

# **SERMON DISCUSSION GUIDE**

“Prayers for the Porch” – Pastor Chad Gilligan

9.3.23

- 1) The word “prodigal” means someone who is far from home. What is the farthest you have ever been from home?**

Read Luke 15:11-16 – “Jesus continued: “There was a man who had two sons. The younger one said to his father, ‘Father, give me my share of the estate.’ So he divided his property between them. “Not long after that, the younger son got together all he had, set off for a distant country and there squandered his wealth in wild living. After he had spent everything, there was a severe famine in that whole country, and he began to be in 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.”

- 2) In what ways did the younger brother from the story become a prodigal?**
- 3) Is there anyone in your life that you would consider to be a prodigal in some form?**

Read 2 Corinthians 4:4 – “The god of this age has blinded the minds of unbelievers, so that they cannot see the light of the gospel that displays the glory of Christ, who is the image of God.”

- 4) In the story, the younger son took his inheritance and squandered it all in a distant land. In today’s terms, the “distant land” can represent many things. What is it about these distant lands that can make people want to leave their “home”?**
- 5) What can be frustrating, challenging, or painful when you have a prodigal in your life that you want to come home?**
- 6) How can we best pray for the prodigals in our life?**

**Prayer:** Spend some time as a group praying for one another and for those whom they love who are far from God to return home to Him.