



**MESSAGE NOTES & SMALL GROUP DISCUSSION GUIDE
WEEK 4 – THE LOVING FATHER**

SCRIPTURE PASSAGE

Luke 15:11-32

CHARACTERISTICS OF THE FATHER'S LOVE

- _____ that _____ cannot be _____
- _____ to _____
- _____ our _____
- _____ to _____
- _____ the _____ to _____

DIGGING DEEPER

1. How does/doesn't the father from the parable resemble your experience with your own father?
2. Why can't true love be forced?
3. What is significant about the father running to his son?
4. When God sees our flaws, how does He respond?
5. Which of the five characteristics of the father's love is most significant to you? Why?
6. Which of the five characteristics of the father's love is most difficult for you to live out? Why?
7. If you had a sibling(s), did your parents show favoritism? How did this impact your relationship with them and your sibling(s)?
8. Do you think the father showed favoritism to one of his sons? Why or why not?
9. How are repentance and restoration to fellowship connected?
10. How can you reflect these characteristics of the father's love in your life this week?
11. Who has best demonstrated these characteristics in your life?
12. Who do you know that needs to experience the father's love?
13. Why is our heavenly Father a better father than even the best of our earthly fathers?