

Wednesday

Read **Luke 15:20-24** *The reunion*

Questions for Reflection and Application

1. *What if the father had chosen not to run to meet his son? Why not let the son to come to him?*
2. *The father says his son was dead and now was alive. What does that mean for the son? The father?*

Prayer Focus: Reflect on ways we withhold a welcome from someone who needs our acceptance. Imagine how a truly joyful, loving response might look. Pray for a reunion with God, with others, as the way to life in God.

Thursday

Read **Luke 15:25-30** *The elder son*

Questions for Reflection and Application

1. *Have you ever felt someone got a reward they didn't earn? Did you think there was a mistake?*
2. *Do you think the elder son ever joined the party?*

Prayer Focus: God, even when we stay at home, we can be isolated, living in a far country. Help us repent, to turn back to love, letting go of the jealousy and anger we cling to in our hearts. Free us to enjoy the party you are preparing for each of us.

Friday

Read **Luke 15:31-32** *Lost and found*

Questions for Reflection and Application

1. *Why does the father say that everything of his belongs to the son? Do you think that's true?*
2. *How can we offer Jesus' love and forgiveness to each other and to the world, especially when the world seems so divided?*

Prayer Focus: Beloved Creator, thank you for being so completely, foolishly in love with us, for racing to welcome and heal us, for drawing us close. Find us again. Fill our hearts with that same reckless love so that we can welcome and heal in your name.

Small Group Format



Welcome

- Introductions/getting acquainted
- Mutual Invitation question: *What's the best party you've ever been to? What made it so good?*

Opening Prayer

Song (optional)

Reflection on

- Have someone read **Luke 15:11b-32**. Discuss observations about the text.
 - *What word or phrase strikes you the most?*
 - *What do you think is the most important point of the text?*

Application of Scripture (The central transformative questions)

- What did you hear God say to you through this week's Scriptures?
- What are you doing about it?
- How can we support you?

Share your faith (in groups of 3)

- *How have you experienced God recently in your life?* (This is a weekly question - it may be difficult to answer at first, but if you ask it each week you may start to notice God more in your life.)

Pray for each other

Refreshments (optional)

ROAD OF REPENTANCE

March 27, 2022

Monday

Read **Luke 15:11b-13** *Jesus tells a story*

Questions for Reflection and Application

1. *Why would the father give his sons their inheritance early? How do you think the father felt about that, especially after learning his son was wasting that money?*
2. *This is a familiar story. Do you identify with the father, the younger son, or the older son?*

Prayer Focus: Holy and gracious Christ, thank you for knowing that we often learn more from stories rather than lectures. Remind us of our own stories, our families, our relationship with you. Help us grow into new ways of seeing.

Tuesday

Read **Luke 15:14-19** *The younger son's choices*

Questions for Reflection and Application

1. *Do you think the father had anticipated his son would get into trouble?*
2. *Do you think the son was truly repentant about his actions? Do you think he expected to be welcomed?*

Prayer Focus: Holy Spirit, wake us up to the suffering and sorrow and emptiness we sometimes create for ourselves. Remind us that we always have choices, including turning back to you. Set us on a new road out of our mistakes, sending us back to honestly face our mistakes, ready to be changed for the better.