

A Son's Selfishness and a Father's Forgiveness – Luke 15:11-32

My Story

1. Where are you in the birth order of your family (youngest, oldest, middle, etc.)? How old were you when you left home?

Digging Deeper

2. Why do you think Jesus included the detail of the son "squandering" his inheritance – what lesson does this teach about the nature of worldly revelry?
3. How did the turning point in the son's life come when he "came to his senses"? Why is facing reality so crucial in repentance?

4. How does the father's response to the son show us the heart of God toward sinners who repent? Why is the father's restoration of his son (robe, ring, feast) so significant in understanding grace and forgiveness?

Reflection

5. How can we in the church community practice restoration in ways that reflect the father's example?
6. How can we guard our hearts from resentment and instead celebrate God's grace at work in others' lives?

SERMON NOTES

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Taking the Next Step

Which character in the story do you most identify with – one of the brothers, the father? With whom do you need to be reconciled? Do you need to forgive or be forgiven? Ask God to help you take the steps needed to accomplish this.

Praises / Prayer Requests

