

Welcome Home

Luke 15:11-32

Today's Question: What is keeping you from coming home?

Luke 15:11-32 (NKJV); The Parable of the Lost Son

¹¹ Then He said: "A certain man had two sons. ¹² And the younger of them said to *his* father, 'Father, give me the portion of goods that falls to me.' So he divided to them *his* livelihood. ¹³ And not many days after, the younger son gathered all together, journeyed to a far country, and there wasted his possessions with prodigal living. ¹⁴ But when he had spent all, there arose a severe famine in that land, and he began to be in want. ¹⁵ Then he went and joined himself to a citizen of that country, and he sent him into his fields to feed swine. ¹⁶ And he would gladly have filled his stomach with the pods that the swine ate, and no one gave him *anything*.

¹⁷ "But when he came to himself, he said, 'How many of my father's hired servants have bread enough and to spare, and I perish with hunger! ¹⁸ I will arise and go to my father, and will say to him, "Father, I have sinned against heaven and before you, ¹⁹ and I am no longer worthy to be called your son. Make me like one of your hired servants." '

²⁰ "And he arose and came to his father. But when he was still a great way off, his father saw him and had compassion, and ran and fell on his neck and kissed him.

²¹ And the son said to him, 'Father, I have sinned against heaven and in your sight, and am no longer worthy to be called your son.'

²² "But the father said to his servants, 'Bring out the best robe and put *it* on him, and put a ring on his hand and sandals on *his* feet. ²³ And bring the fatted calf here and kill *it*, and let us eat and be merry; ²⁴ for this my son was dead and is alive again; he was lost and is found.' And they began to be merry.

²⁵ "Now his older son was in the field. And as he came and drew near to the house, he heard music and dancing. ²⁶ So he called one of the servants and asked what these things meant. ²⁷ And he said to him, 'Your brother has come, and because he has received him safe and sound, your father has killed the fatted calf.'

²⁸ "But he was angry and would not go in. Therefore his father came out and pleaded with him. ²⁹ So he answered and said to *his* father, 'Lo, these many years I have been serving you; I never transgressed your commandment at any time; and yet you never gave me a young goat, that I might make merry with my friends. ³⁰ But as soon as this son of yours came, who has devoured your livelihood with harlots, you killed the fatted calf for him.'

³¹ "And he said to him, 'Son, you are always with me, and all that I have is yours.

³² It was right that we should make merry and be glad, for your brother was dead and is alive again, and was lost and is found.' "

Welcome Home...

1. The _____ Son: Wild, Young, & _____ (v. 11-24).
2. The _____ Son-Serving the Father out of _____ instead of _____ (v. 25-30).
3. The _____ Father-Always Gracious, _____, and Kind (v. 22-24, 28, 31-32).

Welcome Home...4 family truths you can take home with you today:

1. No matter what you've _____, where you've _____, or how long you've been _____, you can come home today.
2. No matter how _____ you've been, what you've _____ for Jesus, or how long you've been in _____, you should always be excited to see a lost person become found!

3. If you have a _____, wayward child, there is still _____ that he or she will come home. Don't lose heart.

Galatians 6:9-10; ⁹ And let us not grow weary while doing good, for in due season we shall reap if we do not lose heart. ¹⁰ Therefore, as we have opportunity, let us do good to all, especially to those who are of the household of faith.

4. The _____ is very _____ of you. This parable is one of the best pictures you can get of God: A loving Father who is waiting for you, watching for you, and wanting you to return.

Christ Connection: Jesus gave His life for you so that you could be welcomed with open arms by the Father.

*Today's Big Idea (A short summary): When the **lost** become **found** and the **dead** become **alive** again, it's time to **celebrate!***



1. **Come home**-If you are like the **younger brother** and have **strayed** from God, your family, and your friends, then it is time to come home! Take that first step by giving your life to Jesus Christ today.
2. **Celebrate**-If you are like the **older brother** and have been serving God out of grudgeful duty, it's time that you not only serve the Father's house, but also embrace the Father's heart.
3. **Go after**-Do you have a **prodigal** in your life? What are you willing to do to have them come home? Are you willing to run after them like the father in this story?

Preview for next Sunday: "True Riches" from Luke 16:1-13.