

NEW PARTY

July 12, 2020 Luke 15:5-32

OPENING QUESTION

Have you ever lost something that was precious to you, then found it again? Were you angry that you lost it in the first place, or just glad to have it back?

The Run

Luke 15:13-14

- ❖ The younger son takes his inheritance early, and squanders it all away with people who don't really care about him.
- ❖ He ends up starving, poor, and working on a pig farm. Reality sets in, and he comes to his senses.

1. When you were younger, what were your priorities? Was there a time in your life when you thought you "knew it all"? How did that work out?

The Return

Luke 15:17-19

- ❖ He's so desperate, he decides to try and get hired as a servant on his dad's farm.
- ❖ He believes he has shamed his family and tries to earn his way back into the family.
- ❖ Sometimes we try to earn God's acceptance.

1. What would you tell someone who has been far from God and wants to come nearer to Him, but is ashamed?

The Reception

Luke 15:22-24

- ❖ His father receives him as a son, not a servant, with all the privileges of a son.
- ❖ Although the son was expecting shame and servitude, he is greeted with love, grace, and sonship.
- ❖ There is complete freedom in forgiveness.

1. Is forgiveness a positive word or negative word in your vocabulary? Is God mad at you because you need forgiveness?

NEW NORMAL

CLOSING QUESTIONS

Hear

What are some things that stood out to you in this week's sermon and Scriptures?

Obey

How do you view God - as a boss, or someone who's always looking over your shoulder, or as a loving Father? Does this parable provide an example of God's grace and love as a Father?

Pray

Choose one or two particular applications from this passage and prayerfully consider how you might approach God's throne as a son or daughter. How can you pray for one another in these areas this week?