

March 8, 2026 Outline

Luke 15:11-24 "The Parable of the Prodigal Son"

Today we're going to look at the first part of what some would say is the greatest parable ever and see what we can learn from it. Our first point:

1. A man had two sons: the younger son left home 15:11-13

(1) Give me my inheritance.

(2) Give me my inheritance.

The prodigal uses his freedom to waste his life. He does this primarily two ways.

(1) The prodigal insulted his father, rebelled, and goes to a foreign country.

(2) The prodigal recklessly lived for the moment.

2. The consequences of loose living catch up with him 15:14-16

The parable tells us the son suffers four ways

(1) The prodigal suffers being despised.

(2) The prodigal suffered nakedness and hunger.

(3) The prodigal suffered embarrassment and humiliation.

(4) The prodigal suffers the loss of family.

3. The prodigal comes to his senses and faces repentance 15:17-19

Repentance: "Sincerely enough to question."

(1) The beginning of repentance is thinking about one's need to repent and trusting back to God.

(2) Repentance is the beginning of surrender.

Sin is very good at making the arrogant become needy.

How does repentance get us back to sanity?

(1) Repentance helps us surrender to God.

(2) Repentance makes us take an honest look at our lives.

(3) We embrace humility.

Repentance is admitting that you can't do it without God, and you have to do it God's way.

4. The son returns to his father 15:20-21

The prodigal was accepted before he confessed. He was accepted because of repentance.

5. The son is accepted when he returns to the father 15:22-24

The key to being accepted by God is repentance. Confess, repent, and accept Jesus' acceptance.