

Faith and Repentance

Luke 15:11 – 24; Acts 2:38 – 39

Devotional Reading: Mark 1:14 - 20

Background Scripture: Isaiah 1:10 - 21; Ezekiel 18:20 - 23, 27 - 32

LESSON AIMS: the students will:

- Summarize the actions of the younger son and the father in the parable
- Explain why each of us must welcome others returning to God
- Commit to sharing God’s generosity with others

INTRODUCTION: There are times when it is difficult to apologize for our wrongdoing. How do we go about restoring fellowship when we have been guilty of trespasses? In this parable, the son makes a decision, and his father allows the decision. The son will be reminded that there are rewards and consequences for decisions made in life.

KEY VERSE: *²⁴ For this my son was dead, and is alive again; he was lost, and is found. And they began to be merry.* Luke 15:24

LESSON OUTLINE:

Jesus’ Parable

Luke 15:11 - 24

Apostle’s Teaching

Acts 2:38 - 39

SUMMARY: This familiar story of a son who recognizes his errors and goes home to a loving, forgiving father is beautiful. Jesus, however, is speaking to Israel - a nation who is lost and far from the Father, and He is speaking to us today. Just as the son who was lost came home, just as Israel is called back, we too are invited to return to a loving, forgiving Father.

QUESTIONS:

1. *What might have compelled the father to give the younger son his share of the inheritance?*
2. *What circumstances of repentance and return call for public confession of sin?*
3. *Do you find it more difficult to welcome new believers or those who return after a time of rebellion?*

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DAY / DATE	SCRIPTURE	
<i>Mon., Jan. 5th</i>	Turn Away from Sin	Ezekiel 18:20 - 23, 27 - 32
<i>Tue., Jan. 6th</i>	Learn to do Righteous	Isaiah 1:10 - 21
<i>Wed., Jan. 7th</i>	Jesus Has Power to Forgive Sins	Mark 2:1 - 12
<i>Thurs., Jan. 8th</i>	Draw Near to God by Faith	Hebrews 11:1 - 10
<i>Fri., Jan. 9th</i>	Repent and Seek God’s Face	2 Chronicles 7:11 - 22
<i>Sat., Jan. 10th</i>	Repent and Be Baptized	Acts 2:32 - 39
<i>Sun., Jan. 11th</i>	The Prodigal Returns	Luke 15:11 - 32