

Magnolia Missionary Baptist Church of Beaumont
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www.magnoliambc.org

Theme Unit: Enduring Beliefs of the Church

Unit II: Grace and Reconciliation

Subject: A Generous and Forgiving Parent

Printed Text: Luke 15: 11-24; Acts 2: 38-39

Key verse: This my son was dead, and is alive again; he was lost, and is found. And they began to be merry (Luke 15: 24, KJV).

Lesson Pointers:

- 1) A Son's Rebellion (Luke 15: 11-20a)
- 2) A Father's Grace (Luke 15: 20b-24; Acts 2: 38-39)

Introduction:

Family relationships are the connections that one needs to build with one another. This relationship is important and it plays a big role in our personal growth and overall well-being. When the family relationship is a healthy one, it helps to meet our emotional needs, and gives us a sense of belonging. Now do understand that not all family relationship are easy. The family relationship can break down, when one family member began to focus only on themselves, and what they want. But, thanks be to GOD, for HIS grace and mercy, extended unto us when we repent, and confess of our sins. It is important to remember that when we repent and turn to Jesus Christ with evident, HE (Jesus Christ) restore and reconciles us, by reaffirming HIS unwavering love that HE (Jesus Christ) has for us. Jesus Christ is our Generous and Forgiving Father who loves us unconditionally.

Lesson Pointer # 1

- **A Son's Rebellion (Luke 15: 11-20a)**

Jesus Christ gives us HIS third parable in chapter 15 (fifteen) of Luke: Jesus Christ's previous parables, were that of the lost sheep and the lost coin. Now Jesus Christ directs this parable, "The prodigal son," once again, against the religious leaders (Pharisees' and scribes'), and their attitude; as Jesus Christ challenge their position of HIM to fellowship with tax collectors and sinners. This parable of the prodigal son tells the story of two sons; the younger son made a request, or, a intentional choice. The man's younger son deliberately rebelled against him, and strayed away after selfishly demanding his share of his father's estate, even though his father were still alive, this possibly implying and wishing that his father were dead. But, regardless, the father granted his younger son's request, and divided his estate and gave the younger son his portion (Luke 15: 11-12). So, not many days after the younger son gathers all together his things, and left home; heading

to a distant country, and there, the younger son squandered his wealth, on wild living (Luke 15: 13). But when the younger son had spent it all, there came a mighty famine in that land, and the younger son began to be in need (Luke 15: 14). So, the younger son went and joined himself to a citizen of that country: and the citizen sent him into his fields to feed the swine (Luke 15: 15). The younger son would long to fill his belly with the husks that the swine did eat; but no man gave him any (Luke 15: 16). Now, the younger son had come to his senses, and said unto himself, how many hired servants of my father's have bread enough, and to spare, and I perish with hunger (Luke 15: 17). The younger son said to himself, I will arise and go to my father, and say unto him, Father, I have sinned against heaven, and before thee (Luke 15: 18), And am no more worthy to be called thy son: make me as one of your hired servants (Luke 15: 19). So, the younger son decided to return home; he arose, and went too his father (Luke 15: 20a).

A Generous and Forgiving Parent!

Lesson Pointer # 2

- **A Father's Grace (Luke 15: 20b-24; Acts 2: 38-39)**

The Father's response: Now, when the younger son was a far way off, the father saw him, and had compassion, and ran, and fell on his neck, and kissed him (Luke 15: 20b) So, the younger son said to him, father, I have sinned against heaven, and in thy sight, and am no more worthy to be called thy son (Luke 15: 21). The father responded by saying, bring forth the best robe, and put it on him; and put a ring on his hand, and shoes on his feet (Luke 15: 22): And bring hither the fatted calf, and kill it; and let us eat, and be merry (Luke 15: 23): for this my son was dead, and is alive again; he was lost, and is found. And they began to be merry (Luke 15: 24). Now when we see the Apostle's teaching; they speaks and teaches of The Gift of GOD. Peter said unto them (the men of Judaea, and all ye that dwell at Jerusalem; see Acts 2: 14), repent, and be baptized every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ for the remission of sins, and ye shall receive the gift of the Holy Ghost (Acts 2: 38). For the promise is unto you, and to your children, and to all that are afar off, even as many as the LORD our GOD shall call (Acts 2: 39). These passage of scripture illustrate the loving heart of the heavenly Father, who gladly extends HIS grace to HIS lost children and joyously welcomes them into HIS family. So, let us not, be present-day Pharisees and scribes, but let us show the love of GOD and HIS compassion for the lost.

A Generous and Forgiving Parent!

Nuggets of the Lesson:

- 1) **As GOD'S children let us not be rebellious sons and daughters against HIM.**
- 2) **Repent, repent of your past, and present sins.**
- 3) **GOD our Father sees us even when we are a great far off, and HE is willingly, and is ready to receive us with compassion, and forgiveness, when we confess unto HIM.**
- 4) **Repent, and be baptized every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ for the remission of sins, and ye shall receive the gift of the Holy Ghost.**
- 5) **Know that we serve a Holy and Righteous GOD, who loves us, and cares for us.**