

Who's Your One?

Becoming a Father / Mother

Luke 15:11-32

11 Jesus continued: "There was a man who had two sons.

12 The younger one said to his father, 'Father, give me my share of the estate.' So he divided his property between them.

13 "Not long after that, the younger son got together all he had, set off for a distant country and there squandered his wealth in wild living. 14 After he had spent everything, there was a severe famine in that whole country, and he began to be in need. 15 So he went and hired himself out to a citizen of that country, who sent him to his fields to feed pigs. 16 He longed to fill his stomach with the pods that the pigs were eating, but no one gave him anything. 17 "When he came to his senses, he said, 'How many of my father's hired men have food to spare, and here I am starving to death!

18 I will set out and go back to my father and say to him: Father, I have sinned against heaven and against you. 19 I am no longer worthy to be called your son; make me like one of your hired men.' 20 So he got up and went to his father. "But while he was still a long way off, his father saw him and was filled with compassion for him; he ran to his son, threw his arms around him and kissed him.

21 "The son said to him, 'Father, I have sinned against heaven and against you. I am no longer worthy to be called your son. '

22 "But the father said to his servants, 'Quick! Bring the best robe and put it on him. Put a ring on his finger and sandals on his feet. 23 Bring the fattened calf and kill it. Let's have a feast and celebrate. 24 For this son of mine was dead and is alive again; he was lost and is found.' So they began to celebrate.

25 "Meanwhile, the older son was in the field. When he came near the house, he heard music and dancing. 26 So he called one of the servants and asked him what was going on.

Small Groups Part 2

Luke 15:11-32

27 'Your brother has come,' he replied, 'and your father has killed the fattened calf because he has him back safe and sound.'

28 "The older brother became angry and refused to go in. So his father went out and pleaded with him. 29 But he answered his father, 'Look! All these years I've been slaving for you and never disobeyed your orders. Yet you never gave me even a young goat so I could celebrate with my friends. 30 But when this son of yours who has squandered your property with prostitutes comes home, you kill the fattened calf for him!'

31 "'My son,' the father said, 'you are always with me, and everything I have is yours. 32 But we had to celebrate and be glad, because this brother of yours was dead and is alive again; he was lost and is found.' "

Message notes:

Our church is on a _____. We will constantly fight the things that keep us from becoming fathers & mothers.

Heaven _____ when one repents and comes to faith in Christ.

When we are lost—without Christ—we are _____.

The challenge of this story is to learn to _____ the father.

God can't _____ churches with prodigals if that Church is filled with people who have hearts like the older brother.

If we don't discover the older brother heart inside of us, it will keep us from _____ the one.

Fathers and mothers have _____.

Who's Your One?

Additional notes:

Discussion Questions:

What is wrong with having a "holy huddle"—allowing your spirituality to become all about your personal group's comfort?

Which category of character from this parable do you typically find yourself in? How can you grow personally in your life?

Why is the older brother's heart so dangerous to our relationship with God? How do we avoid living in this mindset?

Why is it important to welcome the prodigals back home?

How do we grow in this mission of becoming a spiritual father or mother?

What does it mean to look at others with eyes of grace?

Ministry Time Questions:

Does anyone feel like they're stuck in the mindset of the older brother?

Would you like prayer to develop these eyes of grace?