

Watch on YouTube here:

▶ The Forgiving Father- Luke 15:11-24

11 To illustrate the point further, Jesus told them this story: "A man had two sons. **12** The younger son told his father, 'I want my share of your estate now before you die.' So his father agreed to divide his wealth between his sons.

13 "A few days later this younger son packed all his belongings and moved to a distant land, and there he wasted all his money in wild living. **14** About the time his money ran out, a great famine swept over the land, and he began to starve. **15** He persuaded a local farmer to hire him, and the man sent him into his fields to feed the pigs. **16** The young man became so hungry that even the pods he was feeding the pigs looked good to him. But no one gave him anything.

17 "When he finally came to his senses, he said to himself, 'At home even the hired servants have food enough to spare, and here I am dying of hunger! **18** I will go home to my father and say, "Father, I have sinned against both heaven and you, **19** and I am no longer worthy of being called your son. Please take me on as a hired servant.'"

20 "So he returned home to his father. And while he was still a long way off, his father saw him coming. Filled with love and compassion, he ran to his son, embraced him, and kissed him. **21** His son said to him, 'Father, I have sinned against both heaven and you, and I am no longer worthy of being called your son.'^[a]

22 "But his father said to the servants, 'Quick! Bring the finest robe in the house and put it on him. Get a ring for his finger and sandals for his feet. **23** And kill the calf we have been fattening. We must celebrate with a feast, **24** for this son of mine was dead and has now returned to life. He was lost, but now he is found.' So the party began.>>>> skip 26-27

28 "The older brother was angry and wouldn't go in. His father came out and begged him, **29** but he replied, 'All these years I've slaved for you and never once refused to do a single thing you told me to. And in all that time you never gave me even one young goat for a feast with my friends. **30** Yet when this son of yours comes back after squandering your money on prostitutes, you celebrate by killing the fattened calf!'

31 "His father said to him, 'Look, dear son, you have always stayed by me, and everything I have is yours. **32** We had to celebrate this happy day. For your brother was dead and has come back to life! He was lost, but now he is found!'"

The Word was delivered by Reverend Dr. Edwards

- Reverend Edwards explores the prodigal son with a focus on the “*forgiving* _____”.
- The younger son requested his inheritance so he could leave _____, drink and be _____.
- The son found himself exhausted of his resources and working to feed the pigs after living unwisely. He found himself wanting to eat the _____ of the pigs. This was a shame for a Jewish person because they were unclean things that should not be eaten.
- Never take your _____ off of God.
- At first the son said, _____ me what mine. Through humility it became, _____ me one of your hired servants.
- Happy is the sinner who discovers he has messed up and goes back to God.
- _____ can’t live without God!
- Only God can satisfy!
- What is a church centered sinner?

- We must come to _____ and say, _____!
- We must strive to be in the _____ of God. In His presence there is fullness of joy. At His right hand there are pleasures evermore!
- Come back home to a forgiving father! We can never disappoint Him!
- God seeks for the lost _____.
- God is omniscient (He _____ all).
- He is _____ (He is everywhere at the same time).
- He is omnipotent (He is all _____).
- The forgiving father had _____ lost sons. One was lost out in the world. The other was lost in the house of blessing. He was full of anger and self-righteous. Lost in bitterness and jealousy. He was appreciative of his privilege.
- You who were sometimes far off are now made close through the _____ of Jesus.