



LESSON 4

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Things go from bad to worse for the younger son. The text says he almost ate the pods. Can we thank God _____ . The younger son has tried to do things on his own. Let's see how Jesus continues the story.

Luke 15:17–20 (NIV)

¹⁷“When he came to his senses, he said, ‘How many of my father’s hired servants have food to spare, and here I am starving to death!¹⁸I will set out and go back to my father and say to him: Father, I have sinned against heaven and against you.¹⁹I am no longer worthy to be called your son; make me like one of your hired servants.’²⁰So he got up and went to his father.

REFRAMING REPENTANCE

Examine: Luke 15: 1-10. How have we traditionally interpreted these verses? Critical questions:

The sheep and the coin were found by _____. If the sheep and coin were found that way _____.

Once you understand the grace of God and His love it will make you love him even more. Examine: Romans 1:1-4; Titus 3:3-5; 1 John 4:19. Jesus is taking aim at the Pharisees work mentality. The son wants to _____ to once again be worthy of his father’s love.

RABBIS & REPENTANCE

The Jewish rabbis at the time of the text taught there were certain steps to repentance.

1. Repentance required _____ . (v. 18)
2. Repentance required compensation. The boy must be willing to repay what he lost. (V. 17 & 19)

A. There was _____. This role serves without urging expecting anything in return. They are glad to be in the family.

B. There was the _____. In this role the boy expects to be paid for everything he does. This is still _____ with the father.

C. There was the slave.

1. Repentance required sincerity in keeping the law that was broken. (V.19)

The only thing that can restore this younger son _____.