

WHAT DO YOU GIVE A DAD THAT'S GOT EVERYTHING?

I. INTRODUCTION & OPENING SCRIPTURE (00:00:00 - 00:02:14)

A. OPENING REMARKS & HOLIDAY THEME (Father's Day)

B. APPRECIATION FOR EARTHLY FATHER

C. MAIN TEXT: LUKE 15:11-12 (Parable of the Prodigal Son)

D. SERMON THEME INTRODUCED: "WHAT DO YOU GIVE A DAD THAT'S GOT EVERYTHING?"

II. THE EVOLVING ROLE AND EXPECTATIONS OF FATHERS (00:02:14 - 00:08:05)

A. PERSONAL ANECDOTE: Being hard to buy gifts for

B. HISTORICAL CONTRAST: Fatherhood in the early 1900s vs. today

1. Basic provision (shelter) vs. extensive material desires
2. Involvement in childbirth
3. Children's participation in family business/work ethic
4. Gift-giving and appreciation
5. Family meals and quality time
6. Definition of an "involved" father

C. CORE RESPONSIBILITY: Beyond material provision

III. THE PRODIGAL SON: A DEEPER LOOK AT THE FATHER'S PERSPECTIVE (00:08:05 - 00:10:43)

A. ANECDOTE: The importance of parental discipline (Grandson Liam)

B. LUKE 15 REVISITED: The Parables of the Lost

C. SHIFT IN FOCUS: From the son's departure to the father's heart

IV. THE NATURE OF THE FATHER'S GENEROSITY & THE SON'S ENTITLEMENT (00:10:43 - 00:13:53)

- A. THE SON'S DEMAND: "Give me the portion of goods that falleth to me." (Luke 15:12)
- B. CLARIFICATION: The inheritance was "his [the father's] living," not earned by the son.
- C. MODERN PARALLEL: The desire for unearned success vs. the reality of work and time
 - 1. Anecdote: Young man desiring a new boat without understanding the journey to acquire it.
- D. THE FATHER'S RESPONSE: He divided his living.

V. SONSHIP OVER SERVITUDE (00:13:53 - 00:17:57)

- A. THE SON'S MOTIVES: Selfish desires and dissatisfaction with the father's ways
- B. PERSONAL ANECDOTE: Learning the difference between working *for* his father and the privilege of being a son
- C. THE PRODIGAL'S REALIZATION: Life as a servant in a foreign land led to a desire to return, even if only as a hired hand.

VI. ANSWERING THE CORE QUESTION: OUR HEAVENLY FATHER (00:17:57 - 00:21:21)

- A. GOD'S OWNERSHIP: "The cattle of a thousand hills" - He owns everything.
- B. GOD'S DESIRE: He wants sons and daughters, not servants.
- C. OUR RELATIONSHIP: Working *with* God, not just *for* Him.
- D. TRUE WORTH: Found in being a child of the King.
 - 1. Motivation: Honoring our Heavenly Father as an extension of honoring earthly parents.
- E. OUR IDENTITY: Children of the Kingdom, not employees.

VII. THE FATHER'S HEART: LOVE, DISCIPLINE, & THE GIFT OF SELF (00:21:21 - 00:26:07)

A. EARTHLY FATHERHOOD: The responsibility and difficulty of consistent correction.

1. Being a father vs. being a friend.

B. EXTENDING FATHERLY INFLUENCE: To all children within one's sphere.

C. THE PRODIGAL'S RETURN: The only gift he could offer was himself.

D. THE FATHER'S JOYFUL RECEPTION: Running to meet the son, signifying anticipation and love.

E. THE ULTIMATE GIFT TO GOD: Giving Him ourselves completely.

VIII. TOTAL SURRENDER & SHARING GOD'S LOVE (00:26:07 - 00:29:29)

A. COMMITMENT LEVEL: Not partial (e.g., "Sunday morning only") but "all in."

B. CONTINUOUS RELATIONSHIP: Desiring God every day.

C. ANECDOTE: Grandson Liam sharing his toy, illustrating the joy of giving.

D. THE GREATEST THING TO SHARE: The love of Jesus Christ.

IX. THE JOY OF FAMILY & GOD'S DELIGHT IN HIS CHILDREN (00:29:30 - 00:32:32)

A. PERSONAL REFLECTION: The profound joy found in family relationships.

B. GOD'S PERSPECTIVE: Our coming to Him brings gladness to His heart.

C. THE FATHER'S CELEBRATION (LUKE 15:22-24): "For this my son was dead, and is alive again; he was lost, and is found."

X. THE TRUE CALLING OF A FATHER & FINAL EXHORTATION (00:32:32 - END)

A. THE ESSENCE OF GOOD FATHERHOOD: Leading children to Christ and modeling a Christ-like life.

B. CLOSING CALL: Stand in acknowledgment and commitment.