



February 6, 2022

### MAIN SCRIPTURE: Luke 15: 11-32

<sup>11</sup> Jesus continued: “There was a man who had two sons. <sup>12</sup> The younger one said to his father, ‘Father, give me my share of the estate.’ So he divided his property between them. <sup>13</sup> “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. <sup>14</sup> After he had spent everything, there was a severe famine in that whole country, and he began to be in need. <sup>15</sup> So he went and hired himself out to a citizen of that country, who sent him to his fields to feed pigs. <sup>16</sup> He longed to fill his stomach with the pods that the pigs were eating, but no one gave him anything. <sup>17</sup> “When he came to his senses, he said, ‘How many of my father’s hired servants have food to spare, and here I am starving to death! <sup>18</sup> I will set out and go back to my father and say to him: Father, I have sinned against heaven and against you. <sup>19</sup> I am no longer worthy to be called your son; make me like one of your hired servants.’ <sup>20</sup> 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. <sup>21</sup> “The son said to him, ‘Father, I have sinned against heaven and against you. I am no longer worthy to be called your son.’ <sup>22</sup> “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. <sup>23</sup> Bring the fattened calf and kill it. Let’s have a feast and celebrate. <sup>24</sup> For this son of mine was dead and is alive again; he was lost and is found.’ So they began to celebrate. <sup>25</sup> “Meanwhile, the older son was in the field. When he came near the house, he heard music and dancing. <sup>26</sup> So he called

one of the servants and asked him what was going on. <sup>27</sup> ‘Your brother has come,’ he replied, ‘and your father has killed the fattened calf because he has him back safe and sound.’ <sup>28</sup> “The older brother became angry and refused to go in. So his father went out and pleaded with him. <sup>29</sup> But he answered his father, ‘Look! All these years I’ve been slaving for you and never disobeyed your orders. Yet you never gave me even a young goat so I could celebrate with my friends. <sup>30</sup> But when this son of yours who has squandered your property with prostitutes comes home, you kill the fattened calf for him!’ <sup>31</sup> “‘My son,’ the father said, ‘you are always with me, and everything I have is yours. <sup>32</sup> 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.’”

### WARM UP

- What ideas or pictures of God did you have as a child? What informed this early “theology” (your knowledge about God)?

(Below you will find the main points of this week’s sermon along with discussion questions. Feel free to use, reword, or omit questions depending on the needs of your group and the time needed for prayer, care, and fellowship. Thank you for your leadership.)

### Thought #1 – Jesus came to make the Father known.

Verses: Hebrews 1:3, John 17:26, John 10:30.

- According to Hebrews 1:2-3 and John 10:30, what makes Jesus an expert about God? Why should we believe what Jesus says about Him?
- In your opinion why does the world need help understanding who God really is?
- What false ideas do people have about God?

### Thought # 2 – This man eats with sinners and tax collectors.

Verses: Luke 15: 1-10

- The beautiful and timeless parables of Luke 15 (The Lost Coin, The Lost Sheep, and The Lost Sons) is Jesus’ response to an accusation that the Pharisees and the teachers of the law made

about Jesus in the early verses of the chapter, “The man eats with sinners and tax collectors.” Read Luke 15: 1-10. With these verses in mind, how do the 3 “lost” parables address the accusation that was brought against Jesus? What should we understand about the lost sheep, lost coin, and lost sons as it relates to how Jesus relates to sinners?

- The story of the prodigal is known and loved the world over, even by those who don’t believe in God. In your opinion, what has given this story it’s mass appeal?
- Which character do you relate to the most in the story? Why?

### Thought #3 – What a good Dad!

Verses: John 15: 11-32

- Tell Your Story – Tell of a time in your life when God reached out to you through a thought, song, person, movie, or experience. How did this make you feel? What was the result?
- When the servant in the story was asked by the older son why the house was celebrating, scripture says that the older son was mad at the servant’s response? As you think of it now, what do you think the servant thought about the older son’s response? Why do you think the older son responded in the way that He did?
- What can we learn about the Father’s response to the younger son? What can we learn about the Father’s response to the older son?

### Thought #4 – Your idea of God’s love does not limit the actuality of God’s love for you.

Verses: John 3:16-17, Romans 5:8

- Author, John Bryan Smith says, “Jesus does not say that God loves ‘a few’ or ‘some’ or even ‘many’. He says God loves the world. And the world, as we now know it, is full of sinners. Therefore, God must love sinners.” Tell Your Story – Tell of a time in your life when you first began to understand that God loved you. Was this easy for you to believe? Or difficult? Why?
- Some people really have a difficult time truly believing that God loves them. Why do you think this is the case? What would you say to someone who struggles to believe this?

God’s love for them. As a group, pray for each of these acquaintances. Ask that the Father would continue to show them His love and give your group opportunities to express His love to them. Enjoy your time with the Father. He loves you.

Questions for Pastor Todd Keller or Madison Brown regarding your REMIX group?

- Email: [tkeller@collegechurch.com](mailto:tkeller@collegechurch.com)  
[mbrown@collegechurch.com](mailto:mbrown@collegechurch.com)
- Phone: Todd: 309-826-9944  
Madison: 708-990-7548

\*\*\*Remember to record your attendance for the week. Thank you.

**Challenge 1:** No doubt, your group members are surrounded by people who are confused about or by

