



TALES
OF
THE
KINGDOM

📍 New Life Christian Center
June 30, 2024

Pastor Brian Benton | Turlock

“THE PRODIGAL SON”

1. The father was _____.

*“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.”
Luke 15:20 (NIV)*

2. The father’s _____ is _____ given.

“‘My son,’ the father said, ‘you are always with me, and everything I have is yours. 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.’” Luke 15: 31-32 (NIV)



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“THE PRODIGAL SON”

1. The father was LOOKING.

“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.”
Luke 15:20 (NIV)

2. The father’s FAVOR is FREELY given.

“‘My son,’ the father said, ‘you are always with me, and everything I have is yours. 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.’” Luke 15: 31-32 (NIV)

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

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[CONNECT]

Read Luke 15:1-2. Talk about two groups of people present and dynamically different they were. Who are the tax collectors and why did people hate them? Break down who the Pharisees were. What did they represent and what mindset did they have towards the others in the room?

[ENGAGE]

What stood out to you from this weekend's message?

[GROW]

1. Read the Parable of the Prodigal Son in its entirety, Luke 15: 11-32. Break down the different characters. Who does the father, the younger prodigal son and the elder/firstborn son represent in real life?
2. Re-read verses 20-24. The father sees the son in the distance, has compassion for him and runs to meet the son. Then the father restores the son to his rightful place in the family.
 - What is the message Jesus is trying to communicate with those listening?
 - Why is the restoration, (the rose and ring), so significant?
 - How does it make you feel that the father celebrates that which is lost?
3. The second half of the parable is directed at the Pharisees and the condition of their heart. Read verses 25-32 and look for the similarities between the eldest son in the story and the Pharisees in real life.

[LEAD (YOURSELF)]

Sometime this week, ask yourself these questions.

Who do you relate to the most in the parable of the Prodigal Son. Have you, like the older son, slipped into a life of works to earn God's favor? What lesson can you learn from Jesus' teaching and apply to your walk today?