



“Our Father is Ready to Run!”
Luke 15:20-24

Pastor Tim Trexler
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¹¹And He said, “A man had two sons.

¹²The 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. ¹³And not many days later, the younger son gathered everything together and went on a journey into a distant country, and there

he squandered his estate with loose living. ¹⁴Now when he had spent everything, a severe famine occurred in that country, and he began to be impoverished. ¹⁵So he went and hired himself out to one of the citizens of that country, and he sent him into his fields to feed swine. ¹⁶And he would have

gladly filled his stomach with the pods that the swine were eating, and no one was giving anything to him. ¹⁷But when he came to his senses, he said, ‘How many of my father’s hired men have more than enough bread, but I am dying here with hunger! ¹⁸I will get up and go to my father, and will say to him,

“Father, I have sinned against heaven,
and in your sight; ¹⁹I am no longer
worthy to be called your son; make me
as one of your hired men.” ²⁰So 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.

²¹And the son said to him, ‘Father, I have sinned against heaven and in your sight; I am no longer worthy to be called your son.’ ²²But 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; ²³and bring the fattened calf, kill it, and let us eat and

celebrate; ²⁴for this son of mine was dead and has come to life again; he was lost and has been found.’ And they began to celebrate.

Luke 15:11-24

**The brokenness of sin can be seen in the
prodigal son and the prideful son.**

**The prodigal son left home and sinned.
The prideful son stayed home and sinned.**

3 Truths About God The Father:

1. God intently watches for us! (Luke 15:20b)

-God loves lost people.

-God watches for our response.

God intently watches us because He wants every single second of our obedience to pay off for us!

3 Truths About God The Father:

- 2. God eagerly runs to redeem us! (Luke 15:20c)**
 - compassion=deeply moved from within**
 - For a man to run in their culture was unheard of, shameful.**

**The prodigal's father ran to him to spare him
scorn, ridicule, and condemnation from others.**

What a picture of God's redeeming love! The prodigal son is not receiving what he deserves for his rebellion and sinful choices. He is receiving his father's mercy!

**“He (God) does not treat us as our sins deserve
or repay us according to our iniquities”
(Psalm 103:10 NIV).**

3 Truths About God The Father:

3. God graciously restores us! (Luke 15:22)

-3 Symbols of Restoration:

- a robe**
- a ring**
- and sandals**

Wise words for parents and prodigals:

- 1. There are no perfect parents. Don't allow the devil to heap guilt and grief on you for prodigal children.**

Wise words for parents and prodigals:

2. Be willing to ask your prodigal, “Is there anything I’ve done that has hurt you or feel is not resolved between us?” If so, be willing to ask for their forgiveness if warranted.

Wise words for parents and prodigals:

3. Pray, pray, and pray! Here are four prayers you can pray:

- Lord, please bring into the life of my prodigal someone who has a heart for you that can nudge them back to you.**
- Lord, do whatever it takes in my life to get the attention of my prodigal.**
- Lord, help my prodigal be receptive to request(s) for forgiveness from me or others.**
- Lord, overwhelm my prodigal with Your unconditional love, mercy, and grace!**

A Wise Word to Prodigals:

- 1. There is nothing you can do that will make God love you any more. There is nothing you have done that will make God love you any less.**
- 2. Come to your senses—repent and return.**
- 3. Be receptive to God's love and request(s) to communicate with those who have hurt you.**
- 4. Reach out to those you've run from.**
- 5. Come home to your Heavenly Father who is ready to run to you!**

Sermon in a Sentence:

God is ready to run to you with forgiveness!

Application:

1. God loves all sinners and eagerly desires to forgive them. When it comes to loving sinners, are you more like the Pharisees or God? Ask God to make your heart more like His in loving and praying for prodigals and lost souls.
2. Pray and ask God who He wants you to reach out to. Ask your prodigal, “Is there anything I’ve done that has hurt you or you feel is not resolved between us? If so, be willing to ask for their forgiveness if warranted.
3. Faith@Home: Discuss what part of Luke 15:11-24 spoke the most to you and why. Share how it makes you feel to know God ran to you.
4. Spend time this week praying for prodigals and lost sinners. Use the four prayers mentioned in the message.