

“RETURN HOME”

Journey Home, Part 4

Pastor Ken Ritz * November 4, 2012 * New Life Vineyard Church

Luke 15

1. All Of Us Are Naturally _____ Our Father.

3 parables in a row:

- Lost sheep
- Lost coin
- Lost son

Jesus continued: "There was a man who had two sons. The younger one said to his father, 'Father, give me my share of the estate.' So he divided his property between them. "Not long after that, the younger son got together all he had, set off for a distant country and there squandered his wealth in wild living.

Luke 15:11-13

"When he came to his senses, he said, 'How many of my father's hired servants have food to spare, and here I am starving to death! I will set out and go back to my father and say to him: Father, I have sinned against heaven and against you. I am no longer worthy to be called your son; make me like one of your hired servants.'

Luke 15:17-19

Reality

We think we'll be okay with just our father's blessings/ money/ success/ protection/ etc. but we won't. We need our father.

The confession:

"But while he was still a long way off, his father saw him and was filled with compassion for him; he ran to his son, threw his arms around him and kissed him.

"The son said to him, 'Father, I have sinned against heaven and against you. I am no longer worthy to be called your son.'

Luke 15:20-21

2. God Runs To The _____

'Father, I have sinned against heaven and against you. I am no longer worthy to be called your son.'

For this son of mine was dead and is alive again; he was lost and is found.' So they began to celebrate.

Luke 15:24

3. Riches Come At The Expense Of The _____

"But the father said to his servants, 'Quick! Bring the best robe and put it on him. Put a ring on his finger and sandals on his feet. Bring the fattened calf and kill it. Let's have a feast and celebrate.

Luke 15:22-23

(Jesus) *"I will not leave you as orphans; I will come to you."*

John 14:18

4. _____ Is Our True Elder Brother

Jesus and the ones he makes holy have the same Father. That is why Jesus is not ashamed to call them his brothers and sisters.

Hebrews 2:11 (NLT)