

# Guided Study Luke 15:11-32

Title: \_\_\_\_\_

- 11 And He said,  
"A man had two sons.  
12 The younger of them said to his father,  
'Father,  
give me the share of the estate that falls to me.'  
So he divided his wealth between them.  
13 "And not many days later,  
the younger son gathered everything together  
and went on a journey into a distant country,  
and there he squandered his estate  
with loose living.  
14 "Now when he had spent everything,  
a severe famine occurred in that country,  
and he began to be impoverished.  
15 "So he went and hired himself out  
to one of the citizens of that country,  
and he sent him into his fields to feed swine.  
16 "And he would have gladly filled his stomach  
with the pods that the swine were eating,  
and no one was giving *anything* to him.  
17 "But when he came to his senses, he said,  
'How many of my father's hired men  
have more than enough bread,  
but I am dying here with hunger!  
18 'I will get up and go to my father,  
and will say to him,  
'Father, I have sinned against heaven,  
and in your sight;  
19 "I am no longer worthy to be called your son;  
make me as one of your hired men."  
20 "So he got up and came to his father.  
But while he was still a long way off,  
his father saw him and felt compassion *for him*,  
and ran and embraced him and kissed him.  
21 "And the son said to him,  
'Father, I have sinned against heaven  
and in your sight;  
I am no longer worthy to be called your son.'  
22 "But the father said to his slaves,  
'Quickly bring out the best robe and put it on him,  
and put a ring on his hand and sandals on his feet;  
23 and bring the fattened calf, kill it,  
and let us eat and celebrate;  
24 for this son of mine was dead  
and has come to life again;  
he was lost  
and has been found.'  
And they began to celebrate.  
25 "Now his older son was in the field,  
and when he came and approached the house,  
he heard music and dancing.  
26 "And he summoned one of the servants  
and *began* inquiring  
what these things could be.

## Observation

Mark and Note ...:

- v 11 What the man had.  
 v 12 Who made a request of his father.  
What he asked to be given him.  
What the father did.  
 v 13 What the younger son gathered together.  
Where he went.  
What he did there.  
 v 14 What he spent.  
What occurred in that country.  
What he began to become.  
 v 15 What he did.  
What he was sent to do.  
 v 16 What he would have gladly done.  
Who was giving him anything.  
 v 17 What he came to.  
Who had more than enough bread.  
What he was doing there.  
 v 18 What he decided to do.  
What he would say to his father.  
 v 19 What he was no longer worthy to be called.  
What he asked to be made.  
 v 20 When his father saw him.  
What his father felt toward him.  
What his father did to him.  
 v 21 What he said to his father.  
 v 22 Who his father spoke to.  
What he told them to quickly do.  
What he told them to put on his son's hands  
and feet.  
 v 23 What kind of calf was to be brought.  
What the father said for all to do.  
 v 24 All the descriptions the father attributed  
to his son.  
 v 25 Who was in the field.  
What he heard as he approached the house.  
 v 26 What he inquired of a servant.

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 became angry  
 and was not willing to go in;  
 and his father came out  
 and *began* pleading with him.

29 "But he answered and said to his father,  
 'Look!  
 For so many years I have been serving you  
 and I have never neglected  
 a command of yours;  
 and yet you have never given me  
 a young goat,  
 so that I might celebrate with my friends;  
 but when this son of yours came,  
 who has devoured your wealth  
 with prostitutes,  
 you killed the fattened calf for him.'

30

31 "And he said to him,  
 'Son,  
 you have always been with me,  
 and all that is mine is yours.

32 'But we had to celebrate and rejoice,  
 for this brother of yours was dead  
 and *has begun* to live,  
 and *was lost* and has been found.'"

- v 27 Who the servant said had come.  
 What the servant told him his father had done.
- v 28 How the older son responded.  
 What he was not willing to do.  
 What he began to do.
- v 29 What two things the older son said he had  
 been doing for many years.  
 What he claimed his father had never given  
 him.
- v 30 How he described his brother.  
 What he claimed his brother had done.
- v 31 What the father said belonged to his son.
- v 32 What the father said they had to do.  
 The reasons they had to celebrate.
- Review the Text and mark other key words or phrases you observe.*

## Interpretation

Answer the following questions in light of: 1. The original author's intended meaning. 2. The context of the passage. 3. The context of the language, culture, geography and historical setting.

vs 11-32 Describe each of the characters below:

The Father: \_\_\_\_\_

The Older Son: \_\_\_\_\_

The Younger Son: \_\_\_\_\_

What caused the younger son to return home? \_\_\_\_\_

What is significant about what he determines to say in verse 18? \_\_\_\_\_

Why does the father receive the younger son with joy? \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

What is significant about what he does for his son (vs 22-23) \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Why does the older son react the way he does? \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Why didn't the older son see his younger brother as his father did? \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

What is significant about what he says? \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

What is significant about what the father tells his older son? \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Picture the scene in verses 31-32. Describe the father's expression and tone of voice? \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

What is the point of the parable? \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

The older son was aware of his brother's activities (v 30) indicating that the father may have been aware as well. How does this affect the way the father reacted to his returning son? \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Who might each character represent?

The Father: \_\_\_\_\_

The Older Son: \_\_\_\_\_

The Younger Son: \_\_\_\_\_

Briefly summarize this passage. \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Write in a **Title** for this passage in the space above the text.

What did you learn from this passage about God/Jesus Christ? \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

What did you learn from this passage about yourself? \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

**Circle** the Key Verse(s) in this passage.

**Memorize** and/or **Meditate** on them.

### **Principles & Truths**

*List the Principles and Truths taught in this passage.*

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.
- 4.
- 5.
- 6.
- 7.
- 8.
- 9.

### **Applications:**

*Apply the Principles and Truths to your life.*

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.
- 4.
- 5.
- 6.
- 7.
- 8.
- 9.