

The image features a dark blue background with a yellow border. The border consists of a thin yellow line, with thicker yellow lines at the top and bottom. At each of the four corners, there are decorative elements: a vertical line, a horizontal line, and a fan of five diagonal lines extending towards the corner.

The Life of Jesus (49)

The Prodigal Son

Luke 15:11-24

#1 The Younger Son's Request

The younger son didn't make a good choice.

“Father, give me my share of the estate”
(Lk 15:12)



It was very rude and impolite. It was incredibly hurtful to ask for the father's property while he was alive and healthy because it was like treating him as if he were dead

The son's request showed that **he valued his father's wealth more than he valued his father.** The son only cared about how to get as much out of his father as possible, as quickly as possible. He cared little for his father's love or his relationship with him, because it had no cash value.

That's the world's attitude toward God. **People want God's blessings, but they don't want a relationship with Him.** They want to enjoy all the good things that come from God, but without God himself.

#2 The Younger Son's Request

The younger son's request must have grieved the father terribly not only because the demand was rude, but also because he knew that the son would leave home.

“The younger son got together all he had, set off for a distant country” (Lk 15:13)

He wanted to get as far away from his father as possible. He didn't want his father to intervene in his life. So he left his father's home, and as a result, he lost the relationship he once had with his father. That's the first consequence of sin. It separates us from God.

“Your iniquities have separated you from your God” (Is 59:2)

#3 The Younger Son's Wild Life

At first, the son enjoyed his life in the distant country. Everything was great. He had money and freedom. He made a lot of friends and had a good time with them.

Then, reality hit. He spent all the money he had, and he was alone. It's likely that all the friends he had made left him because they only liked him for his money.

What was worse, a severe famine swept through the whole country. **After a time of pleasure, suffering began.** The son became desperate, but the only job he could get was feeding pigs, which were considered unclean by Jews.

He was so hungry he wanted to eat the pods that the pigs were eating, but no one gave him anything. That was the situation he ended up in as a result of leaving His father.



#4 The Younger Son's Wild Life

The son thought that in order to live a life of freedom, he had to leave his father. But that freedom ended up leading him to a different form of slavery.

There are many blessings we have as Christians, but the greatest reward isn't merely to obtain good things from God. **It's to know God Himself, to experience His love deeply, and to live in a close relationship with Him.**

The son got his money, but he lost his relationship with his father. He got freedom from his father, but that freedom put him in a miserable situation.

But, there's still good news. **Our father is still waiting for us and He's ready to welcome us with open arms and great love.** That's what we'll talk about next Sunday.

Memory Verses

“Your iniquities have separated you from your God” (Is 59:2) (1)

“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.” (Lk 15:18–19) (2)

Questions

1) What bad choices did the younger son make in the story? What were the results of those choices? What did you learn about the nature of sin and its consequences?

2) Have you made similar choices to the younger son? What were they? What were the results? How did you return to God?