

Prodigal Grace

Luke 15: 25-32

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Read Luke 15:11-32 for the full parable of Jesus.

Read verses 25-32 again. Look closer at these verses from the mind and heart of the older son. What is his thinking/attitude about life and his father?

Think back on your life since you have trusted Christ. Recall a time that you felt far from God, unloved by Him and distant, even though you were serving, active and faithful in your church activities. What were the circumstances? How did God get your attention? Who did He use in your life to restore you?

Examine the text for things these brothers have in common. How are their lives similar?

(15, 25)

(16, 29)

(18, 29)

(20, 28)

(13, 29)

The greatest thing they have in common - the Father! For both, the Father comes to them, pursues them and explains what it is to be a son (22-23, 31-32).

Read the parable again, underline or circle the word "father" each time it is used.

What is the Father telling the older son (vs. 31) that he is missing? What is the older son focusing on, and what is the Father focusing on?

Are you ever tempted to think that God "owes you" based on your behavior or some effort that you've made for him? What is the error in this thinking? What do the following verses have to say about this mindset? - Job 41:11; Ephesians 2:8,9; Isaiah 64:6

What should drive our obedience and works as sons and daughters of God?

(see James 2:14- 23; Col 3:23 - 24; John 14:15; 1 Cor 15: 51-58)

How are you doing with the Father? How is your relationship with Him? How is your time with Him, in His word, in prayer and simply enjoying His love?

How is your Heavenly Father pursuing you?

