Loving Those Returning To God

Loving to Love Like Jesus

Luke 15:11-32
Pg 740
Parables

• *Reveal or explain a spiritual truth*
• *Usually have one main point*
• *Not every detail has significant meaning*
• *There aren’t “secret or hidden meanings*
We All Have Walked Away From God

The Story

~Father gave him freedom
~Father gave him his inheritance
~Father allowed him to walk away

“He went away sad because he had great wealth…”

Mark 10:22
God Eagerly Desires For His Children To Return To Him

God acts in many ways

~Draws: John 6:44
~Convicts: John 16:8
~Enlightens: Eph 1:19
~Meets us: John 15:20

“He is patient with you, not wanting anyone to perish,
But everyone to come to repentance.”
2Peter 3:9
God Unconditionally Forgives Those Who Return To Him

The Father:
- Loved him BEFORE his repentance
- Loved him without condition
- Restored him to the family
- Expected OTHERS to welcome him as well

“I tell you, there is rejoicing in the presence of the angels of God over one sinner who repents!”

Luke 15:10
God Rejoices And Celebrates When The Lost Return To Him

- Rejoicing over lost being found is the theme of all 3
  ~ Killed the fatted calf
  ~ Threw a party
  ~ Refused to give in to those who didn’t understand

“But we HAD to celebrate and be glad, because this brother of yours was dead and is alive again; he was lost and is found.”

Luke 15:32
Todays Challenges

• **Understand the need**

• **Return if you are away**

• **Reach out if you know someone lost**

• **Be one of the 35**