

## PRODIGAL SONS/FATHER'S DAY

### PRAY FOR THE DADS

I THOUGHT IT WOULD BE NICE, IN HONOR OF FATHERS DAY, TO TALK ABOUT THE HEART OF GOD. IN ORDER TO DO THIS, WE WILL EXPOSE THE HEARTS OF HIS KIDS AS WELL. GOD IS GLORIFIED IN HIS SOVEREIGNTY, GRACE, GENEROSITY, MERCY, AND FAITHFULNESS. WE WILL BE LOOKING AT THE TEXT OF LUKE 15:11-31. THE FATHER AND THE PRODIGAL SON. YOU MIGHT SAY, " I THOUGHT IT WAS JUST ABOUT ONE SON WHO TOOK HIS INHERITENCE AND SPLIT?" THIS IS WHAT I LOVE ABOUT THE WORD OF GOD, YOU CAN GO AS DEEP AS YOU WANT AND YOU STLL WON'T FIND THE BOTTOM. THIS PARABLE SPEAKS VOLUMES ABOUT A FATHER AND HIS KIDS.

SET UP: JESUS IS ON A GOOD ONE, PREACHING AND TEACHING ABOUT SALVATION AND THE KINGDOM OF GOD WITH PARABLES. JESUS USED PARABLES TO EXPLAIN SPIRITUAL THINGS IN AN EARTHLY WAY THAT CAN BE UNDERSTOOD BY THOSE WHO ARE HIS. WE HAVE A MIXED BAG IN THE AUDIENCE (AS USUAL) SCRIBES AND PHARISEES ARE IN ATTENDANCE AS WELL AS HIS FOLLOWERS. JESUS IS LAYING OUT ABSOLUTE GOLD, SOME HAVE EARS TO HERE, SOME DON'T.

### Luke 15:11-12NKJV

#### 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.

SO THE YOUNG SON SAYS TO HIS FATHER, "I WANT WHAT'S MINE!" FIRST OF ALL, LETS LOOK AT THE PRIDE. WHEN WE "OWN" SOMETHING, WE CREATE LACK. GATHERING "STUFF" THAT YOU WANT TO MAKE YOU FEEL BETTER, SAFE, SECURE, AND COMPLETE. WHAT HAPPENS WHEN IT IS GONE? **YOU OWN NOTHING**

ANOTHER WORD THAT CAN BE USED FOR FATHER HERE IS "SOURCE"

THIS BRILLIANT YOUNG MAN WAS LIVING IN THE WATER..... NOW HE'S ASKING FOR A BUCKET SO HE CAN BE ON HIS WAY....CRAZY RIGHT?

SO THE LOVING FATHER SAYS TO HIMSELF, “ IF YOU DON’T WANT TO BE HERE WITH ME....GO, I WILL NOT STOP YOU. HE DIVIDES THE PROPERTY/PAIN IN THE REAR.

### Luke 15:11-16 NKJV

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.

SO HE TAKES HIS BUCKET OF WATER TO THE BIG CITY (THE SYSTEM) COMES INTO COVENANT WITH THE SYSTEM HE POURS OUT HIS PORTION ON HOOKERS AND BLOW, FRIVOLOUSLY LIVING. WHEN HE SQUANDERED EVERYTHING, THERE WAS A FAMINE...SEVERE LACK.....THE BUCKET WAS EMPTY AND SO WAS HE. GOD HAS A FUNNY WAY OF GETTING HIS POINT ACROSS NO ONE IN THE SYSTEM (MUD) COULD HELP HIM OR WOULD HELP HIM. WHY? THEY STUCK TOO!!! THEY ARE MUDDY JUST LIKE YOU. THEY ARE BROKE LIKE YOU, THEY ARE SICK LIKE YOU, THEY TOO ARE LEFT WANTING

WHY DO WE KEEP ASKING PEOPLE WHO ARE STUCK IN THE MUD, JUST LIKE US, FOR HELP?

### Luke 15:17-19

New King James Version

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.”’

HE CAME TO HIMSELF AND HAD A REVELATION OF ALL HE HAD WITH THE FATHER/SOURCE AND YET, HIS THINKING IS STILL JACKED UP. WHY?

EVEN THOUGH THIS SON HAS A REVELATION THAT HIS FATHER IS HIS SOURCE, HE NOW HAS SCREWED VIEW OF WHO HE HIMSELF IS. YOU SEE,

HE DOESN'T "FEEL LIKE" OR "SEES HIMSELF AS" A SON ANYMORE..HE IS "HOPING" FOR EMPLOYMENT AT BEST.....HE HAS MISSED THE MARK

HE'S A SLAVE TO THE SYSTEM AND THATS THE WAY HE'S VIEWED HIMSELF

HOW DO YOU VIEW YOURSELF?

### Luke 15:20-21

New King James Version

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.

RIGHT HERE.....REPENTANCE

HE AROSE....TURNED FROM THE MUD AND THE PIGS AND HEADED HOME

**GIVE EXAMPLE OF REHEARSING SPEECH TO DAD**

WHAT HAPPENS? THE FATHER COMES RUNNING!!

GOD WILL ALWAYS RUN TOWARD THE REPENTANT HEART OF HIS KIDS WITH OPEN ARMS AND LOVE

### Luke 15:22-24

New King James Version

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.

WHEN THE SON SAYS I AM NOT WORTHY, THE FATHER SHOWS HIM HE'S WORTHY.....BECAUSE HE'S A SON....NOT A SLAVE

GOD CHOOSES US FIRST...WE DON'T CHOOSE HIM

THE FATHER SAYS " NO NOT THAT ROBE.... GO GET THE BEST ROBE FOR MY BOY" " I ONLY WANT THE BEST OF THE BEST FOR MY SON"

THEN HE SAYS,” GO GET THE FAMILY RING, I WILL PUT IT BACK ON HIS HAND....WHERE IT BELONGS. THERE ARE THREE THINGS THIS RING IDENTIFIES

1. NAME/IDENTITY

2. AUTHORITY

3. ACCESS

THE FATTED CALF WAS SAVED FOR VERY SPECIAL OCCASIONS...LIKE IF ROYALTY CAME TO YOUR HOUSE....YOU WOULD KILL THE FATTED CALF IN HONOR OF YOUR EXTRA SPECIAL GUEST.

WHY ALL THE CELEBRATION? AHHHHHHH FOR MY SON WAS DEAD AND NOW HE IS ALIVE!!!!

WAIT A SECOND.....HIS SON WAS LIVING IN THE MUD, WHY WOULD THE FATHER SAY HIS SON WAS DEAD?

DEATH IS SEPERATION FROM THE SOURCE. GOING FROM ACCESS TO EMPLOYMENT IS DEATH

THE FATHER DOESN'T HAVE EMPLOYEES IN HIS FAMILY

HAVING THE SERVANTS BRING HIM SANDALS SIGNIFIES THAT THE FATHER MAKES SURE THE FAMILY CAN TRAVEL HERE AND THERE WITH COMFORT AND EASE

LETS LOOK AT THE “GOOD” BOY

**Luke 15:25-28**

New King James Version

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.

FIRST THING I WANT TO LOOK AT IS THE FACT THAT JESUS, LETS US KNOW THAT BOTH BOYS WERE IN FIELDS....ONE WAS EMPLOYED BY THE SYSTEM....ONE WAS STEWARDING OVER HIS FATHERS FIELD...BOTH FALL SHORT IN THEIR PERSPECTIVES

WHY WAS HE ANGRY? WHY DO PEOPLE GET ANGRY WHEN THEY SEE SOMEONE FLOWING IN ACCESS?

NOTICE HOW THE FATHER WENT OUT TO GET THIS SON..HE NEVER ABANDONED THE FAMILY FOR HOOKERS AND BLOW....HE STAYED IN ACCESS, AUTHORITY, AND IDENTITY.....YET HE WAS FILLED WITH RESENTMENT TOWARDS HIS BROTHERS RETURN.

### Luke 15:29-30

New King James Version

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.

HE SAYS, “ ALL I DO IS SERVE YOU FAITHFULLY, WHERE IS MY PARTY?”  
I...I...I...ME...ME...ME----OWNERSHIP=LACK

HE ACKNOWLEDGED THAT HIS FATHER HAD A LIVELIHOOD TO BE DEVoured

### Luke 15:31-32

New King James Version

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. ”

THE STORY ENDS HERE, BUT I CAN ONLY IMAGINE THE REACTION OF THE “GOOD” SON. HE PROBABLY FELL INTO HIS FATHER’S ARMS CRYING AT THE REVELATION OF HIS MESSED UP THINKING...

MORE IMPORTANTLY....HOW DOES ONE LIVE IN THE HOUSE WITH THE FATHER AND NOT TALK TO HIM? THE FACT THAT HE DIDN'T KNOW HE HAD ACCESS BECAUSE HE NEVER EVEN ASKED HIS FATHER...WHAT?!!

TO MANY TIMES WE FORGET WHO WE BELONG TOO.....EVEN THE BAD KID KNEW WHAT HIS FATHER HAD!!! WHY DON'T WE?!!!!

YOU CAN SEE HOW THE FATHER IS SOOOOOO LOVING TO BOTH OF THEM....BOTH WERE SINNING.....BOTH WERE LOVED EQUALLY WITH EQUAL ACCESS IN THE HOUSE

THIS BRINGS US TO THE REAL POINT OF THE PARABLE

EVEN THOUGH IT SEEMS TO BE A PARABLE ABOUT THE HEART OF MAN AND OUR IGNORANCE OF KINGDOM PRINCIPLES.....THIS IS A PARABLE ABOUT THE IMMENSE GRACE AND MERCY THAT POURS OUT OF THE FATHER..

PRODIGAL MEANS" FRIVOLOUS AND WASTEFUL SPENDING

FROM A HUMAN PERSPECTIVE YOU COULD CALL THIS PARABLE THE PRODIGAL FATHER.....WASTING EVERYTHING HE HAD ON TWO PEOPLE WHO DID NOT APPRECIATE NOR CARE ABOUT HIM

THIS SHOULD BRING EVERY PERSON TO THEIR KNEES

JESUS IS GIVING US A GLIMPSE INTO THE HEART OF GOD...THIS IS HOW MUCH HE LOVES US

TODAY I ASK YOU TO EXAMINE YOURSELF.....WHERE DO YOU FIT IN THIS PARABLE? ONE SON, BOTH SONS? HOW ABOUT THE FATHER?

HAVE YOU BEEN IN THE FIELD WORKING TO EARN WHATS COMING TO YOU? HAVE YOU EVER WONDERED WHY THERE ARE CHRISTIANS SOAKED IN THE HOLY SPIRIT AND ONES THAT ARE AS DRY AS THE SAHARA? BOTH SERVE...BOTH HAVE ROBES AND RINGS

**John 15:5-8**

New King James Version

5 "I am the vine, you are the branches. He who abides in Me, and I in him, bears much fruit; for without Me you can do nothing. 6 If anyone does not abide in Me, he is cast out as a branch and is withered; and they gather them and throw them into the fire, and they are burned. 7 If you abide in Me, and My words abide in you, you<sup>[a]</sup> will ask what you desire, and it shall be done for you. 8 By this My Father is glorified, that you bear much fruit; so you will be My disciples.

**BE FILLED WITH THE SPIRIT OF GOD!!! SOAK IN THE WATER OF THE SOURCE AND NEVER LEAVE!!!!**

**WHEN YOU ARE CONNECTED TO THE SOURCE IN THE HOUSE, YOU HAVE AN ENDLESS SUPPLY OF EVERYTHING HE HAS**

**HAVE YOU MADE A COVENANT WITH THE SYSTEM YOUR TRAPPED IN? DO KEEP FINDING YOURSELF PLAYING IN THE MUD? TODAY IS THE DAY THAT YOU COME TO YOURSELF LIKE THE YOUNG MAN IN THE MUD**

**I TELL YOU TODAY...REPENT!! COME BACK HOME TO THE SOURCE OF EVERYTHING AND ALL THINGS....GOD ALMIGHTY THE GREAT I AM**

**ALTER**