



Love of the Father

Father's Day

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Introduction

Father's Day

- As Reflection
 - Recognition with Thanksgiving our Dads
- As Reminder
 - Striving for the Biblical ideal

Introduction



Learning from our Heavenly Father

Typical Layers in the Parables of Jesus

1. The Story (the plot)
2. The Ethics (what was done is right or wrong)
3. The Theology (divine truth, convicting, usually unexpected)



Introduction

Luke 15

- The Lost Sheep
- The Lost Coin
- The Lost Son

Lost → Sought → Found → Celebrated

1. The Love of the Father



The Parable of the Prodigal Son

11 And he said, “There was a man who had two sons.

12 And the younger of them said to his father, ‘Father, give me the share of property that is coming to me.’ And he divided his property between them.

13 Not many days later, the younger son gathered all he had and took a journey into a far country, and there he squandered his property in reckless living.

14 And when he had spent everything, a severe famine arose in that country, and he began to be in need.



1. The Love of the Father

¹⁵ So he went and hired himself out to one of the citizens of that country, who sent him into his fields to feed pigs.

¹⁶ And he was longing to be fed with the pods that the pigs ate, and no one gave him anything.

¹⁷ “But when he came to himself, he said, ‘How many of my father’s hired servants have more than enough bread, but I perish here with hunger!’

¹⁸ I will arise and go to my father, and I will say to him, “Father, I have sinned against heaven and before you.

¹⁹ I am no longer worthy to be called your son. Treat me as one of your hired servants.” ’



2. The Joy of the Father

²⁰ And he arose and came to his father. But while he was still a long way off, his father saw him and felt compassion, and ran and embraced him and kissed him.

²¹ And the son said to him, 'Father, I have sinned against heaven and before you. I am no longer worthy to be called your son.'

²² But the father said to his servants, 'Bring quickly the best robe, and put it on him, and put a ring on his hand, and shoes on his feet.

²³ And bring the fattened calf and kill it, and let us eat and celebrate.

²⁴ For this my son was dead, and is alive again; he was lost, and is found.' And they began to celebrate.



2. The Joy of the Father

The Parable of the Lost Sheep

15 Now the tax collectors and sinners were all drawing near to hear him.

2 And the Pharisees and the scribes grumbled, saying, “This man receives sinners and eats with them.”

3 So he told them this parable: 4 “What man of you, having a hundred sheep, if he has lost one of them, does not leave the ninety-nine in the open country, and go after the one that is lost, until he finds it?

5 And when he has found it, he lays it on his shoulders, rejoicing. 6 And when he comes home, he calls together his friends and his neighbors, saying to them, ‘Rejoice with me, for I have found my sheep that was lost.’

7 Just so, I tell you, there will be more joy in heaven over one sinner who repents than over ninety-nine righteous persons who need no repentance.



2. The Joy of the Father

The Parable of the Lost Coin

⁸ *“Or what woman, having ten silver coins, if she loses one coin, does not light a lamp and sweep the house and seek diligently until she finds it?”*

⁹ *And when she has found it, she calls together her friends and neighbors, saying, ‘Rejoice with me, for I have found the coin that I had lost.’*

¹⁰ *Just so, I tell you, there is joy before the angels of God over one sinner who repents.”*



2. The Joy of the Father

His Joy is to Rescue Sinners

Heb 2:2 "... Jesus ... who for the joy that was set before him endured the cross, despising the shame, and is seated at the right hand of the throne of God."

Ezekiel 33:11 "As I live, declares the Lord God, I have no pleasure in the death of the wicked, but that the wicked turn from his way and live; turn back, turn back from your evil ways, for why will you die."

Matthew 18:14 "It is not the will of my Father who is in heaven that one of these little ones should perish."

2 Peter 3:9 "The Lord is not slow to fulfill his promise as some count slowness, but is patient toward you, not wishing that any should perish, but that all should reach repentance."



2. The Joy of the Father

He Loves you, and Delights in you

John 3:16-17 “For God so loved the world, that he gave his only Son, that whoever believes in him should not perish but have eternal life. For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but in order that the world might be saved through him.”

Isaiah 62:4-5 “... for the LORD delights in you ... and as the bridegroom rejoices over the bride, so shall your God rejoice over you.”



3. The Grace of the Father

An Alternative Ending to the Prodigal Son Parable

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But "it is by grace that we are saved through faith, not by works so that no one may boast." Ephesians 2:8-9



3. The Grace of the Father

²⁵ “Now his older son was in the field, and as he came and drew near to the house, he heard music and dancing.

²⁶ And he called one of the servants and asked what these things meant.

²⁷ And he said to him, ‘Your brother has come, and your father has killed the fattened calf, because he has received him back safe and sound.’

²⁸ But he was angry and refused to go in. His father came out and entreated him,



3. The Grace of the Father



²⁹ but he answered his father, ‘Look, these many years I have served you, and I never disobeyed your command, yet you never gave me a young goat, that I might celebrate with my friends.

³⁰ But when this son of yours came, who has devoured your property with prostitutes, you killed the fattened calf for him!’

³¹ And he said to him, ‘Son, you are always with me, and all that is mine is yours.

³² It was fitting to celebrate and be glad, for this your brother was dead, and is alive; he was lost, and is found.’ ”

Conclusion

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- Soften your heart - Don’t have a hard hear - Remember God’s kindness
- Seek Him - He will reveal Himself to you - He is not far (Acts 17:27)