



**A MAN AND HIS STORIES #3**  
**THE PRODIGAL SON**  
**Luke 15:11-27**  
Call Study – Jason Park

<sup>20</sup>“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. <sup>21</sup>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.’ <sup>22</sup>“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. <sup>23</sup>And kill the calf we have been fattening. We must celebrate with a feast, <sup>24</sup>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.

<sup>25</sup>“Meanwhile, the older son was in the fields working. When he returned home, he heard music and dancing in the house, <sup>26</sup>and he asked one of the servants what was going on. <sup>27</sup>‘Your brother is back,’ he was told, ‘and your father has killed the fattened calf. We are celebrating because of his safe return.’ **Luke 15:20-27**

**The Father: OUR HEAVENLY FATHER**

**The Younger (Prodigal) Son: REBELLIOUS SINNER**

**The Older Son: SELF-RIGHTEOUS**

**JESUS CAME FOR THE LOST:**  
**WE ARE CALLED TO SEEK THE LOST**  
**THERE IS A JOY IN BEING FOUND**

I tell you that in the same way, there will be *more* joy in heaven over one sinner who repents than over ninety-nine righteous people who have no need of repentance. **Luke 15:7**

**THE YOUNGER SON:**

**HE WAS SELFISH**

I want my share of your estate now before you die. So his father agreed to divide his wealth between his sons. **Luke 15:12**

See that no one is sexually immoral, or is godless like **Esau**, who for a single meal sold his inheritance rights as the oldest son. **Hebrews 12:16**

### **HE WAS HUMBLED**

<sup>14</sup> About the time his money ran out, a great famine swept over the land, and he began to starve. <sup>15</sup> He persuaded a local farmer to hire him, and the man sent him into his fields to feed the pigs. <sup>16</sup> 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 15:14-16**

### **HE WAS REPENTANT**

<sup>17</sup> “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! <sup>18</sup> I will go home to my father and say, “Father, I have sinned against both heaven and you, <sup>19</sup> and I am no longer worthy of being called your son. Please take me on as a hired servant.” **Luke 15:17-19**

## **THE FATHER’S LOVE FOR THE LOST**

<sup>4</sup> “What man among you, if he has a hundred sheep and has lost one of them, does not leave the *other* ninety-nine in the open pasture and go after the one that is lost, until he finds it? <sup>5</sup> And when he has found it, he puts it on his shoulders, rejoicing. <sup>6</sup> And when he comes home, he calls together his friends and his neighbors, saying to them, ‘Rejoice with me, because I have found my sheep that was lost!’ **Luke 15:4-6**

<sup>20</sup> “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.... <sup>22</sup> “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. <sup>23</sup> And kill the calf we have been fattening. **Luke 15:20, 22**

### **HE KEPT WATCH**

### **HE RAN TO MEET HIM**

### **HE RESTORED HIS SON’S IDENTITY**

## **THE OLDER BROTHER**

<sup>28</sup> “The older brother was angry and wouldn’t go in (party). His father came out and begged him, <sup>29</sup> 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. <sup>30</sup> Yet when this son of yours comes back after squandering your money on prostitutes, you celebrate by killing the fattened calf!’ <sup>31</sup> “His father said to him, ‘Look, dear son, you have always stayed by me, and everything I have is yours. <sup>32</sup> 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!’” **Luke 15:28-32**

### **HE WAS TOO FOCUS ON HIMSELF**

### **HE MISSED OUT ON ALL THE JOY**

### **WHEN WE SEEK THE LOST, WE FIND JESUS**

<sup>41</sup> “Then the King will turn to those on the left and say, ‘Away with you, you cursed ones, into the eternal fire prepared for the devil and his demons. <sup>42</sup> For I was hungry, and you didn’t feed me. I was thirsty, and you didn’t give me a drink. <sup>43</sup> I was a stranger, and you didn’t invite me into your home. I was naked, and you didn’t give me clothing. I was sick and in prison, and you didn’t visit me. <sup>44</sup> “Then they will reply, ‘Lord, when did we ever see you hungry or thirsty or a stranger or naked or sick or in prison, and not help you? <sup>45</sup> “And he will answer, ‘I tell you the truth, when you refused to help the least of these my brothers and sisters, you were refusing to help me.’ <sup>46</sup> “And they will go away into eternal punishment, but the righteous will go into eternal life.” **Matthew 25:41-46**

## **THE BIG IDEA:**

**PATIENCE** LIKE THE FATHER

**HUMILITY** LIKE THE YOUNGER BROTHER

**AWARENESS** OF THE OLDER BROTHER

**DISCUSSION QUESTIONS:**

What are your thoughts on this parable?

Which character in this story do you identify with the most?

Do you have someone who is a prodigal or who lost their way?

Who can we protect ourselves from being like the big brother?

Does anyone have a prayer request?