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2025 Father's Day Special: The Prodigal Son, Part 2.

Grace Bible Church

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The Prodigal Son parable teaches us that we need to **understand** how God the Father treats us in grace and how we should treat others in grace.

Luke 15:11 And He said, “A man had two sons (12) the younger of them said to his father, ‘Father, give me the share of the estate that falls to me.’ So he divided his wealth between them.

In Luke 15:12, “between them” is a reference to God giving all Church Age Believers equal privilege and equal opportunity.

God is a perfect gentleman and He will not violate our free will.

Luke 15:13 And not many days later, the younger son gathered everything together and went on a journey into a distant country [Cosmic System – Life without God], and there he squandered his estate with loose living.

Luke 15:14 Now when he had spent everything, a severe famine occurred in that country, and he began to be impoverished [in need].

In Luke 15:14, the severe famine is a part of divine discipline, which God brings on every one of His children who go astray for a length of time.

Luke 15:15 So he went and attached himself out to one of the citizens of that country, and he sent him into his fields to feed swine.

Luke 15:16 And he would have gladly filled his stomach with the pods [pig slop] that the swine were eating, and no one was giving anything to him.

Luke 15:17 But when he came to his senses, he said [thought to himself], ‘How many of my father’s hired men have more than enough bread, but I am dying here with hunger!’

The grace of God gives us the opportunity to make good decisions when we're in the lowest moment of our lives.

To become honest with yourself means you recognize your sins in the situation, to stop rationalizing or justifying the decisions that you've made, and to stop blaming others.

Luke 15:17 But when he came to his senses, he said [thought to himself], ‘How many of my father’s hired men have more than enough bread, but I am dying here with hunger!’

Until a person can be convicted of the reality that they are on a dead end road, true repentance cannot come to pass.

Luke 15:18 I will get up and go to my father, and will say to him, “Father, I have sinned against heaven, and in your sight; [Rebound technique] 19 I am no longer worthy to be called your son; make me as one of your hired men.””

The Church Age believer has been made worthy because of the blood of Jesus Christ and His work on the cross.

Emotions can be wonderful when they're responding to truth. However, when emotion is not based on truth it is arrogance.

People who have character and people who have integrity are the forgiving type.

Luke 7:47 For this reason I say to you, her sins, which are many, have been forgiven, for she loved much; but he who is forgiven little, loves little.”

Luke 15:20 So he got up and came to his father. But while he was still a long way off, his father saw him and felt compassion for him, and ran and embraced him and kissed him [Grace Orientation].

Isaiah 65:24 It will also come to pass that before they call, I will answer; and while they are still speaking, I will hear.

Matthew 6:8 for your Father knows what you need before you ask Him.

Psalms 56:8 You have taken account of my wanderings; Put my tears in Your bottle. Are they not in Your book?

Whether it's your fault or someone else's fault is not the issue with God, the issue with God is restoration.

Luke 15:21 And the son said to him, ‘Father, I have sinned against heaven and in your sight [Rebound]; I am no longer worthy to be called your son.’

Luke 15:22 But the father said to his slaves, ‘Quickly bring out the best robe and put it on him, and put a ring on his hand and sandals on his feet;

The “best robe” refers to restoration to full experiential righteousness: The Robe of Righteousness.

The “signet ring” represented withdrawing from the Father's resources: Logistical Grace.

The “sandals” means that you once again have the opportunity of service and production: Divine Good.

In Isaiah 20:2, when a person became a slave, they would have their shoes removed from their feet.

In 2 Chronicles 28:15, when the slave was set free, their shoes were put back on their feet.

The fattened calf represents fellowshiping with God in the Word.

It represents feeding on Divine Truth or Bible Doctrine.

Luke 15:24 for this son of mine was dead [temporal death = loss of fellowship = separation from God] and has come to life again; he was lost and has been found.' And they began to celebrate [be merry].

1 Peter 5:10 After you have suffered for a little while, the God of all grace, who called you to His eternal glory in Christ, will Himself perfect, confirm, strengthen and establish you.

Psalms 103:12 As far as the east is from the west, So far has He removed our transgressions from us. 13 Just as a father has compassion on his children, So the Lord has compassion on those who fear Him.

Luke 15:25 "Now his older son was in the field, and when he came and approached the house, he heard music and dancing. 26 And he summoned one of the servants and began inquiring what these things could be.

Luke 15:27 And he said to him, 'Your brother has come, and your father has killed the fattened calf because he has received him back safe and sound.'

God is only interested in His lost children coming back to Him.

Luke 15:28 represents people who make right decisions before God, but they are not Grace oriented.

Luke 15:28 But he became angry and was not willing to go in; and his father came out and began pleading with him.

Luke 15:1 Now all the tax collectors and the sinners [prostitutes] were coming near Him to listen to Him. 2 Both the Pharisees and the scribes began to grumble, saying, “This man receives sinners and eats with them.”

In Luke 15:28, the elder brother is representing the Pharisees and the Scribes, in Luke 15:2.

The believer who is arrogant hates to see other believers become successful. The believer who has true humility is delighted to see others become successful.

In Luke chapter 15:28 when it says that “he became angry”, the elder brother went from self-righteous arrogance to mental arrogance, and he now has become angry and filled with jealousy, and he took his own journey into the far country.

God's attitude is unlimited forgiveness.

Matthew 18:21 Then Peter came and said to Him, “Lord, how often shall my brother sin against me and I forgive him? Up to seven times?” 22 Jesus *said to him, “I do not say to you, up to seven times, but up to seventy times seven.

Grace orientation offers to others the very grace that God offers to you!

Compassion is a feeling of deep sympathy and sorrow for another's suffering or misfortune accompanied by a desire to alleviate the pain and remove its cause.

James 2:14 What use is it, my brethren, if someone says he has faith but he has no works? Can that faith deliver him?

James 2:15 If a brother or sister is without clothing and in need of daily food,

James 2:16 and one of you says to them, “Go in peace, be warmed and be filled,” and yet you do not give them what is necessary for their body, what use is that?

James 2:17 Even so faith, if it has no works, is dead, being by itself.

James 2:18 But someone may well say, “You have faith and I have works; show me your faith without the works, and I will show you my faith by my works.”

Compassion is a gracious system of thinking.

Psalm 78:38 But He, being compassionate, forgave their iniquity and did not destroy them; And often He restrained His anger And did not arouse all His wrath.

Lamentations 3:22 The Lord’s lovingkindnesses [grace] indeed never cease, For His compassions never fail. 23 They [grace] are new every morning; Great is Your faithfulness.

Compassion motivates us to forgive people.

Romans 13:8 Owe nothing to anyone except to love one another; for he who loves his neighbor has fulfilled the law.

Forgiving someone means to release them.

Matthew 18:27 And the lord of that slave felt compassion and released him and forgave him the debt.

Hebrews 5:2 He will have compassion with the ignorant and misguided;

Even if a person is under divine discipline, the divine attitude is one of restoration and compassion.

Lamentations 3:32 For if He causes grief, Then He will have compassion According to His abundant lovingkindness.

Matthew 9:13 But go and learn what this means: ‘I desire compassion, and not sacrifice,’ for I did not come to call the righteous, but sinners.”

Matthew 12:7 But if you had known what this means, ‘I desire compassion, and not a sacrifice,’ you would not have condemned the innocent.

Colossians 3:13 bearing with one another, and forgiving each other, whoever has a complaint against anyone; just as the Lord forgave you, so also should you.

Luke 15:28 But he became angry and was not willing to go in; and his father came out and began pleading with him.

Luke 15:29 But he answered and said to his father, ‘Look! For so many years I have been serving you and I have never neglected a command of yours; and yet you have never given me a young goat, so that I might celebrate with my friends;

Luke 15:30 but when this son of yours came, who has devoured your wealth with prostitutes, you killed the fattened calf for him.’

Transference arrogance is accusing someone of the very thing that you would do and it’s the enemy of grace.

Luke 15:31 And he said to him, ‘Son, you have always been with me, and all that is mine is yours.

Luke 7:47 For this reason I say to you, her sins, which are many, have been forgiven, for she loved much; but he who is forgiven little, loves little.”

Isaiah 1:18 “Come now, and let us reason together,” Says the Lord, “Though your sins are as scarlet, They will be as white as snow; Though they are red like crimson, They will be like wool.

Hebrews 13:5 Make sure that your character is free from the love of money, being content with what you have; for He Himself has said, “I will never desert you, nor will I ever forsake you,”