

What's something you do that you wish
other people appreciated more?

What's easier:

admitting you were wrong or **forgiving someone?**

GCC YG - OCT 5, 2025

THE FATHER'S COMPASSION



LUKE 15:11-32

Luke 15:11-32 ESV

¹¹ And he said, "There was a man who had two sons. ¹² And the younger of them said to his father, 'Father, give me the share of property that is coming to me.' And he divided his property between them. ¹³ Not many days later, the younger son gathered all he had and took a journey into a far country, and there he squandered his property in reckless living.

Luke 15:11-32 ESV

¹⁴ And when he had spent everything, a severe famine arose in that country, and he began to be in need. 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. ¹⁶ And he was longing to be fed with the pods that the pigs ate, and no one gave him anything.

Luke 15:11-32 ESV

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!*


¹⁸ *I will arise and go to my father, and I will say to him, “Father, I have sinned against heaven and before you. ¹⁹ I am no longer worthy to be called your son. Treat me as one of your hired servants.” ’*



Luke 15:11-32 ESV




²⁰ And he arose and came to his father. But while he was still a long way off, his father saw him and felt compassion, and ran and embraced him and kissed him.

Luke 15:11-32 ESV

*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.'²² But the father said to his servants, 'Bring quickly the best **robe**, and put it on him, and put a **ring** on his hand, and **shoes** on his feet.²³ 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.

Item	A symbol of:	Status:
ROBE 	Honor and distinguished position	Heirs of God

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ROBE 	Honor and distinguished position	Heirs of God
RING 	Authority and sonship	Empowered with the authority of God

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ROBE 	Honor and distinguished position	Heirs of God
RING 	Authority and sonship	Empowered with the authority of God
SHOES 	Freedom to stay or leave again	Freedom

Luke 15:11-32 ESV

²⁵ “Now his older son was in the field, and as he came and drew near to the house, he heard music and dancing. ²⁶ And he called one of the servants and asked what these things meant. ²⁷ And he said to him, ‘Your brother has come, and your father has killed the fattened calf, because he has received him back safe and sound.’

Luke 15:11-32 ESV

²⁸ But he was angry and refused to go in. His father came out and entreated him, ²⁹ but he answered his father, 'Look, these many years I have served you, and I never disobeyed your command, yet you never gave me a young goat, that I might celebrate with my friends. ³⁰ But when this son of yours came, who has devoured your property with prostitutes, you killed the fattened calf for him!'

Luke 15:11-32 ESV

³¹ And he said to him, 'Son, you are always with me, and all that is mine is yours. ³² It was fitting to celebrate and be glad, for this your brother was dead, and is alive; he was lost, and is found.' ”

God loves you.

God disciplines those He loves.

God disciplines us for our good.

Compassion in the Parable of the Lost Son

- **The Younger Son**
 - Did not trust or expect the compassion of the father
- **The Older Son**
 - Did not appreciate or recognize the compassion of the father
- **The father**
 - Showed unconditional love and compassion

Small Group Questions

Icebreakers

- Share about a time somebody forgave you.
- It's easy to be jealous and entitled like the older brother. What's something you can pause and be thankful for?

The Parable of the Lost Son

- What's one thing from the passage today that stuck out to you?
- Is there one character in this story you relate with the most?
- How can you relate with the younger son? What can you learn from his mistakes?
- How can you relate with the older son? What can you learn from his issues?
- How can you relate with the father? What can you learn from his attitude?