

Jesus Tells the Parable of a Father and His Two Sons (Luke 15:11-32)

#3: Lessons from a Self-Righteous Son

THE PHARISEES COMPLAIN (15:1-2)

THE LOST SHEEP IS FOUND (15:3-7)

THE LOST COIN IS FOUND (15:8-10)

THE LOST SON IS FOUND (15:11-32)

1. The Younger Son Leaves His Father and Home and Lives a Reckless Life

2. The Younger Son Comes to His Senses

3. The Penitent Younger Son Returns Home to a Compassionate Father

4. The Elder Son Reacts to the Reception of His Brother (25-32)

²⁵ "Now his older son was in the field. And as he came and drew near to the house, he heard music and dancing. ²⁶ "So he called one of the servants and asked what these things meant.

a. The Elder Son _____

- He was working in the field
- He hears music (symphonia) and dancing (or singing)
- He was asking one of the servants (lit. children)

²⁷ "And he said to him, 'Your brother has come, and because he has received him safe and sound, your father has killed the fattened calf.'

b. The Servant _____

- Your brother is being here
- Your father killed the fattened calf
- Your father received your brother "being healthy"

²⁸ "But he was angry and would not go in. Therefore his father came out and pleaded with him.

c. The Elder Son Reacts in _____

- He was not wanting to go in

Therefore his father came out and pleaded with him.

d. The Father _____ **with the Son**

- The father comes out (he shows love to both sons)
- The father was urging him [to join the celebration]

²⁹ "So he answered and said to [his] father, 'Lo, these many years I have been serving you; I never transgressed your commandment at any time; and yet you never gave me a young goat, that I might make merry with my friends. ³⁰ 'But as soon as **this son of yours** came, who has devoured your livelihood with harlots, you killed the fattened calf for him.'

e. The Elder Son _____

- I am slaving for you many years (works vs gifts of the father)
- I have never transgressed a command of yours
- You never gave me a small goat to celebrate with my friends
- The wasteful, immoral son returns
- You killed the fattened calf for him (honor, recognition)

³¹ "And he said to him, 'Son, you are always with me, and all that I have is yours. ³² 'It was right that we should make merry and be glad, for **your brother was** dead and is alive again, and was lost and is found.'"

f. The Father _____

- You are always with me
- Everything I have is yours (the property agreement stands)
- Celebrating and rejoicing was necessary
- Because your brother was being dead and lived
- Because your brother was lost and was found

OBSERVATIONS & LESSONS

- 1) The father does not disregard the younger son's _____.
- 2) The father does not disregard the younger son's _____.
- 3) The father focuses on the _____ of the younger son rather than his past sin.
- 4) The _____ of the younger son is more important than the money he wasted (though he still has to live with those consequences).
- 5) The celebration is necessary, for it highlights what is _____ most important.
- 6) Jesus highlights the delight of heaven when a sinner _____.
- 7) Jesus addresses the _____ attitude of the older son, who misses the eternal joy because of his own self-righteousness.

**Jesus ends with an open ending. What will you learn:
From the wasteful son? From the loving father? From the judgmental son?**