

The Lost Son



MEMORY VERSE: But if we confess our sins to him, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all wickedness.
1 John 1:9



LUKE 15:11-16 Selfishness Destroys

1. What did the younger son tell his father he wanted?

2. What was the younger sons life like after he left home?

3. How was the younger son selfish?



LUKE 15:17-24 Celebrating Repentance

4. What happened when the son finally came to his senses? vv. 17-19

5. What was surprising about the father's reaction when he saw his son?

6. What can you learn from the son's confession to his father?

7. Instead of punishing his son, what did the father do?



LUKE 15:25-32 Lost and Found

8. Why was the older son so upset? Was he right or wrong?

9. What did the father explain to his oldest son?

10. How is God like the father in this parable?

BELIEVE THE TRUTH

We are like the sons in this parable - either running off and doing bad things or being proud of ourselves for not doing bad things. Both are self-centered. But God is like the Father who loves both sons, in spite of their sin. When you do something wrong, you don't have to be afraid that God will stop loving you. Instead, you can freely run to Him and admit what you've done and ask for forgiveness. Because God loves you, He will forgive you. (See our memory verse!)

PRAY THE TRUTH

Father God,
Thank you for forgiving me when I disobey You or act ungrateful for the love and blessings You give me. Help me to be quick to admit and confess my sins.
Amen.

WALK IN TRUTH



What does this parable tell you about:

How we think and act?

How God thinks and acts?

Luke 15:11-32

Parable of the Lost Son

Luke 15:11-16

¹¹ To illustrate the point further, Jesus told them this story: “A man had two sons. ¹² The younger son told his father, ‘I want my share of your estate now before you die.’ So his father agreed to divide his wealth between his sons.

¹³ “A few days later this younger son packed all his belongings and moved to a distant land, and there he wasted all his money in wild living. ¹⁴ About the time his money ran out, a great famine swept over the land, and he began to starve. ¹⁵ He persuaded a local farmer to hire him, and the man sent him into his fields to feed the pigs. ¹⁶ The young man became so hungry that even the pods he was feeding the pigs looked good to him. But no one gave him anything.

Luke 15:17-24

¹⁷ “When he finally came to his senses, he said to himself, ‘At home even the hired servants have food enough to spare, and here I am dying of hunger! ¹⁸ I will go home to my father and say, ‘Father, I have sinned against both heaven and you, ¹⁹ and I am no longer worthy of being called your son. Please take me on as a hired servant.’”

²⁰ “So he returned home to his father. And while he was still a long way off, his father saw him coming. Filled with love and compassion, he ran to his son, embraced him, and kissed him. ²¹ His son said to him, ‘Father, I have sinned against both heaven and you, and I am no longer worthy of being called your son.’

²² “But his father said to the servants, ‘Quick! Bring the finest robe in the house and put it on him. Get a ring for his finger and sandals for his feet. ²³ And kill the calf we have been fattening. We must celebrate with a feast, ²⁴ for this son of mine was dead and has now returned to life. He was lost, but now he is found.’ So the party began.

Luke 15:25-32

²⁵ “Meanwhile, the older son was in the fields working. When he returned home, he heard music and dancing in the house, ²⁶ and he asked one of the servants what was going on. ²⁷ ‘Your brother is back,’ he was told, ‘and your father has killed the fattened calf. We are celebrating because of his safe return.’

²⁸ “The older brother was angry and wouldn’t go in. His father came out and begged him, ²⁹ but he replied, ‘All these years I’ve slaved for you and never once refused to do a single thing you told me to. And in all that time you never gave me even one young goat for a feast with my friends. ³⁰ Yet when this son of yours comes back after squandering your money on prostitutes, you celebrate by killing the fattened calf!’

³¹ “His father said to him, ‘Look, dear son, you have always stayed by me, and everything I have is yours. ³² We had to celebrate this happy day. For your brother was dead and has come back to life! He was lost, but now he is found!’”

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