

Main Street Church - Life Group Guide

Series: *Tell Me a Story* Message: **Part 2 – Parable of the Prodigal**

November 5, 2017



Connect & Check-In (20min)

*Welcome & Opening Prayer

> Invite 1 Group Member to open in Prayer.

*ICEBREAKER

> What's the best Movie (on TV, Netflix or Cinema) that you've seen this year? & Why?
or – Which Movie are you looking forward to this Nov/Dec season?

*CHECK-IN

1 Thessalonians 5:11 instructs Christ-Followers to *encourage one another & build one another up*.

: One of the ways we can do this in Life Group is by encouraging one another in our personal/devoted time with God.
- sharing our learning, experiences & struggles from this key area of our lives.

***Would 1-2 people be willing to share 1 thing they've learned/experienced with God between Sundays?**

Sunday Message Feedback (45min)

*Speaker: Pastor Eryn Moore.

1. LOST & FOUND

- Have you ever Lost something of great value and found it again? Briefly describe your experience.
- Did you ever Run Away from home as a kid? Briefly share that experience.
- Parents, have any of your kids ever run away? How did that experience impact you?

2. Sunday Message Feedback

What is 1 thing that impacted you from Sunday's Message?

3. Read [Luke 15:11-32](#)

- Parables 101** – A Parable may be defined as a simple story that illustrates a profound truth.
Telling parables was one of Jesus' main ways of helping His followers grasp spiritual truths, building a bridge from the natural to the spiritual.
- Who is the Father in this story? Who is the Younger Son? Who is the Older Son?
- Why do you think Jesus chose to tell this simple (yet emotional) story, and which profound truth(s) do you think He's trying to communicate?
- How do you think this story was received by Jesus' original audience?
*The Pharisees/Teachers of the Law *The Tax Collectors & Sinners *The Disciples
- If one of your children or relatives asked for their inheritance from you while you are still healthy and alive, how would you respond?

4. FATHER & SONS

***Describe 1 way that you connect or relate to each of the 3 main characters.**

- a. How do you personally connect/relate to the Younger Son? Discuss
- b. How do you personally connect/relate to the Older Son? Discuss
- c. How do you personally connect/relate to the Father? Discuss

5. **PRODIGAL:** *adjective* prod·i·gal \ 'prä-di-gəl Excessive. Extravagant. Reckless.

***Describe/Discuss 1 way in which each of the characters was/is Prodigal in this story.**

- a. How is the Younger Son prodigal? (Rebellious/Self-Reliant/Repentant)
- b. How is the Older Son prodigal? (Religious/Self-Righteous/Seeking-Recognition)
- c. How is the Father prodigal? (Relational/Redemptive/Restorative)
- d. What do you think each of these characters is really looking for?

6. **FREE WILL** - How does *Free Will* play a part in this love-story and our love-story with God?

7. **SPIRITUAL INHERITANCE:**

*What do we inherit through **REBELLION**?

*What do we inherit through **being RELIGIOUS/Self-RIGHTEOUS**?

*What can we inherit through **REAL-RELATIONSHIP** with our **Good-Good Father**?

8. **Bible Scholars say this Parable is ‘the Gospel within the Gospel’.** Why do you think that is?

9. Read [Luke 15:5-7](#) & [Luke 15:9-10](#)

- a. How does JESUS echo & magnify these verses in the Parable of the Prodigal?
- b. Do you believe that GOD Loves and Celebrates you like this?

*What is 1 example of how you’ve experienced this in your life?

Application & Prayer (15min)

REFLECT: *Which area do you need help/prayer for the most this week?

- a. I Struggle Being Rebellious
- b. I Struggle Being Religious/Self-Righteous
- c. I Struggle Receiving Relationship with Father God

> **SHARE** and then **PRAY** for one another.

Bonus Resources (click the links below)

Challenge: Read through the [PARABLES of JESUS in November](#).

Video: Watch this short (3 part) poetic retelling of the Parable of the Prodigal Son.

https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PL5cXx7obbBEydWiRJQd9LOWqsis_Ph4_9

Song: [Good Good Father](#) – by Chris Tomlin

Book: [The Parables Of Jesus: A Guide to Understanding and Applying the Stories Jesus Taught](#). - R.T. Kendall

Book: [The Prodigal God – Recovering the Heart of the Christian Faith](#). – Timothy Keller

Announcements

OUR NEXT LIFE GROUP MTG

Date: _____ Time: _____ Location: _____ Snack: _____

BAPTISM SUNDAY

Sun. November 19. Both Morning Services.

*Info & Registration: www.mainstreetchurch.ca/baptism

NEXT STEPS

Sun. November 19. 12:15pm-1:30pm. Conference Rm. A. Childcare & Lunch provided.

*Info & Registration: www.mainstreetchurch.ca/next-steps

PRAYER SUMMIT

Sun. November 26. 6pm-7:30pm. Main Street Chapel.

*Worship-Prayer-Communion

CHRISTMAS TALES – Outreach Event

Fri. December 15. 7pm – Main Street Church Auditorium. Tickets are \$15 (or \$90 to reserve a table of six).

Includes coffee/tea & Homemade Pie! Seating is limited and tickets will sell fast.

Available at Guest Services on Sunday or through the Church Office (Mon-Thurs).

CHRISTMAS HOPE D-DAY

Delivery Day for 100+ Hampers! Fri. December 16. 9am-12pm.