

The Father's Joy

December 15, 2024 | *Luke 15:11-32*

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THE FATHER'S JOY

*Embracing grace and
celebrating restoration.*

Observations from Luke 15:11-32:

What is happening in these verses?

For this my son was dead, and is alive again; he was lost, and is found.' And they began to celebrate." - Luke 15:24

Understanding the Parable of the Prodigal Son:

- **The Younger Son's Actions:** The son demands his inheritance, squanders it, and hits rock bottom before returning to his father. (*Luke 15:13-20*)
- **The Father's Response:** The father demonstrates unconditional love by embracing the son, restoring him, and celebrating his return. (*Luke 15:20-24*)
- **The Older Son's Attitude:** The older son struggles with resentment and self-righteousness. (*Luke 15:28-30*)
- **Kingdom Implication:** This parable shows God's joy in restoring the lost. (*Luke 15:31-32, 2 Corinthians 5:18-19*)

In the same way the father rejoiced at the son's return, God, the angels, and all of heaven celebrate we come to Him!

Ontario Community Church: **Encouraging, Equipping and Engaging lives for Christ.**

John 6:47 (ESV) "Truly, truly, I say to you, whoever **believes** has eternal life"

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Lessons from Luke 15:11-32:

What can we learn (interpret) from these verses?

- **The Father's Joy in Restoration** (*Luke 15:20-24*)
 - God rejoices in the restoration of sinners and welcomes them back with unconditional love. (*Ref: Zephaniah 3:17, Romans 5:8*)
 - **Grace is a Gift, Not a Reward** (*Luke 15:21-22*)
 - God's grace is freely given, and restoration is based on His love, not our worthiness. (*Ref: Ephesians 2:8-9, Galatians 2:21*)
 - **True Joy is Found in Reconciliation** (*Luke 15:31-32*)
 - Joy comes from celebrating God's work of restoration and rejecting self-righteousness. (*Ref: 2 Corinthians 5:18-19*)
 - **The Proclamation of Joy in Christ** (*Isaiah 9:6-7*)
 - The coming of Christ brings ultimate joy, peace, and salvation for all who believe. (*Ref: John 14:27*)
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Application from Luke 15:11-32:

How can I apply / live out these verses?

- **Celebrate the Joy of Reconciliation** (*2 Corinthians 5:17-18*)
 - Rejoice in God's joy for your restoration and share that joy with others.
 - **Let Go of Anger/Resentment** (*Hebrews 12:15*)
 - Release any bitterness or self-righteousness that robs you of God's joy.
 - **Extend Grace to Others** (*Colossians 3:12-13*)
 - Forgive and celebrate the victories and restoration in others' lives.
 - **Proclaim the Joy of Christ's Coming** (*Matthew 28:19-20*)
 - Share the joy of the gospel intentionally this Advent season.
 - **Reflect the Father's Heart** (*Philippians 2:1-4*)
 - Show compassion, patience, and love, embodying God's grace in your interactions.
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