

(Luke 15:1-4;8) Now all the tax collectors and sinners were coming near Jesus to listen to Him. And both the Pharisees and the scribes began to complain, saying, "This Man receives sinners and eats with them." And so He told them this parable, saying, "What man among you, if he has a hundred sheep and has lost one of them, does not leave the other ninety-nine in the open pasture and go after the one that is lost, until he finds it?"

(v.8) "Or what woman, if she has ten silver coins and loses one coin, does not light a lamp and sweep the house and search carefully until she finds it?"

(v.11-32) And He said, "A man had two sons..."

#### 1. The younger son severed his relationship with the father.

(v.12) The younger of them said to his father, "Father, give me the share of the estate that is coming to me."

- This story illustrates how we are \_\_\_\_\_ from God.

(Ephesians 2:1-2) You were dead in your offenses and sins, in which you previously walked according to the course of this world, according to the prince of the power of the air, of the spirit that is now working in the sons of disobedience.

#### 2. The younger son recognizes that the father can help.

(v.17) But when he came to his senses, he said, 'How many of my father's hired laborers have more than enough bread, but I am dying here from hunger! I will set out and go to my father,'"

- As the younger son in this story, \_\_\_\_\_ do we recognize our need for help from God?

(Luke 5:31-32) And Jesus answered and said to them, "It is not those who are healthy who need a physician, but those who are sick. I have not come to call the righteous to repentance, but sinners."

#### 3. The father initiates reconciliation with the younger son.

(v.20) But when he was still a long way off, his father saw him and felt compassion for him, and ran and embraced him and kissed him.

- Our Heavenly Father's compassion toward you, is \_\_\_\_\_.

(Romans 5:8) God demonstrates His own love toward us, in that while we were still sinners, Christ died for us.

#### 4. As the younger son repents, he correctly identifies His position with the father but incorrectly identifies his \_\_\_\_\_ to the father.

(v.18) will say to him, "Father, I have sinned against heaven, and in your sight; I am no longer worthy to be called your son; treat me as one of your hired laborers."

(v.21) said to him, "Father, I have sinned against heaven and in your sight; I am no longer worthy to be called your son."

(v.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 finger and sandals on his feet; and bring the fattened calf, slaughter it, and let's eat and celebrate;

The father brings the younger son into his home and \_\_\_\_\_ clothes him as his child.

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

- Our Heavenly Father, in His grace and mercy, clothes us as His child.

- ✓ He puts a robe on me – clothing me in \_\_\_\_\_.

(Isaiah 61:10) For He has clothed me with garments of salvation, He has wrapped me with a robe of righteousness,

- ✓ He puts a ring on me – restoring my \_\_\_\_\_.

(1 John 3:1) See how great a love the Father has given us, that we would be called children of God; and in fact we are.

- ✓ He puts sandals on my feet – helping me walk in \_\_\_\_\_.

(Galatians 5:1) It was for freedom that Christ set us free; therefore keep standing firm and do not be subject again to a yoke of slavery.