Matthew 21:28–32
Slide 1: Matthew 21:28–32

Slide 2: Historical Context

The Place and Time: The Temple
Jesus is confronting the religious leaders during the final week of His life.

The Family:
Publicly refusing a father brought shame, but promising obedience and failing to act was even more deceptive.

The Vineyard:
A picture of Israel and God's work among His people.

The Outsiders:
Tax collectors and prostitutes were considered morally and religiously disqualified.

Slide 3: Two Sons, Two Responses

The first son: "I will not," but later changed his mind and went.
The second son: "I will, sir," but did not go.

The first son began with rebellion but ended in obedience.
The second son spoke respectfully but ended in disobedience.

Slide 4: What We Do Is More Important Than What We Say
"Which of the two did what his father wanted?"

The first son said the wrong thing but eventually did the right thing.
True obedience is revealed through our actions.

The second son said the right thing but never did it.
Delayed disobedience is still disobedience

Slide 5: The Rebellious Who Repent vs. The Religious Who Rebel
(Side by Side if Possible)

The Rebellious Who Repent:
Initially reject God
Recognize their sin
Change their minds
Believe and obey

The Religious Who Rebel:
Know the right answers
Use the right words
Appear obedient
Refuse to repent and obey

It is not our religious reputation but our repentance that matters. (At the bottom)

Slide 6: The Rebellious Who Repent

The tax collectors and prostitutes had lived in open rebellion against God.
When they heard John's message, they repented and believed.

No matter what you have done or how long you have done it, God's grace is available.
God is a God of second chances.

Slide 7: The Religious Who Rebel
The religious leaders knew what to say, but their lives did not match their words.

"They honor me with their lips, but their hearts are far from me."
Matthew 15:8

They talked about obedience without actually obeying.
Looking good was more important than doing good.

Slide 8: The Father's Focus

The Father loves you deeply.
The Father invites you to join His work.
The Father calls you to obey today.
The Father meets failure with grace.
The Father values a repentant heart over religious appearances.

Slide 9: Trust and Obey
What has the Father asked you to do?

Have you said, “I will,” but failed to obey?
Have you said, “I will not,” but now need to repent and go?
What we do is more important than what we say we will do.

Slide 10: Prayer Prompts

Father God…..
1. help me trust You with _____ and obey You even when it is difficult.
2. show me where my words and actions do not match in _____.
3. forgive me for saying I would _____, but not following through.
4. help me take a step of obedience today by _____.
5. thank You that Your grace is greater than _____.