



## The Lost Son

*By Shannon Ford on January 21, 2022*

**READING:** Luke 15

In Luke 15, we read the parables of the lost sheep, the lost coin and the lost son. In the third parable, the younger brother demanded his inheritance even though his father was still living. This arrogance could have resulted in being disinherited altogether, but the father graciously granted the request. The young man wasted everything. Penniless, he found work tending pigs, which were unclean to Jews. So hungry, he would have eaten the pigs' slop. Finally, he recognized how far he had fallen and "came to his senses." His turn-around is captured by the simple phrase "so he got up." While the fact that the younger son got up referred to rising physically, it also can be seen as a metaphor for his spiritual condition. He got up in repentance and started home.

The father saw the prodigal long before he reached the house. While the son was still a long way off, the father reacted with joy. The father's heart was filled with compassion at the sight of his son. He probably could see his son's ragged appearance but did not need explanations. Knowing his son had returned was enough. The father ran to meet him. Understanding that the father in this parable represents God, we observe the only time God is portrayed as rushing.

God joyfully receives any sinner who repents and turns in faith to Him. The story paints a magnificent portrait of God's love as the father threw his arms around his neck. He was not repulsed by the smell of swine on his son's clothing. The father only cared that his son had come home. The young man's fears were dismissed as his father embraced him and kissed him. The father did not have to hear the son's explanation or apology. Love and compassion flowed from his heart.

Believers should celebrate the salvation of others. We were all prodigals at one time. We were dead in our trespasses and sin before Jesus gave us eternal life. We were like sheep that go astray, but Jesus is the Good Shepherd who found us and brought us safely home to Himself. Just as the angels of heaven rejoiced over us, they also sing for joy over other people who come to Christ (Luke 15:7). We should join them.

**PRAYER:** Father we pray for our "One" who is far from Christ. We pray that You will do what it takes for him or her to come to their senses, repent and turn to You.

**TOMORROW'S READING:** Weekend is for catch-up and review.

**MONDAY'S READING:** Luke 16

*Copyright © 2021 First Baptist Church, Fort Mill, SC, All rights reserved.*

[Visit our website](#)

First Baptist Church | (803)547-2051 | 121 Monroe White St., Fort Mill, SC 29715 | fbcfm.com

First Baptist Church Fort Mill | 121 Monroe White St., Fort Mill, SC 29715

[Unsubscribe {recipient's email}](#)

[Update Profile](#) | [Constant Contact Data Notice](#)

Sent by fbcfortmill@comporium.net powered by



Try email marketing for free today!