

Bible Study 13 – A father’s response to a sinner who repents – Lk. 15:11-32

A sociologist was writing a book about the difficulties of growing up in a large family, so he interviewed the mother of 13 children. After several questions, he asked, “Do you think all children deserve the full, impartial love and attention of a mother?” “Of course,” said the mother. “Well, which of your children do you love the most?” he asked, hoping to catch her in a contradiction. She answered, “The one who is sick until they get well, and the one who is away until they get home.” That’s like the shepherd who left 99 sheep to seek one that was lost, the woman who searched for the coin, & the father who rejoiced when his wayward son returned.

The context	Jesus began His ministry in Galilee and later moved to Judea. The location of this incident may have been on the way to Jerusalem (9:51; 13:22; 17:1). After Jesus taught the Pharisees to be humble and generous, He used a parable to indicate that the Jews would reject His message and it would be accepted by others. People who were outcasts (like tax collectors and sinners) were attracted to His teaching. Then Jesus taught that He came to look for lost people and save them.
--------------------	--

PART 1 Read & write each section in your own words – Luke 15:11-32

Son’s Rebellion (v.11-19)	
Son’s Repentance (v.20-24)	
Older son’s: rage & resentment (v.25-30)	
Father (v.31-32)	

PART 2 Things I discovered in this passage

1. What does it teach about God, Jesus or the Holy Spirit?

2. What does it teach about people?



3. Summarize a key verse in your own words.

4. In your opinion, what is the main point being taught in these passages?

5. Which other parts of the passage caught your attention?

6. The older brother didn’t welcome his brother back home; instead he was jealous and self-righteous and shamed his father at the celebration. How was he like the Pharisees?

7. Which parts of the passage were difficult to understand? What questions come to your mind?

Jesus came to look for lost people and save them. Both brothers were separated from their father. And the father went out to welcome both of them. One brother was reconciled, but we don’t know about the other.



He mixed with outcasts in order to rescue them from spiritual darkness. When they confessed their sin and turned to follow God, there was great joy in heaven.

Obey

Since God's word is true, what must I change in my life to obey God?
What must I do to obey?

I will
I will
I will

Questions to help me apply this study to myself

- Is there a *SIN* for me to avoid?
- Is there a *PROMISE* from God for me to claim?
- Is there an *EXAMPLE* for me to follow?
- Is there a **COMMANDMENT** or **MODEL** for me to follow?

Share

Who will I tell about this Bible passage?

Who needs help? What can we do to help over the next two weeks?

Person	How will I help them?

Prayer

Date:

One thing you are thankful for.

One thing that's bothering you or causing stress.

Is there anything this group can do to help you?

Person	Prayer points