

GCFSM SUNDAY

JUNE 20, 2021 | SERMON OUTLINE ISSUE # 25

THE PRODIGAL FATHER

LUKE 15:11-24 | ELDER RAYMUND SANCHEZ

The story of the prodigal is a story about being lost.

The true emphasis is not on the sons, but on the father. It is an unveiling of the heart of God. The central truth of the parable is the picture of the heavenly Father's heart of love toward undeserving sinners.

The younger son exploded in rebellion. He knew what he wanted. His desires led him to gamble all in getting what God condemned. He loved sin. It promised satisfaction to his appetite and his ambitions. He was lured by its promises. Its fascinations hypnotized him. This is the message that Jesus had for his audience that no matter what happens in a person's life and how far down they get, how empty, how wicked, how vile, how sinful, how futile their life may be, there is an open door to salvation, to forgiveness and a new beginning.

The real story about this parable is the father's attitude toward his son. What happens is, God is portrayed here as the prodigal's father. Here's the difference - it's what happens to the father. We know what happens to the son - he's messed up badly, he's lost, totally disillusioned and in total despair. But what about the father? Look at the steps of the father - what he's been going through while his son's been absolutely living in sin and disobedience to God.

And then of course, in the midst of all that, he waited for him patiently. And how many mothers and fathers, grandmothers, grandfathers have patiently waited for their renegade sons and daughters, grandchildren? Those who deliberately, willfully walked away from their home because they wanted to live life on their own terms. They wanted to enjoy some things in their life that were forbidden in their home because their parents were spiritually-minded. And so the father thinks about all the things the son must be into but is patiently waiting for him. If you observe carefully, Jesus is describing our Heavenly Father's attitude towards you and I.

Picture this, you've walked away from God way back in time, but God still waits for you. He still wants you to come home to Him. He wants you to be wise enough to realize that sin is ultimately going to destroy you. Sin is ultimately going to deprive you of everything you want in life. It could be late in life or it could be soon in life but God patiently waits as the father is pictured here in this parable. ✝

SERMON OUTLINE

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- **UNDER PRESSURE**
Rising Above Stress
CrossDriven Ministry
June 26, 2021, Saturday
4:00 PM via Zoom
- **PRAYER AND FASTING WEEK**
July 5-9, 2021
Devotion & Prayer
12:30-1:00 PM
- **GG PRAYER GATHERING**
July 10, 2021, Saturday
7:30-9:30 AM via Zoom
- **JOIN A GROWTH GROUP**
If you still aren't part of a growth group, we highly encourage to join one. You can get in touch with us through the GCF South Metro FB Page, GCF South Metro YouTube or email us at email@gcfsouthmetro.org

For counselling needs,
the GCFSM Counselling Team says

WE'RE HERE TO LISTEN AND HELP

CALL US!
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BE PART OF A
growth group

Get in touch with us through our GCFSM FB Page, GCFSM YouTube or email@gcfsouthmetro.org