**E N G L I S H C O R N E R**

***Learning English Through Discussion***

**Hot Topics**

1. Why did you decide to travel overseas?

2. What did your friends and family think about your travel/study plans? (In threes discuss).

3. Is your lifestyle in Brisbane the same as back home? How is it similar or different? (in pairs).

#### **Today’s Lesson…**

Today you get to be actors and actresses – a great way to practice your reading and expression! In today’s lesson you are going to find out what happened when a younger son asked his father for money to go abroad.

**Time**: 2000 years ago

**Setting**: Jesus is telling a story about a father who had two sons.

**Vocabulary**

**My share of the property:** Give me part of the land, house, objects that belong to me.

**Wasted:** a bad use of something, such as time or money when there isn’t much of it**.**

**Reckless living:**  living in a way that is reckless – not caring what might happen to you. Drinking too much, spending too much money etc.

**Famine:** when people living in an area do not have enough food to eat.

**He came to his senses**: to start to understand that you are behaving stupidly.

**Starving to death:** Don’t have enough to eat.

**Calf:** a young cow.

**Let the Story Begin!!**

**Choose six people to read the following parts:** Narrator, Jesus, Younger Son, Father, Elder Son, and servant.

1. Read through once – checking for new vocabulary.
2. Read story again this time acting out the story to check for understanding.
3. Interview the people in the story (see discussion section for interview questions)

**Jesus**: There was once a man who had two sons. The younger one said to him:

**Younger**: Father, give me my share of the property now. **Son**

**Jesus**: So the man divided his property between his two sons. After a few days, the younger son sold his part of the property and left home with the money. He went to a country far away, where he wasted his money in reckless living. He spent all the money. Then there was a severe famine in the country, and he was left without a thing. So he went to find a job. He went to a farm and fed pigs. He was so hungry he wished he could eat the pig’s food. At last he came to his senses.

**Younger**: All my father’s workers have enough to eat, and here I am starving to death! I will get

**Son** up and go to my father and say: Father I have sinned against God and you. I ` am no longer good enough to be called your son treat me as one of your workers.

**Jesus**: So the younger son got up and went back to his father.

He was still a long way from home when his father saw him; his heart was filled with pity, and he ran, threw his arms around his son and kissed him. The son said:

**Younger**: Father, I have sinned against God and against you. I am no longer good enough **Son** to be called your son.

**Father**: (to the servant). Hurry bring the best clothes and put it on him. Put a ring on his finger and shoes on his feet. Then go and get the best calf and kill it, and let us have a celebration! For this son of mine was dead, but now he is alive; he was lost but now he is found.

**Jesus**: In the meantime the elder son was out working in the field. He heard the music and dancing. So he called one of the servants.

**Elder** **son**: What’s going on?

**Servant**: Your younger brother has come back home and your father is celebrating, because your brother has returned.

**Jesus**: The elder brother was so angry that he could not go into the house; so his father begged him to come in. But the elder son said:

**Elder son**: Look, all these years I have worked hard for you, and I have never been bad. What   
 have you given me? But this son has wasted all your money on prostitutes, and when   
 he comes home you kill the best calf for him!

**Father**: My son, you are always here with me, and everything I have is yours. But we have to celebrate and be happy, because your brother was dead, but now he is alive; he was lost, but now he has been found.

**Interview Questions - The teacher will now interview the actors.**

***Younger Son*:** What did you ask your father for? What did you do in the other city? Why did you decide to go back home?

***Father*:** Why did you give your son his share of the property? How did you feel when he left home? Your son spent all your money – why did you celebrate his return?

***Elder son***: How did you feel when your brother returned?

**Discussion:**

1. In the story the father says to the younger son: You were dead but now you are alive. You were lost but now you have been found. Why did the Father say it?

2. Jesus told this story to explain about God’s relationship with us. We are like the son who left home. If God is like the father in this story – what kind of welcome can we expect?

3. Has your relationship with your family changed since you have been in Australia? How?