



**TRANSFORMING TRUTH**

*Trends deceive. Traditions enslave. God's Truth transforms.*

## **"Far-Country Focus"**

From the Series,  
"Love, Tell, Help People"

Luke 15:11-24

*Preached Sunday AM 5/04/14*

*Meadow Baptist Church*

### 1. Understanding Wayward Hearts (11-13)

- a. He had a greedy heart (11-12)- "Father, give me the share of property that is coming to me."
- b. He had an impatient heart (13a) - "Not many days later, the younger son gathered all he had..."
- c. He had a dissatisfied heart (13b) - "...and took a journey into a far country..."
- d. He had a corrupt heart (13c) - "...and there he squandered his property in reckless living."

### 2. Cultivating Compassionate Hearts (14-16)

- a. For people without provision (14) - "And when he had spent everything a severe famine arose in that country and he began to be in need "
- b. For people without a purpose (15) - "So he went and hired himself out to one of the citizens of that country, who sent him into his fields to feed pigs."
- c. For people without prospect (16) - "And he was longing to be fed with the pods that the pigs ate, and no one gave him anything."

### 3. Praying for Broken Hearts (17-20a)

- a. Pray for their realization (17) - "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!'"

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678.551.7333 | [info@transformingtruth.org](mailto:info@transformingtruth.org)

1446 Calvin Davis Circle, Lawrenceville, GA 30043

- b. Pray for their repentance (18-19) - "I will arise and go to my father...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."
- c. Pray for their return (20a) - "He arose and came to his father"

#### 4. Living with the Savior's Heart (20b-24)

- a. We need eyes that are looking (20b) - "But while he was still a long way off, his father saw him..."
- b. We need arms that are open (20c)- "...and felt compassion, and ran and embraced him and kissed him."
- c. We need ears that are listening (21) - "And the son said to him, 'Father, I have sinned against heaven and before you. I am no longer worthy to be called your son."
- d. We need hands that are helping (22)
  - i. Those hands held a robe to cover his shame
  - ii. Those hands placed a ring on the son's hands that once worked sin
  - iii. Those hands provided shoes for feet that ran away
- e. We need joy that is celebrating (23-24) - "And bring the fattened calf and kill it, and let us eat and celebrate. 24 For this my son was dead, and is alive again; he was lost, and is found.' And they began to celebrate."