



Part 5: Why Not Wholeness?

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A Startling Admission: There's a pig in my life!

Why not wholeness?

- 1. I don't have enough time
- 2. It feels self-centered
- 3. I can handle it
- 4. It will hurt too much

There is a way that seems right to a man, but in the end it leads to death. – Proverbs 14:12

Moments on the Downward Slope from Luke 15

A moment of selfishness

The younger one said to his father, "Father, give me my share of the estate." So he divided his property between them. (verse 12)

A moment of <u>stupidity</u>

...the younger son got together all he had, set off for a distant country and there squandered his wealth in wild living. (verse 13)

A moment of <u>crisis</u>

After he had spent everything, there was a severe famine in that whole country, and he began to be in need. (*verse 14*)

A moment of isolation and need

So he went and hired himself out to a citizen of that country, who sent him to his fields to feed pigs. He longed to fill his stomach with the pods that the pigs were eating, but no one gave him anything. (verses 15-16)

The Journey Toward Home from Luke 15

A decision to <u>get real</u> — When he came to his senses... (*verse 17a*)

A decision to <u>go home</u> — "I will set out and go back to my father..." (verse 18a)

A decision to <u>confess</u> — "...and say to him: Father, I have sinned against heaven and you." (*verse 18b*)

God's response to everyone who decides to go home:

So he got up and went to his father. But while he was still a long way off, his father saw him and was filled with compassion for him; he ran to his son, threw his arms around him and kissed him. (verse 20)

Next Steps

Ready to find healing in a broken area of your life? Find full details about these opportunities in CTK Life and register today at the Connection Point:

Invaded Lives (Addressing effects of abuse or neglect) Coed class starts Monday, February 25 6:30 – 8:15 PM Women's class starts Monday, February 27 10:00 AM – Noon

Living Victoriously in Difficult Times (Dealing with Suffering) Coed class starts Sunday, February 17 9:30 – 10:45 AM

Small Group Questions

- Did you have a pet growing up? What kind, and what did your pet provide for you? Companionship? Acceptance?
- 2) Which of the four excuses is the easiest for you to fall victim to? Why?
- 3) I love the saying, "The power to act is never released until a decision has been made." Is there a decision you need to make about your "pig" right now?
- 4) Read Luke 15:11-31. What do you learn about God and yourself in this story from Jesus?
- 5) How can we pray for you right now and throughout the week?