

## A. SERMON SLIDES

Slide 1:

The Love of the Father

Luke 15

Slide 2:

1 John 4:8 (ESV)

"Anyone who does not love does not know God, because God is love"

Slide 3:

CONTEXT

Luke 15:1-2 (ESV)

Now the tax collectors and sinners were all drawing near to hear him. And the Pharisees and the scribes grumbled, saying, "This man receives sinners and eats with them."

Slide 4:

1) Tax collectors

Slide 5:

1) Tax collectors

2) "Sinners"

Slide 6:

1) Tax collectors

2) "Sinners"

3) Pharisees

Slide 7:

1) Tax collectors

2) "Sinners"

3) Pharisees

4) Scribes

Slide 8:

Who is God?

What is He like?

Slide 9:

How can a son who has "served the Father these many years" and "never disobeyed his command" be lost?????????

Slide 10:

The point of all 3 parables is not to talk about lostness as much as to talk about the Father

Slide 11:

The Same Outline:

- 1) The Choice of God's Love
- 2) The Way of God's Love
- 3) The Return of His Children

Slide 12:

The Choice (is it a choice?)

Genesis 1:1 (ESV)

In the beginning, God created the heavens and the earth.

Slide 13:

Genesis 6:6 (ESV)

And the LORD regretted that he had made man on the earth, and it grieved him to his heart.

Slide 14:

The Way of Love

Impatient Seeking

Slide 15:

Luke 15:20 (ESV)

But while he was still a long way off, his father saw him...

Slide 16:

Returning Home

Luke 15:10 (ESV)

"Just so, I tell you, there is joy before the angels of God over one sinner who repents."

Slide 17:

The angels rejoice because we have a True Older Brother who brings us home at His own expense.

Slide 18:

How do you respond to this kind of Father?

## **B. GROUP CONVERSATION**

1) Read Luke 15 and think about the one in each parable who is seeking. What do you find in the character of this individual that is similar in each parable?

2) Look at Luke 15:1,2 again. What is the issue that Jesus is addressing with these 3 parables? How does this help us understand what Jesus' point is in telling them?

3) Explain why God does not have a choice but to love?

4) God is patient in wrath. Patient in seeking. Patient in dealing with His creation. What is one area where we can see His "impatience?" What does it mean for your heart that God is "in a hurry" to forgive?

5) When a lost person comes home, in all 3 parables, there is a celebration! Why? What is Jesus telling us about the agenda of the heavenly realm? Does the celebration mean that there was no cost? Explain how the cost was paid so that the celebration would be our only experience with God the Father.

6) How have you maybe wrongly viewed God in the past?

7) Prayer and praise