

Parables of Luke (NCC Equip Class January-March 2017)

Session #9: March 12, 2017

“The Parable of the Lost Son”

Or

“The Parable of the Gracious Father” (Part #1)

Luke 15:11-21

Introduction:

Who is the main main character in the Lost Son Parable? (15:11-32)

Review:

What provokes Jesus to tell the 3 “Lost Item” Parables of Luke 15? (Cf. 15:1-2)

What is the theme of the 3 Parables of Luke 15?

What does “prodigal” mean? _____

What is the problem with calling this parable “The Prodigal Son”?

What might be more appropriate titles for this parable?

I. A Soul Lost and Found (11-21)

A) A Fool’s Request (11-12)

Explain the honor/shame culture of first century Jewish society and its relevance to this parable:

Explain how this younger son’s request is shameful:

How does this son view his father?

What sacrifices will the father have to make to fulfill his son's request?

Note 2 Words in V. 12:

1) "estate/goods" – Literally – "Life-Holdings"

2) "wealth" - "bios" (greek)

The Point: The Father Liquidated His Life into Money in order to Fulfill His Son's Selfish Request!

Whom does the father in the parable represent?

In real life – whom does this younger son represent?

B) A Fool's Errand (13)

What does the son do soon after getting his inheritance?

Why do you think the son travels so far away?

Prodigal mean "wasteful." What does this son waste?

C) A Fool's End (14-18)

What 2 Things Occurred provoking the son to be impoverished?

1) _____

2) _____

Whose fault is it when we suffer the consequences for our sin?

Explain the nature of the “job” the son acquired:

- What were the problems with this job?

The Declining Company of The Son:

1st - _____

2nd - _____

3rd - _____

Did the son achieve the absence of accountability that he was looking for?

What does the son covet that demonstrates the desperation of his situation?

According to v. 16 – who was there to help him?

How will everyone in eternity get what they wanted in life?

4 Elements of Genuine Repentance:

#1 – Repentance Involves a Change of _____ About Sin (2 Tim. 2:25)

#2 – Repentance Involves _____ of Sin (1 John 1:8-9)

“confess” – Means: _____

#3 – Repentance Involves a _____ to Avoid Sin (Is. 1:16-17)

#4 – Repentance Involves a Change of _____ About Sin (Joel 2:12)

D) A Change of Mind (17)

Explain the nature of first century “hired workers”?

How did this son's father treat these hired workers?

"dying" (v. 17) = "apolumai" = "lost"

➤ This son is the lost _____ from Christ's first parable! (15:3-7)

What realization does this son make that all who would repent must arrive at?

E) A Willful Resolve to Turn Away from Sin (18)

Contrast the way the son left home versus how he is now returning?

F) A Change of Heart (18-20a)

List the 2 Ways That This Son Demonstrates His Change of Heart:

#1 - _____

#2 - _____ Explain:

Before son left – how did he assess his worth?

➤ How about now as he returns home?

True Repentance Moves from Intention to Demonstration!

G) Confession of Sin (21)

What appropriate confession does this son make?

H) A Change of Action (21)

Notice the son's father forgives him before he speaks! How does the son prove his repentance in light of this?