

The Two Sons



One day Jesus was talking to the religious leaders, the chief priests and the elders. They had been asking him whether what he was doing came from God. Jesus asked them a question too. He asked them if they thought that John the Baptist was doing what God said. John the Baptist listened to God and then told people about Jesus and helped them to be ready to follow Jesus.

THEN Jesus told the religious leaders a story.



There was a man who had two sons. Now this man owned a vineyard and the grapes were ready to be picked. Picking grapes was hard work and there was lots to be done and he really needed some help.

The man asked the first son,

"Son will you come and help in the vineyard today? There's lots do to get the grapes all harvested.'

"No way dad! I've got lots of things I want to do today. I'm going to be very busy and then if I do finish I want to relax and enjoy myself!"



Anyway, later on, the first son thought to himself,

'Oh dear, maybe I should have gone to help my dad. I know that there is a lot to do in the grape harvest. I think I'll go and help him now, I can do my stuff some other time.' So, off he went and joined his dad in the fields and helped with picking the grapes for the rest of the day.



The man also asked his other son to come and help.

"Son," he said, "will you come and help pick the grapes in the vineyard today? There's lots to do get the grapes harvested."

"Of course I will dad. I know that this is a really busy time in the vineyard and you always need extra help at this time."



The man must have been pleased that at least one of his sons was going to help.

However... the second son decided to relax for a bit first. After all it'll be hard work picking grapes. I'll just have a bit of a rest first. So he settled down quietly enjoying himself doing this and that and before he knew it he looked out of the window and realised it was getting dark.

'Oh well,' he thought, there's not much point in going to help now!' So he didn't go.



Jesus then turned to priests and elders and asked them,
"Which of the two sons obeyed his father?"

What do you think?

Who did the right thing?



Well, the first son **didn't say the right thing, but** he did realise what he had to do and he went and helped his dad. He **did the right thing**. So he was the one who obeyed his father.

Jesus wanted the leaders to understand that it's no good knowing and saying all the right things if we don't do them. Sometimes we know all the right things to say and we know the right answers but we don't always do the right things.

Verse

So we need to listen to what God says and then not just say the right things but do the right things. As James reminds us we should,

"do what God's teaching says; do not just listen and do nothing."

James 1:22

Prayer

Thank you Jesus that you love us so much.

Jesus we are sorry for the times when we don't do the right things even when we know the right thing to do.

Thank you Jesus that because you love us you forgive us when we get it wrong. Help us to listen to you and then not just say the right things but to do what you want us to do.

Amen



Links for ' the parable of The Two Sons'

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=pEz1rkZj7dU>

Saddleback - 2mins

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=nVwIy2xrA1c>

Graythwaite - Nick Butterworth illustrations 3mins

<https://www.freebibleimages.org/illustrations/rq-two-sons-obedience/>

Powerpoint presentation

https://sermons4kids.com/parable_of_two_sons_crossword.htm

link for this crossword and other activities to print

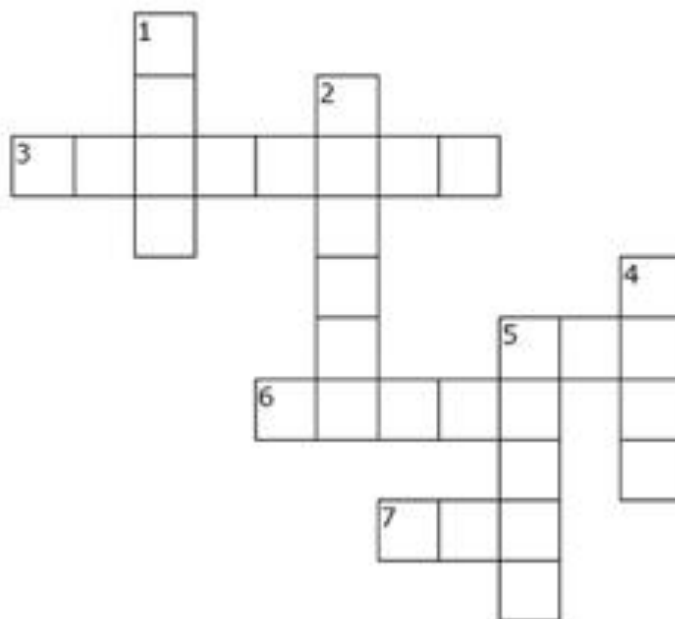
Parable Of Two Sons

Crossword

The Parable of the Two Sons

"Which of the two did what his father wanted?" "The first," they answered. Matthew 21:31

Based on Matthew 21:28-32



ACROSS

3. A place where grapes are grown
5. The number following one
6. A statement proven or accepted as accurate
7. An adult male

DOWN

1. A person's male children
2. A male parent
4. To perform a job or task
5. To have an opinion or idea about something

WORK TWO	VINEYARD MAN	TRUTH SONS	THINK FATHER
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