

*"Helping people experience the hope found in a life-changing relationship with Jesus".*

Context: Luke 15

V.1-2

Now the tax collectors and sinners were all gathering around to hear Jesus.<sup>2</sup> But the Pharisees and the teachers of the law complained, saying, "This man welcomes sinners and eats with them."

Sinners - who were listening.

Jesus - who is sharing God's love with the sinners.

The religious – who were complaining and nagging about Jesus for doing God's work

V. 3-7 Lost Sheep....

V.8-10 Lost Coin....

**Here is the third story that Jesus used to teach a truth and illustrate the love of God**

<sup>11</sup> Jesus continued: "There was a man who had two sons. <sup>12</sup> The younger one said to his father, 'Father, give me my share of the estate. 'So he divided his property between them.

<sup>13</sup> "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.

<sup>14</sup> After he had spent everything, there was a severe famine in that whole country, and he began to be in need.<sup>15</sup> So he went and hired himself out to a citizen of that country, who sent him to his fields to feed pigs. <sup>16</sup> He longed to fill his stomach with the pods that the pigs were eating, but no one gave him anything.

<sup>17</sup> "When he came to his senses, he said, 'How many of my father's hired servants have food to spare, and

<sup>18</sup> I will set out and go back to my father and say to him: 'Father, I have sinned against heaven and against you. <sup>19</sup> I am no longer worthy to be called your son; make me like one of your hired servants.'

<sup>20</sup> So he got up and went to his father. "But while he was still a long way off, his father saw him and was filled with compassion for him; he ran to his son, threw his arms around him and kissed him.

<sup>21</sup> "The son said to him, 'Father, I have sinned against heaven and against you. I am no longer worthy to be called your son.'

<sup>22</sup> "But the father said to his servants, 'Quick! Bring the best robe and put it on him. Put a ring on his finger and sandals on his feet.<sup>23</sup> Bring the fattened calf and kill it. Let's have a feast and celebrate.<sup>24</sup> For this son of mine was dead and is alive again; he was lost and is found.' So, they began to celebrate.

<sup>25</sup> "Meanwhile, the older son was in the field. When he came near the house, he heard music and dancing. <sup>26</sup> So he called one of the servants and asked him what was going on.<sup>27</sup> 'Your brother has come,' he replied, 'and your father has killed the fattened calf because he has him back safe and sound.'

<sup>28</sup> "The older brother became angry and refused to go in. So, his father went out and pleaded with him. <sup>29</sup> But he answered his father, 'Look! All these years I have been serving you and never disobeyed your orders. Yet you never gave me even a young goat so I could celebrate with my friends. <sup>30</sup> But when this son of yours who has squandered your property with prostitutes comes home, you kill the fattened calf for him!'

<sup>31</sup> "My son,' the father said, 'you are always with me, and everything I have is yours. <sup>32</sup> 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."

In this parable:

The younger son	Represents the sinners.
The Father	Represents God
The older brother	Represents the religious

**I. The Younger Son.**

- Rebellion:
- Selfishness:
- Foolishness:
- **Repentance:** Realizing his mistakes and the dire situation he's in, he decides to return to his father, acknowledging his wrongs and seeking forgiveness.

**II. The Father.**

- Patient.
- Compassion.
- Forgiveness.
- Waiting Love.

**Restoration.** The father goes beyond mere forgiveness; he also restores his son's dignity and position within the family. He orders that the best robe, a ring, and sandals be brought for his son, signifying his reinstatement as a beloved member of the household.

**III. The Older Son.**

- Never left the father's house.
- Served the father.
- Obedient.
- Jealousy
- Inflexible.

The Father:

V.28 his father went out and pleaded with him.

V.31. My son,' the father said, 'you are always with me, and everything I have is yours.

V. 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.

**Hospitality :**

Webster's Dictionary defines hospitality as, "generous and friendly treatment of visitors and guests or hospitable treatment."

The Greek word philoxenia, literally: deep love the stranger

Hospital - Hospital - lity, = "HEALING"

# UNSTOPPABLE

# LOVE

[THE HEART OF GOD]

Week 4

MARCH TEACHING SERIES



## Luke 15

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**Represents the sinners.**

**The Father**

**Represents God**

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