

Conclusion to the Sermon Series

God Is More...

Today's Sermon:

"He Is Loving"

1

Luke 15:11-24 (NIV)

11 Jesus continued: "There was a man who had two sons. 12 The younger one said to his father, 'Father, give me my share of the estate.' So he divided his property between them. 13 "Not long after that, the younger son got together all he had, set off for a distant country

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and there squandered his wealth in wild living. 14 After he had spent everything, there was a severe famine in that whole country, and he began to be in need. 15 So he went and hired himself out to a citizen of that country, who sent him to his fields to feed pigs. 16 He longed to fill his stomach with the pods that the

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pigs were eating, but no one gave him anything. 17 "When he came to his senses, he said, 'How many of my father's hired men have food to spare, and here I am starving to death! 18 I will set out and go back to my father and say to him: Father, I have sinned against heaven and against you. 19 I am no longer worthy to be called your son; make me

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like one of your hired men.' 20 So he got up and went to his father. "But while he was still a long way off, his father saw him and was filled with compassion for him; he ran to his son, threw his arms around him and kissed him. 21 "The son said to him, 'Father, I have sinned against heaven and against you. I am no longer worthy to be called your son.'

5

22 "But the father said to his servants, 'Quick! Bring the best robe and put it on him. Put a ring on his finger and sandals on his feet. 23 Bring the fattened calf and kill it. Let's have a feast and celebrate. 24 For this son of mine was dead and is alive again; he was lost and is found.' So they began to celebrate.

6

Question:
 “**Who** do **you love**,
 and **how** do **you show**
it?”

7

Question:
 “**Who** does **God love**,
 and **how** does **He**
show it?”

8

Luke 15:1-2 (TLB)
 “By this time a **lot** of men and
 women of **doubtful reputation**
 were **hanging around** Jesus,
listening intently. And, the
Pharisees, and the **religious**
scholars, were **not pleased**;

9

not, at all, **pleased**; and they
growled, ‘He takes in **sinners**, and
eats meals with **them**, treating
 them like **old friends!**’, and their
grumbling triggered **this story.**”

10

“Under **what conditions**
 does God **love us**, and
 what **kind** of a **loving**
God is this, anyway?”

11

Five simple lessons about God’s
 loving nature:
 1. When we “**make foolish choices.**”

12

Luke 15:11-12,
 "There was a man who had **two sons**. The **younger one** said to his **father**, 'Father, **give me my share** of the **estate**.' So he **divided** his **property** between them."

13

It's to "**know**" when to "**hold on**", and when to "**let go**."

14

Five simple lessons about God's loving nature:

1. When we "**make foolish choices**."
2. When we "**fail**."

15

Luke 15:13,
 "A few days later, this younger son **packed** all his **belongings**, and took them to a **distant land**, where he **wasted** all of his **money**, and **partied** with **prostitutes**."

16

But, **when** the **money runs out**, so does **everybody else!**

17

God Is More...
 "He Is Loving"

18

Five simple lessons about God's loving nature:

1. When we "**make foolish choices.**"
2. When we "**fail.**"
3. While he "**waits for our return.**"

19

Luke 15:14-16,

"After he had **spent everything**, there was a **severe famine** in that **whole country**, and he **began** to be **in need**. So he went and **hired himself out** to a **citizen** of that **country**, who **sent him** to his **fields** to **feed pigs**. He **longed** to **fill his stomach** with the **pods** that the **pigs** were **eating**, but no one **gave him** anything."

20

"Pain is God's **megaphone** to us! He will **shout** to us a **wake up call!**"

C. S. Lewis, Author

21

Luke 15:17-18,

"When he **came** to his **senses**, he said, 'How **many** of my father's **hired men** have **food to spare**, and here I am **starving to death!** I will set out, and **go back** to my father, and **say** to him, 'Father, I have **sinned against heaven**, and I've **sinned against you!**'"

22

Luke 15:20a,

"But, **while** he was **still** a **long way off**, his father **saw him**, and was **filled with compassion** for him."

23

2 Peter 3:9,

"The Lord is **not slow** in **keeping his promise**, as some **understand slowness**. He is **patient with you**, not wanting **anyone** to **perish**, but **everyone** to come to **repentance.**"

24

Five simple lessons about God's loving nature:

1. When we "**make foolish choices.**"
2. When we "**fail.**"
3. While he "**waits for our return.**"
4. When we "**come home.**"

25

Luke 15:20b,
"He **ran** to his **son**, threw his **arms around him**, and **kissed him!**"

26

Luke 15:21,
"Father, I have **sinned** against **Heaven**, and I've **sinned** against **you!** I'm **no longer worthy** to be **called your son.**"

27

Luke 15:22b-24, (TLB)
"**Hush! Quick!** Bring the **best robe** and put it **on him!** Put a **ring** on his **finger**, and **sandals** on his **feet!** Bring the **fatted calf**, and **kill it!**"

28

Let's have a **feast** and **celebrate**, for this **son** of mine was **dead** and he's **alive**, again! He was **lost**, and now he's **found!** My **kid** is **home!**"

29

Luke 15:10,
"I tell you **this**; there is **much rejoicing** in the **presence** of the **angels of heaven**, over **one sinner** who **repents!**"

30

Five simple lessons about God's loving nature:

1. When we "**make foolish choices.**"
2. When we "**fail.**"
3. While he "**waits for our return.**"
4. When we "**come home.**"
5. Not because we are "**good**", but because we are "**His**"!

31

Luke 15:29b-30,

"All these **years** I have been **slaving** for you, and **never disobeyed** your orders. Yet, you have **never** even given **me** a young **goat**, so I could **celebrate** with **my** friends! But, when this **Son** of **yours**, who has **squandered** your **property** with **prostitutes**, comes home, you **kill** the **fatted calf** for him!"

32

Luke 15:31-32,

"**My son**, listen to me! **You** are **always** with me. **You're my son!** And, **everything** I have is **yours!** My **love** for **you** has **never** been **conditioned** on your **hard work**. It's **never** been **conditioned** on your **goodness**."

33

I love you, **simply**, because **you** are my **son!** We have to **celebrate** and be **glad**, because this **brother** of **yours**, was **dead**, and is **alive**, again! He was **lost**, but is **found!**"

34

"The **deepest** thing? **Jesus loves me, this I know, for the Bible tells me so!**"

35

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"He Is Loving"

36

- He "***knows it all***"!
- He is "***everywhere***" at the "***same time***", "***same place***"!
- He is "***all powerful***"!
- He is "***understanding***"!
- He is "***loving***"!

37

***Heavenly Father,
I know that I am a sinner,
and I ask for Your forgiveness.
I believe Your Son Jesus,
died for my sins and rose from the dead.
I turn from my sins and
invite Him into my heart and life.
Jesus, I want to trust and follow You
as my Lord and Savior.***

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