

APRIL'S STORY:

How does a good parent show their love for a child? In the Bible, Jesus tells a story about a young son who leaves home and makes some disappointing decisions. The son ends up with no money, dirty and alone with nothing to eat and nowhere to go. He just wants to return home to see his dad, but he's worried his dad will be upset with him.

Sometimes called "The Lost son" or "The Prodigal son."

The Bible says he was so hungry he wanted to eat pig food!

But the father loves his son. He welcomes the boy back and even throws him a party. Jesus says that's how God views us. When we make mistakes, He will still always forgive us and run to meet us when we choose to come back to Him.

Big or Small

April is a 16-year-old who loves this Bible story. She lives in the Pacific region in an island community called Kompang which means "riverbank." Although she is still young, she is helping translate stories that Jesus told by being a translation tester. When the team is finished working to change the Bible's words from a different language into Kompang, they need to check the translation. April comes with friends and family members to read or listen to the stories and make sure they sound good, are clear, and are easy to understand. They answer questions to help make the translation better.

Say KOHM-PAHNG

When April got to hear the story of the good Father and his son for the first time in her language, it made her thankful to be involved in the work. Like the son in the story, she sometimes makes foolish choices in life. But the Bible reminds April that God, her good Father, loves her anyway. When she tests passages like this one from Luke, she knows that to be true.

What are some foolish choices you have made?

You can read it in Luke 15:11-32.

"It feels as if Jesus is a Kompang person—He speaks my language," says April. As translation continues in the Pacific, April hopes that other kids will come to know God's love through the Bible, just like she has.

LET'S TALK ABOUT IT!

- What do your parents do to show you they love you? What does God do that is like a good dad?
- What are some ways you are like the son or April in this story? Do you ever question whether God loves you?
- April heard Jesus's story of the Father and son for the first time because of Bible translation. What is a Bible story you heard for the first time recently? What would it be like if you couldn't understand these kinds of stories?

DIG DEEPER

Read Jesus's story in Luke 15:11-32. Pretend you're a translation tester like April. What parts of the story are hard to understand? What are some different ways you can tell the story in your own words? Write it down or draw a picture of the story, then share it with someone else.

