

Grace to Spare
Luke 15:11-32

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I. Searching for happiness. Luke 15:11-19

The word used for livelihood or property here is the word _____, which means _____.

Dr. David Jeremiah says the word prodigal *“is often thought to mean wayward or rebellious, but the word actually means _____ spendthrift.”*

- The prodigal giving of the father was driven by _____.

The far country is representative of being _____ from God.

- *“A dissatisfied heart leads to a _____ life.”* (Warren Wiersbe)

II. Joy found by grace received. Luke 15:20-24

Splagchnizomai - It means to be moved as to one's _____, hence, to be moved with compassion, have compassion (for the bowels were thought to be the seat of love and pity). (Blueletterbible.org)

- It was considered highly _____ for a first-century male to run.

III. No joy, as grace is refused. Luke 15:25-32

The older brother was and is today still in more _____ than the younger brother.

- The older brother was lost and more _____ from his father than his little brother, and he didn't even know it.

Whoever that older brother is, he could come and receive the _____, or he could stay outside and refuse the _____.

IV. Practical Application

God is only a _____.

- *“The younger brother knew that in his father's house there was abundant “food to spare,” but he also discovered that there was _____ to spare.”* (Timothy Keller)
- *“The younger son gets a _____ for a brother instead.”* (Timothy Keller)

No matter which brother you are, God loves you, and His amazing grace is more than enough to _____ for you and for the whole world.

- Everyone in the entire 15th Chapter of Luke had _____ except for the elder brother.

This joy is available to all by receiving God's grace through faith in Him.

Small Group Discussion

Looking back at your notes from this week's sermon, was there anything that particularly caught your attention, challenged or confused you?

1. Read **Luke 15:11-12**. Discuss how we can connect the actions of the father in the story towards the first son and how God treats us.
John 3:16, Ephesians 5:1-2, 1 John 3:1
2. Read **Luke 15:12-13**. The father in the story gives the son what he asks for and lets him leave even though he knew it was a mistake. Discuss how God allows us free will to make choices and how he can use our bad decisions to teach us.
3. Read **Luke 15:14-17**. The prodigal son realizes the goodness of the father, as he has hit rock bottom. *What are the times in your life when you are reminded of God's goodness?*
Romans 2:4
4. Read **Luke 15:18-19** and **2 Corinthians 7:10**. Discuss the repentance of the prodigal son and what got him to that point.
5. Read **Luke 15:19**. The father runs to his son and kisses him. Talk about the cultural norms that were broken and what that shows of the father's love.
Deuteronomy 21:18-21
6. Read **Luke 15:25-32**. Discuss the response of the older son. Can we relate to this at all?
7. Discuss the practical application of the sermon.