



*True*  
NORTH

PRIORITIES FROM THE PARABLES



## **SERMON ON THE MOUNT**

**Seeing the crowds, he went up on the mountain, and when he sat down, his disciples came to him. And he opened his mouth and taught them saying...**

MATTHEW 5:1-2



**Blessed are the**



**BIG ROCKS FIRST**

*"Seek first the kingdom of God"*

Where do your priorities lie?

**1. Poor in Spirit**

**PRIORITY OF HUMILITY**

*"The Pharisee & Publican"*

**2. Mourn**

**PRIORITY OF TRUST**

*"Parable of the Weeds"*

**3. Meek**

**PRIORITY OF SELF-CONTROL**

*"Parable of the Wedding Feast"*

**4. Hunger and  
Thirst for...**





## Fourth Beatitude

**Blessed are those who hunger  
and thirst for righteousness,  
for they will be satisfied.**

Matthew 5:6



# RIGHTEOUSNESS

A hand holding a compass on a mountain peak. The background shows a vast, hazy mountain range under a clear sky. The hand is in the foreground, holding a silver compass. The mountain is covered in green grass and some snow patches. The overall scene is serene and majestic.

**BEING RIGHT WITH GOD and  
BEING RIGHT BEFORE GOD**

"AS THE DEER PANTETH FOR THE WATER, SO PANTS MY SOUL FOR YOU, O GOD. MY SOUL THIRSTS FOR GOD, FOR THE LIVING GOD, WHEN SHALL I COME AND APPEAR BEFORE GOD?"

PSALM 42:1-2

# RIFT FACTOR

**Exists when there is a rift between how we LONG to live  
and how we are CALLED to live.**

**"THE GREATEST THREAT TO A HUNGER FOR RIGHTEOUSNESS IS A THIRST FOR SELF-RIGHTEOUSNESS"**



# SELF-RIGHTEOUS?

## 8 CHARACTERISTICS

1. Repel People
2. Lack Compassion
3. Parade Good Behavior
4. Point out Flaws
5. Justify Positions
6. Behave Entitled
7. Become the Authority
8. Quick to Anger

Adapted from *becomingchristian* "Deadliest signs of self-righteousness you did not know."

**"Cast Alongside"**

A hand holding a compass against a mountain landscape. The hand is in the foreground, holding a silver compass. The background shows a vast mountain range with green hills and a valley. The text is overlaid on the image.

# THE PRODIGAL SON (S)

One refused to stay... One refused to come...

RECKLESS ARE THEY THAT HUNGER & THIRST FOR SELF-RIGHTEOUSNESS



## TWO SONS

**And he said, "There was a man who had two sons. And the younger of them said to his father, Father, give me the share of property that is coming to me"**

Luke 15: 11-32

## **DIVIDED HIS PROPERTY**

**And he divided his property between them. Not many days later, the younger son gathered all he had and took a journey into a far away county,**

Luke 15: 11-32



## RECKLESS LIVING

**And there he squandered his property in reckless living.**

Luke 15: 11-32

# RECKLESS LIVING

**"GIVE ME MY SHARE"  
"GATHERED ALL HE HAD"  
"FAR AWAY COUNTRY"  
"SQUANDERED HIS PROPERTY"**

**ONE WHO TAKES AN ACTION WITHOUT THINKING OR CARING ABOUT THE RAMIFICATIONS.**



## **SEVERE FAMINE**

**And when he had spent everything,  
a severe famine arose in that country,  
and he began to be in need.**

Luke 15: 11-32

## **LONGING TO BE FED**

**So he went and hired himself out to one of the citizens of that country, who sent him into his fields to feed pigs. And he was longing to be fed with the pods that the pigs ate, and no one gave him anything.**

Luke 15: 11-32



# ROCK BOTTOM

**"BEGAN TO BE IN NEED"**

**"HIRED HIMSELF OUT"**

**"LONGING TO BE FED"**

**"NO ONE GAVE HIM ANYTHING"**

THE PLACE ONE HAS REACHED WHEN THERE IS NOTHING LEFT TO LOSE.

## **CAME TO HIMSELF**

**But when he came to himself, he said,  
“How many of my father’s hired  
servants have more than enough  
bread, but I perish here with hunger!**

Luke 15: 11-32



A person's hand is shown holding a vintage-style compass, with the needle pointing towards the top of the frame. The background is a vast, hazy mountain range under a clear sky. The entire scene is framed by a white border.

## **I WILL SAY TO HIM**

**I will arise and go to my father, and I will say to him, "Father, I have sinned against heaven and before you. I am no longer worthy to be called your son. Treat me as one of your hired servants."**

Luke 15: 11-32

**CAME TO HIS FATHER**

**And he arose and came  
to his father.**

Luke 15: 11-32



## **STILL A LONG WAY OFF**

**But while he was still a long way off,  
his father saw him and felt  
compassion, and ran and embraced  
him and kissed him.**

Luke 15: 11-32

## **I HAVE SINNED**

**And he said to him, "Father  
I have sinned against heaven  
and before you, I am no longer  
worthy to be called your son."**

Luke 15: 11-32



## **BRING QUICKLY**

**But the father said to his servants,  
bring quickly the best robe, and put  
it on him, and put a ring on his  
hand, and shoes on his feet.**

Luke 15: 11-32

## **SACRIFICE**

**And bring the fattened calf and kill it, and let us eat and celebrate. For this my son was dead and is alive again; he was lost, and is found. And they began to celebrate.**

Luke 15: 11-32



# REAL SATISFACTION

IS BEING RIGHT WITH GOD AND  
BEING RIGHT BEFORE GOD.



"But grow in the grace and knowledge of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ."

2 PETER 3:18



## **Older Brother**

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

Luke 15: 11-32



**YOUR BROTHER IS BACK!**

**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.'**

Luke 15: 11-32

**REFUSED TO GO IN**

**But he was angry and  
refused to go in.**

Luke 15: 11-32



# RECKLESS LIVING



**"HE WAS ANGRY"  
"REFUSED TO GO IN"**

ONE WHO TAKES AN ACTION WITHOUT THINKING OR CARING ABOUT THE RAMIFICATIONS.

A hand holding a compass against a mountain landscape background. The hand is in the foreground, holding a silver compass. The background shows a vast mountain range under a cloudy sky. The text is overlaid on the image.

**I HAVE OBEYED YOU!**

**His father came out and entreated him, but he answered his father, 'Look, these many years I have served you, and I never disobeyed your command,**

Luke 15: 11-32



A hand holding a coin against a mountain background. The hand is in the foreground, holding a dark coin with some text on it. The background is a vast, hazy mountain range under a cloudy sky. The overall tone is somber and reflective.

## **THIS SON OF YOURS**

**Yet you never gave me a young goat, that I might celebrate with my friends. But when this son of yours came, who has devoured your property with prostitutes, you killed the fattened calf for him!'**

Luke 15: 11-32

# ROCK BOTTOM

**"LOOK!"  
"THIS SON OF YOURS!"  
"KILLED THE FATTENED CALF?"**



## **OLDER BROTHER**

**And he said to him, 'Son, you are always with me, and all that is mine is yours. It was fitting to celebrate and be glad, for this your brother was dead, and is alive, he was lost, and is found.'**

Luke 15: 11-32

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# REAL SATISFACTION

IS BEING RIGHT WITH GOD AND  
BEING RIGHT BEFORE GOD.



"As the deer pants for the water, so pants my soul for you, o god. my soul thirsts for God, for the living God, when shall I come and appear before God?" Psalm 42:1-2



## MIRROR PRINCIPLE



“For if anyone is a hearer of the word and not a doer, he is like a man who looks intently at his natural face in a mirror. For he looks at himself and goes away and at once forgets what he was like.”

JAMES 1: 23-24



# TRUE NORTH LIVING

A hand holding a vintage-style compass against a backdrop of rolling green mountains with patches of snow. The hand is wearing a dark jacket sleeve.

**"DO THE NEXT HARD RIGHT THING  
OVER THE NEXT EASY WRONG THING."**

BLESSED ARE THOSE WHO HUNGER & THIRST FOR RIGHTEOUSNESS



# True NORTH



*"Blessed* are those who...

## < Notes

### 8 PRIORITIES OF THOSE WHO "HUNGER & THIRST FOR RIGHTEOUSNESS"

*Weigh the following in the balance...*

1. OBEDIENCE > Indulgence
2. WISDOM > Recklessness
3. GRATITUDE > Entitlement
4. SUBMISSION > Stubbornness
5. RELATIONSHIPS > Positions
6. GRACE > Judgment
7. RECONCILIATION > Resentment
8. RIGHTEOUSNESS > Self-righteousness



# True NORTH



*"Blessed* are those who...

## < Notes

8 PRIORITIES OF THOSE WHO  
"HUNGER & THIRST FOR RIGHTEOUSNESS"

### The Self-Righteous Sons

1. HIS WILL > Relationship
2. GUILT > Grace
3. ENTITLEMENT > Gratitude
4. EASY WRONG > Hard Right

### The Righteous Father

1. RELATIONSHIP > His Will
2. GRACE > Guilt
3. GRATITUDE > Entitlement
4. HARD RIGHT > Easy Wrong

# RIFT FACTOR

Exists when there is a rift between how we **LONG** to live  
and how we are **CALLED** to live.



EVEN WHEN YOU'RE RUNNING

C A S T I N G   C R O W N S



THE GOD WHO STAYS  
MATTHEW WEST

M A T T H E W   W E S T

“THE GREATEST THREAT TO A HUNGER FOR RIGHTEOUSNESS  
IS A THIRST FOR SELF-RIGHTEOUSNESS”

#HUNGERANDTHIRSTFORRIGHTEOUSNESS



Seek first the Kingdom of God



**BIG ROCKS FIRST**

**"Blessed are the..."**

Where do your priorities lie?

## 1. Poor in Spirit

PRIORITY OF **HUMILITY**

"The Pharisee & Publican"

## 2. Mourn

PRIORITY OF **TRUST**

"Parable of the Weeds"

## 3. Meek

PRIORITY OF **SELFLESSNESS**

"Parable of the Wedding Feast"

## 4. Hunger and Thirst for Righteousness

PRIORITY OF **OBEDIENCE**

"Parable of the Prodigal Son"