

PRODIGAL

Lesson 9

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This theological drama has presented the younger son as a _____. and the older son as a _____. And in the end of the story we find, _____. The only way they can be found is by the amazing, immeasurable, unrelenting love of the father. In Bible times, eating together sealed a covenant. The older brother doesn't want to be in covenant with his younger brother.

Luke 15:31-32 (NIV)

³¹ “‘My son,’ the father said, ‘you are always with me, and everything I have is yours.’ ³² But we had to celebrate and be glad, because this brother of yours was dead and is alive again; he was lost and is found.”

Remember how the older son addressed the father in verse 29? His statement to his father was an insult. The father responded by saying _____. The father uses a term to show _____. Once again, the father has reprocessed his anger into grace.

In the father's response, he wants to reassure the older son of two things.

1. _____. “You are always with me” is a phrase that speaks to an uninterrupted relationship between the father and the older brother. In this answer, the father is dealing with a cultural nuance most of us miss. Because the older son has been disrespectful in public, _____.

The father could have made a completely different decision, but instead he still loved the older brother enough to _____.

2. _____. “everything I have is yours.” At the beginning of the story we see the younger brother as someone overly concerned about money and material things. The older brother is overly concerned about things too. He is concerned there will be _____.

The father patiently corrects his son, yet again.

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CONTINUED

Celebration is the most natural things in the world. Jesus tells us when someone or something is lost and is found or was dead and is alive again _____

_____. Both the younger brother and the older brother are lost due to broken relationship. What did we do to break relationship with God? Examine: Psalm 51. In the garden man had unbroken fellowship with God that was broken through sin. Examine: Romans 5:12-20. The Apostle Paul teaches us that broken fellowship is fixed through _____

_____. We must celebrate! Every person! Every time! Christians worship on Sunday in celebration of the resurrection of Jesus Christ. We celebrate that the Word still works, that God is real, that Jesus still saves, that the Holy Spirit still moves and the blood still works!!!

The reason Jesus tells this parable is recorded in Luke 15:1-3. Through telling this story Jesus lets us know both the younger brother and the older brother are lost. Jesus lets us know that both the younger brother and the older brother are sinners. The punchline of the parable is if Jesus is supposed to refuse to eat with sinners, _____
_____!

This parable ends in a peculiar way. It is open-ended. Why do you think that is? In the end, we are all invited to the banquet, _____

_____.

Will you reject or accept the amazing, immeasurable, unrelenting love of God.