

## The Parables of Jesus

### The Prodigal Son

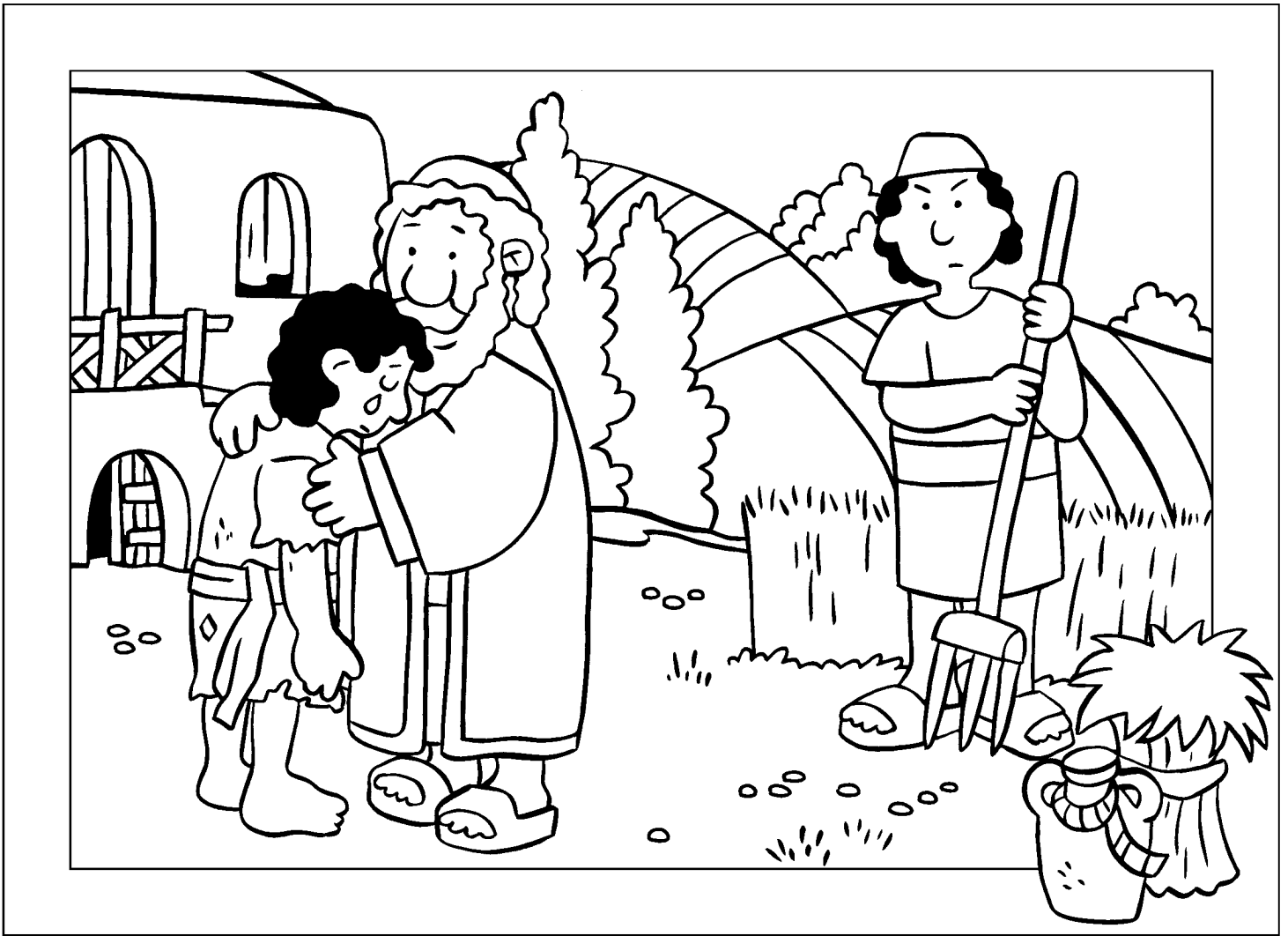
Based on Luke 15:1–2 and 11–32.

One time when many tax collectors and outcasts came to listen to Jesus, the Pharisees started to grumble, “This man is a friend of outcasts!”

Jesus responded by telling a parable: “There was a father who had two sons. One day the younger son asked his father to give him his part of the inheritance. After the father gave his son his inheritance, the younger son traveled to a country far away where he wasted it in reckless living.

“Upon spending all of his inheritance, a severe famine spread over the country. Having nothing to eat, the son returned to his father’s home to seek forgiveness. His father welcomed him with a celebration. However, the older son, who had stayed and helped his father with the work, became angry and jealous of his father’s attention and the mercy shown to his younger brother.

“The father said to the older son, ‘You are always with me, and everything I have is yours! But now it is time to celebrate because your brother, who was lost, has been found!’



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