

“Daring to Dream - Again”

Luke 15:11-24 Sunday AM, March 22, 2026

Prelude: Scripture: Luke 15:7-24 (NASB95) “I tell you that in the same way, there will be more joy in heaven over one sinner who repents than over ninety-nine righteous persons who need no repentance. 8 “Or what woman, if she has ten silver coins and loses one coin, does not light a lamp and sweep the house and search carefully until she finds it? 9 “When she has found it, she calls together her friends and neighbors, saying, ‘Rejoice with me, for I have found the coin which I had lost!’ 10 “In the same way, I tell you, there is joy in the presence of the angels of God over one sinner who repents.” 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.

“If anyone comes to Me, and does not hate his own father and mother and wife and children and brothers and sisters, yes, and even his own life, he cannot be My disciple. 27 “Whoever does not carry his own cross and come after Me cannot be My disciple. Jesus will be first among His followers and His followers will represent Jesus as they yield to His process making them like Him. What makes you hesitate, even stop following Jesus? How about when Jesus’ actions don’t seem so righteous? 2 Both the Pharisees and the scribes began to grumble, saying, “This man receives sinners and eats with them.” WHICH sinners will you care for? To those who understood the value of a sheep, He asked, to what extent would you go for ONE sheep? To those who understood the value of a coin, he asked, to what extent would you go to find one coin? Jesus cared for those who would listen to Him. Right before these accounts and after describing the high cost of discipleship, He repeated that familiar phrase--to him who has ears to hear, let him hear. These “sinners” both listened AND repented. You who know the value of a sheep, a coin, when you find them, how do you respond? The Father cares so much for undeserving sinners that He responds like those who properly value the sheep and coin. With great joy! 10 “In the same way, I tell you, there is joy in the presence of the angels of God over one sinner who repents.” Sing the testimony of those who see the Father’s care.

*Hymn #512: My Savior’s Love

That was the Father’s joy and the response of those who see His great care. Now consider the depth of the problem presented by the parable I assume next week seen as the parable of the Elder Brother, today seen as the Prodigal Son. Note the injustice and selfishness as the son takes from the future and from his living dad rather than serving and waiting. Not only does he take, but he squanders what he took with loose living. Then, not only does he have nothing, but he is unprepared for outside circumstances like the severe famine, leaving him impoverished, forced to work lowly job. So low that he lusts after/desires to eat what the pigs were given. And no one was giving anything to him. Forget about whether you would have or whether we SHOULD give him something, what has he done to his father—his wealth, his care and the honor due him, what has he done with the grace and love his father would give? And yet, it is to THIS father his thoughts go. HE will help me. Yet his attitude is no longer one of take even as he considers asking for help. He comes humbly—no longer worthy to be your son. The fact that the Father might have more to give—what does that tell you about the Father and where you should humbly go for ALL deliverance?

*Hymn (Powerpoint): Approach My Soul, the Mercy Seat

*Pastoral Prayer: Pastor Jahn Choir: I Stand Redeemed

Scripture: Psalm 103:1-22 (NASB95) A Psalm of David. 1 Bless the LORD, O my soul, And all that is within me, bless His holy name. 2 Bless the LORD, O my soul, And forget none of His benefits; 3 Who pardons all your iniquities, Who heals all your diseases; 4 Who redeems your life from the pit, Who crowns you with lovingkindness and compassion; 5 Who satisfies your years with good things, So that your youth is renewed like the eagle. 6 The LORD performs righteous deeds And judgments for all who are oppressed. 7 He made known His ways to Moses, His acts to the sons of Israel. 8 The LORD is compassionate and gracious, Slow to anger and abounding in lovingkindness. 9 He will not always strive with us, Nor will He keep His anger forever. 10 He has not dealt with us according to our sins, Nor rewarded us according to our iniquities. 11 For as high as the heavens are above the earth, So great is His lovingkindness toward those who fear Him. 12 As far as the east is from the west, So far has He removed our transgressions from us. 13 Just as a father has compassion on his children, So the LORD has compassion on those who fear Him. 14 For He Himself knows our frame; He is mindful that we are but dust. 15 As for man, his days are like grass; As a flower of the field, so he flourishes. 16 When the wind has passed over it, it is no more, And its place acknowledges it no longer. 17 But the lovingkindness of the LORD is from everlasting to everlasting on those who fear Him, And His righteousness to children’s children, 18 To those who keep His covenant And remember His precepts to do them. 19 The LORD has established His throne in the heavens, And His sovereignty rules over all. 20 Bless the LORD, you His angels, Mighty in strength, who perform His word, Obeying the voice of His word! 21 Bless the LORD, all you His hosts, You who serve Him, doing His will. 22 Bless the LORD, all you works of His, In all places of His dominion; Bless the LORD, O my soul!

Offering: *Doxology:

A true look at the gulf between you and God (the son and the father, the sheep and shepherd, Jesus and sinners) leaves you looking to Him for righteousness, not you. It makes you listen to His words, not make Him or others listen to yours. If you are bored with the possibly true words you say about God and your sin and the gospel, it shows you aren’t looking at God or your sin rightly. To see God and your condition rightly is to know that the only place for deliverance lies with our great God. He delivers! He is the God who saves. Jesus—Yeshua—Yahweh saves or the LORD is salvation. We heard three powerful sermons on David—Kevin DeYoung God delivering David from Saul—mercy of God through David in cave. Ligon Duncan on David’s folly, and John Piper preached David’s Song of Praise II Sam. 22. Nathan Clark George wrote this song with group of others including Kevin DeYoung for this sermon. On website, says this song emphasizes the wonderful truth that no matter what, I am the Lord’s. Because of my wrongs, Christ became my ransom. He redeemed me. Therefore, though doubt, danger and toil do arise, nothing changes the fact that I am his. Learn it and live it!

*Hymn (Powerpoint): To You My Life Belongs (David’s Song)

There IS hope for you, but it is NOT in you, not from others, not from your circumstances changing, it is from Him. He calls, He saves at great cost, He keeps. Sing the security of being the recipient of the Father’s joy. You can be secure in identity with Him because of His words and actions backed by His character. The saved one can confidently sing I am His and He is Mine.

*Hymn #490: I Am His and He is Mine

Message: “Daring to Dream - Again” Luke 15:11-24 *Hymn #67: The Love of God *Prayer