

**"Helping people experience the hope
found in a life-changing relationship with Jesus".**

Context: Luke 15

V.1-2

Now the tax collectors and sinners were all gathering around to hear Jesus.² But the Pharisees and the teachers of the law complained, saying, "This man welcomes sinners and eats with them."

Sinners - who were listening.

Jesus - who is sharing God's love with the sinners.

The religious - who were complaining and nagging about Jesus for doing God's work

V. 3-7 Lost Sheep....

V.8-10 Lost Coin....

Here is the third story that Jesus used to teach a truth and illustrate the love of God

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 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 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 servants have food to spare, and

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 like one of your hired servants.'

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.'

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.

²⁵ "Meanwhile, the older son was in the field. When he came near the house, he heard music and dancing. ²⁶ So he called one of the servants and asked him what was going on.²⁷ 'Your brother has come,' he replied, 'and your father has killed the fattened calf because he has him back safe and sound.'

²⁸ "The older brother became angry and refused to go in. So, his father went out and pleaded with him. ²⁹ But he answered his father, 'Look! All these years I have been serving you and never disobeyed your orders. Yet you never gave me even a young goat so I could celebrate with my friends. ³⁰ But when this son of yours who has squandered your property with prostitutes comes home, you kill the fattened calf for him!'

³¹ "My son,' the father said, 'you are always with me, and everything I have is yours. ³² But we had to celebrate and be glad, because this brother of yours was dead and is alive again; he was lost and is found.'"

In this parable:

The younger son

Represents the sinners.

The Father

Represents God

The older brother

Represents the religious

I. The Younger Son.

- Rebellion:
- Selfishness:
- Foolishness:

- **Repentance:** Realizing his mistakes and the dire situation he's in, he decides to return to his father, acknowledging his wrongs and seeking forgiveness.

II. The Father.

- Patient.
- Compassion.
- Forgiveness.
- Waiting Love.

Restoration. The father goes beyond mere forgiveness; he also restores his son's dignity and position within the family. He orders that the best robe, a ring, and sandals be brought for his son, signifying his reinstatement as a beloved member of the household.

III. The Older Son.

- Never left the father's house.
- Served the father.
- Obedient.
- Jealousy
- Inflexible.

The Father:

V.28 his father went out and pleaded with him.

V.31. My son,' the father said, 'you are always with me, and everything I have is yours.

V. 32. But we had to celebrate and be glad, because this brother of yours was dead and is alive again; he was lost and is found.

Hospitality :

Webster's Dictionary defines hospitality as, "generous and friendly treatment of visitors and guests or hospitable treatment."

The Greek word philoxenia, literally: deep love the stranger

Hospital - Hospital - lity, = "HEALING"