

# **"A MAN HAD TWO SONS"**

**Luke 15:11-32**

*Presented by*

**Pastor Justin Greene**

**January 15, 2006**

Family dynamics are always a touchy subject. We all have stories about the "black sheep" or "shining star" in our family. Good or bad, we also have our opinions. If you want to see behind the scenes in a family, just ask for their stories; the picture and opinion becomes clear.

Have you ever wondered how it would look if Christ told the story? For sure there would be the glories of heaven and the grace that called us there, but what stories would be told on us? Luke 15 tells a story that happens all too often in hopes that we would wake up, or respond to the father who draws near.

## BACKGROUND

- 
- 
- 

## THE YOUNGER SON

- The younger son's **strong desires** cause him to **scandalize** the father. (*James 4:1-4*)
- The younger son does not spend his fortune at **home** but in the **far country**. (*Proverbs 18:1; 28:1*)
- The younger son is found lower than the average **slave**. (*Romans 1*)

## HE COMES TO HIS SENSES

- The father **runs** to him.
- The father **clothes** him.
- The father **celebrates**.

## OLDER SON

- The older son was not like the **father**. Instead he had a lack of **concern** for his lost **brother** and **hurting** father. (*Luke 10:25-28*)
- He refused to **celebrate**. (*Luke 15:1-10*)
- He felt that good works = **slavery**.
- He felt that righteousness = **burden**.
- He felt that life with father = **joyless**.

## FATHER'S RESPONSE

- The **father** personally **goes** to him.
- The father personally **reminds** him.
- The father **pleads** with him.

## A MAN HAD TWO SONS

- One focused on **grace** all the way to the **far country**.
- The other trudged along in a passionless existence;
  - his father's **heart** was foreign.
  - his father's wishes were a **bother**.
- The father still **runs**.