

# First Family Foundations

Building a foundation of Faith for Families.

## Unit 1 — God

### Lesson 4 — God is loving, holy and just.

**Introduction** — Do you want your children to think of God as one who is angry about all the sin and pain in the world? Or as one who loves everyone and forgives readily? It's your job to help them understand that:

1. God hates evil and selfishness, and He doesn't just say, "Oh well, never mind, I'll let it go."
2. Nevertheless, God doesn't punish us the way we deserve, because instead He sent Jesus to take the punishment for us.

So is God loving, or is He holy and just? Both!

### Here's the Activity:

#### Listen:

Find the purple [Adventures in Odyssey FaithLaunch CD](#) that came with your March or May audio journal and listen to "The Prodigal Jimmy" with your child(ren)

or use  to [listen online](#)

#### Quick Sum:

Jimmy Barclay decides he's had it with the rules around his house and runs away. But when a couple of sneaky characters take all his money and he has to go back home, Jimmy discovers just what repentance — and forgiveness — are all about.

#### Fast Ask:

- Q.** It turns out that George is right and Jimmy is wrong. How is this a lot like our relationship with God?
- Q.** What characteristics of God does Jimmy learn about by watching his father?
- Q.** Jimmy expects punishment from his father. What does he get instead, and how is this a lot like how God works?

#### Share:

Explain that to be in the image of someone means to look like him or act like him in certain ways. Share that each child is, in at least a small way, created in the image of Mom and Dad. (If you have pictures from when you were a child, show them alongside each child's picture and point out similarities. If there aren't many, be creative!)