What's Holding You Back?
Past, Present, and Future - (# 1)
January 9, 2022
OPENING SCRIPTURE: Psalm 103:1-22
KEY VERSE: Psalm 103:12

TEXT: Luke 15:1-2 and Luke 15:11-19 **KEY VERSE:** Luke 15:24

Luke 15:24 For this my son was dead, and is alive again; he was lost, and is found. And they began to be merry.

Dealing with our past is easier with God's help.

1) Social .

2) Financial _____.

3) Personal _____.

Text: Luke 15:1-2 and 11-19 *Key Verse:* Luke 15:24

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For this my son was dead, and is alive again; he was lost, and is found. And they began to be merry. (Luke 15:24) 1

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Jesus Christ is the answer in every situation. What's Holding You Back? Past, Present, and Future – (#1)

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God loves us and wants only the best for us.

> For I know the thoughts that I think toward you, saith the LORD, thoughts of peace, and not of evil, to give you an expected end. (Jeremiah 29:11)

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1) Social Perception.

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1 Then drew near unto him all the publicans and sinners for to hear him. 2 And the Pharisees and scribes murmured, saying, This man receiveth sinners, and eateth with them. (Luke 15:1-2) The scriptures are true and they tell us something we must remember.

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For all have sinned, and come short of the glory of God; (Romans 3:23)

> Instead of finding faults in others, we must examine our own heart.

References:

Matthew 7:3-5

The tendency may be to "judge a book by its cover," but we must not.

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If ye fulfil the royal law according to the scripture, Thou shalt love thy neighbor as thyself, ye do well: (James 2:8)

When we realize that our sin has caused unpleasant things in our life, we need to remember Pharaoh in Egypt.

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Then Pharaoh called for Moses and Aaron in haste; and he said, I have sinned against the LORD your God, and against you. (Exodus 10:16)

- 1) Social Perception.
- 2) Financial Woes.

And when he had spent all, there arose a mighty famine in that land; and he began to be in want. (Luke 15:14)

> Sometimes people will use money, or the lack thereof, as an excuse for not getting their life right.

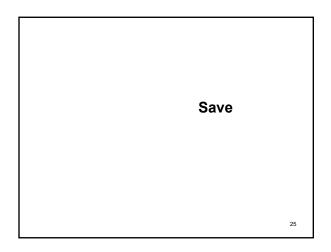
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If you are going to use money, you must not abuse money. If you want your finances to be blessed you must obey God's financial rules.

Tithe

And all the tithe of the land, whether of the seed of the land, or of the fruit of the tree, is the LORD'S: it is holy unto the LORD. (Leviticus 27:30)

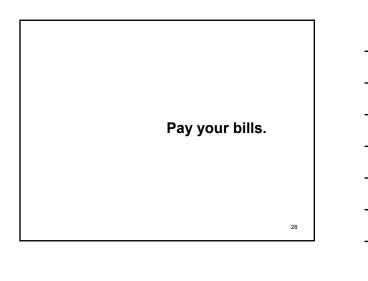


References:

Genesis 41:35-36

But lay up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where neither moth nor rust doth corrupt, and where thieves do not break through nor steal: (Matthew 6:20)

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Owe no man any thing, but to love one another: for he that loveth another hath fulfilled the law. (Romans 13:8)

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Give to others in their time of need.

But whoso hath this world's good, and seeth his brother have need, and shutteth up his bowels of compassion from him, how dwelleth the love of God in him? (1 John 3:17)

> When we realize that our sin has been discovered and God is telling us what to do, we need to remember Saul.

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Then he said, I have sinned: yet honour me now, I pray thee, before the elders of my people, and before Israel, and turn again with me, that I may worship the LORD thy God. (1 Samuel 15:30)

 Social <u>Perception</u>.
 Financial <u>Woes</u>.
 Personal <u>Circumstances</u>.

And he would fain have filled his belly with the husks that the swine did eat: and no man gave unto him. (Luke 15:16)

> If your breakfast, lunch and dinner is pig slop, it is past time to examine your life.

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If where you find yourself, is not where you want or need to be, then begin by turning to the Lord.

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References:

Luke 15:17-20

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It is time we returned unto the Lord.

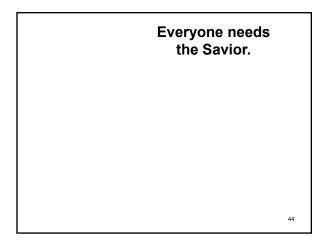
Let the wicked forsake his way, and the unrighteous man his thoughts: and let him return unto the LORD, and he will have mercy upon him; and to our God, for he will abundantly pardon. (Isaiah 55:7)

If my people, which are called by my name, shall humble themselves, and pray, and seek my face, and turn from their wicked ways; then will I hear from heaven, and will forgive their sin, and will heal their land. (2 Chronicles 7:14)

> When we realize that our secret sin is not hidden from God, we need to remember King David.

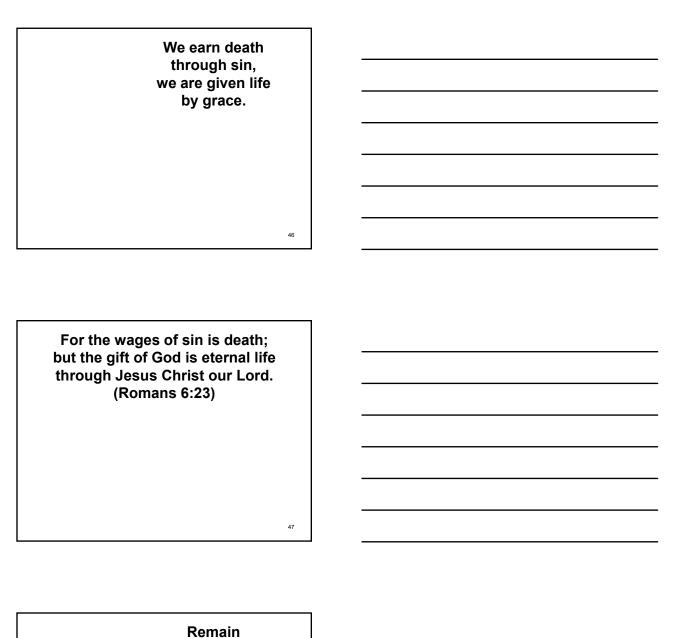
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And David said unto Nathan, I have sinned against the LORD. And Nathan said unto David, The LORD also hath put away thy sin; thou shalt not die. (2 Samuel 12:13)



For all have sinned, and come short of the glory of God; (Romans 3:23)

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humble and faithful.

For I say, through the grace given unto me, to every man that is among you, not to think of himself more highly than he ought to think; but to think soberly, according as God hath dealt to every man the measure of faith. (Romans 12:3)

Concluding Scripture: Psalm 51:1-4

- 1) Social Perception.
- 2) Financial <u>Woes</u>.
- 3) Personal <u>Circumstances</u>.

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