

Magnolia Missionary Baptist Church of Beaumont
Pastor: Dwight Benoit
Sunday School Superintendent: Ordained Minister Samuel O. Simon
Assistant Superintendent: Deacon Jordan Benoit
January 6, 2026, to January 11, 2026
Teachers: Sister Betty Ardian & Sister Antonia Jones
www.magnoliambc.org

Unit II: Grace and Reconciliation

Subject: A Generous and Forgiving Parent

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

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:

Jesus told dozens of parables throughout his ministry. He used parables as tools to share an important lesson **about sin, forgiveness, and redemption**. In chapter 15 of Luke, one of the parables Jesus told was, "The Prodigal Son," in response to criticism from Pharisees and teachers of the law who questioned why He **welcomed and ate with sinners and tax collectors**, (15:1,2). These Parables powerfully illustrate God's immense joy and relentless pursuit of every lost person. The **Prodigal (lost) Son illustrates a father's unconditional love, forgiveness and celebration** for his rebellious younger son, compared with the other son's resentment. The parable of the, "Prodigal Son," is deeply symbolic. **The father symbolize God**, the **youngest son representing sinners/lost people (like tax collectors)**, and **the oldest son representing self-righteous religious leaders (like the Pharisees)** who grumbled about Jesus' ministry to sinners. **The far country, represents a life lived apart from God**, characterized by spiritual emptiness and foolishness. **The Father's welcome, the robe, ring, and fatted calf** symbolize restoration to full family status, divine power, and a celebration of the sinner's return. The parable **illustrated repentance, grace, homecoming, and the joy of restoration, for humanity's relationship with God.**

Pointer # 1

"The Son's Rebellion," (Luke 15: 11-20a)

Luke 15 opens with conflict. Religious leaders grumble about the company Jesus keeps. He dined with sinners, tax collectors, thieves and prostitutes. They assume like attracts like. In that day, eating with someone implies acceptance, a bond with someone. Upon hearing Grumbling and complaining, Jesus tells the parable of the lost being found. In the parable of the prodigal son, the youngest son demands his inheritance. **Verse 11-12** --What kind of person demands his inheritance while the father is still alive? It was insulting to ask for your inheritance before your parents die-- it's like saying, "You are dead to me." The prodigal son represents sinners and those who stray from

God, seeking worldly pleasures. The father is under no obligation to indulge his child. But he does so anyway, he does not try to control, manipulate, or say, “you are just going to blow it all away. Instead, he let the boy go and make his own mistakes. Just as God gives us the freedom to make bad choices. It is important to remember not to blame God for your choice, to follow paths of your own free will. **Verse 13**---Not long after that the youngest son gathered all his belongings and set off into the world. The son quickly squandered his wealth. Verses-- **14, 15, 16, 17**---There was severe famine in the whole country, and he hit rock bottom and found himself with no money, and without friends or resources. So, he takes up a job feeding pigs, an unclean task for Jews, signifying the depth of his sin and shame. Sin promises freedom but ultimately it leads to death. Poor and desperate and starving to death, the young man noticed that even the pigs had better food to eat than he did. Also He compared his miserable condition to that of his father's lowest hired servants, he realized that even they had more than enough to eat, while he was starving. At his lowest point, he came to his senses. He recognized his foolishness and God's Provision. **Verses 18, 19. 20a** --- The prodigal son return to his father, admitted he had sinned against both God and his father, he knew he was unworthy, and humbly asked to be treated like a hired servant. Jesus illustrates the path to restoration and reconciliation with God when we intentionally stray away from him. recognize our spiritual condition and confess all sin, humble our yourself before God in genuine repentance and act on it by turning to God seeking his forgiveness.

Pointer # 2

“A Fathers Grace,” (Luke 15:20b-24; Acts 2: 38-39)

Although the son had disgraced the family by his wild and sinful living, Verse 20b, say, “But when he was yet a great way off, his father saw him, and had compassion, and ran, and fell on his neck and The son began to recite his prepared speech: “Father, I have sinned against heaven and against you. I am no longer worthy to be called your son.”

All the loving father saw was his son returning home. He knew the only way to restore his relationship with his father and God was to **confess, repent** and **turn** from sin to God. The father did not respond to the son’s confession--instead he ordered his servants to bring the best robe, a ring and sandals and place them on his son and kill the fattest calf: “For this son of mine was dead and is **alive** again; He was **lost** and is **found**. So, they began to **celebrate**.”

Every Individual is precious to God. He grieves over every lost soul and rejoices whenever one of his children is found and brought into the Kingdom.

Acts 2:37-39—Peter echoed this message of salvation on the day of Pentecost, and the people were convicted of the Holy Spirit. Their response to the gospel: “**Men and brethren, what shall we do?**” Peter invited the multitude to” Repent and let everyone of you be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ, for the remission of sins, and ye shall receive the gift of the Holy Ghost.”

Baptism identifies us with Christ and with other believers. It is a condition of discipleship and a sign of faith in God.

Point: 1) God does not want anyone to perish, but everyone to come to repentance.

2)As Christians we should welcome and accept anyone who turns back to God through faith in Jesus Christ.

