

**PARABLES – “*The Prodigal Son*” – Luke 15:11-24**

**INTRODUCTION:** This is a LOVE STORY ... “*God loves YOU!*”!

- “*prodigal*” – ‘*recklessly wasteful; extravagant*’

**15:11** – The FATHER is a picture of our Heavenly Father.

**15:12** – The YOUNGER SON is a picture of they wayward Christian who rebels against his Father.

- Sometimes we have to learn lessons the hard way – Ps. 106:15

**15:13** – He enjoys the “*pleasure of sin for a season*”.

**15:14** – His friends ran out when his money ran out.

- There’s more to life than “*stuff*”.

- Satan is out to take you for all you’ve got.

**15:15-16** – He has sunk as low as a Jew could sink.

**15:17-18** – He didn’t enjoy his father’s love while at home.

- Life finds meaning in our relationship with our Heavenly Father.

**15:18-19** – This son never lost his “*son-ship*”.

- Since you didn’t earn your way into God’s family, you can’t earn your way out of God’s family.

- A true Christian won’t be content living in the pig-pen.

**15:20** – Notice the reaction of the father.

- Those listening were SHOCKED! **15:1-2**

- The father’s love overcame the filth of his wayward son.

**15:21** – The son had his speech all prepared – **15:18-19**

**15:22** – He couldn’t finish his speech because he could never be a “*hired servant*” ... he was his father’s SON.

**15:22-24** – 1 John 1:9 – The way back to your Heavenly Father.

- Your Heavenly Father will clean you up ... you can’t clean yourself up.

- “*ring*” – The prodigal son was fully restored ... he didn’t lose his “*son-ship*”.

**CONCLUSION:**

- Your Heavenly Father is waiting with open arms for His prodigal children to return home.

- You can become a “*Child of God*”, and enjoy the Father’s love.