham’s descendants would be like the stars in the sky and the sands of the sea – too numerous to count! God would continue His covenant with these descendants.

God was telling people that He wanted to have a relationship and He’d prepared an inheritance for His children. Unfortunately, reading further in the Bible, we see how His children often reject this offer and run away from God. But God is always looking for and waiting for His children to come home.

Throughout history God keeps offering the way for us to come back home. He made covenants with Adam and Eve, with Noah, with Abraham, and finally, He sent His very own son from heaven as a messenger of His love. In all of these covenants God was saying, “Come back home. I still love you. I want to treat you like my child.” The father in the parable of the Prodigal Son symbolizes our heavenly Father who loves His children, even when we turn away from Him. As did the father in the story, when we stray, God’s heart yearns for us to return.

We have all sinned, or been disobedient to God. Does God hold grudges against us? No. We may stumble and stumble again, but as long as we keep our face toward him, he will forgive. When we make mistakes, we need to turn away from our sins and come back home to God. He delights when we come alive again spiritually and He “welcomes” us back home into fellowship with Him.