

Harvest Notes

A Father's Love

Jon Callahan

The Biblical Example

(Luke 15:11-24) Then He said: "A certain man had two sons. 12) And the younger of them said to his father, 'Father, give me the portion of goods that falls to me.' So he divided to them his livelihood. 13) And not many days after, the younger son gathered all together, journeyed to a far country, and there wasted his possessions with prodigal living. 14) But when he had spent all, there arose a severe famine in that land, and he began to be in want.

15) Then he went and joined himself to a citizen of that country, and he sent him into his fields to feed swine. 16) And he would gladly have filled his stomach with the pods that the swine ate, and no one gave him anything.

17) "But when he came to himself, he said, 'How many of my father's hired servants have bread enough and to spare, and I perish with hunger! 18) I will arise and go to my father, and will say to him, "Father, I have sinned against heaven and before you, 19) and I am no longer worthy to be called your son. Make me like one of your hired servants."' "

20) "And he arose and came to his father. But when he was still a great way off, his father saw him and had compassion, and ran and fell on his neck and kissed him. 21) And the son said to him, 'Father, I have sinned against heaven and in your sight, and am no longer worthy to be called your son.'

22) "But the father said to his servants, 'Bring out the best robe and put it on him, and put a ring on his hand and sandals on his feet. 23)And bring the fatted calf here and kill it, and let us eat and be merry; 24) for this my son was dead and is alive again; he was lost and is found.' And they began to be merry.

Thinking About His Love

1. The Father's Love is _____.

(Revelation 3:20 NLT) "Look! I stand at the door and knock. If you hear my voice and open the door, I will come in, and we will share a meal together as friends.

2. The Father's Love is _____.

(John 3:16 MSG) "This is how much God loved the world: He gave his Son, his one and only Son. And this is why: so that no one need be destroyed; by believing in him, anyone can have a whole and lasting life.

3. The Father's Love is _____.

(Ephesians 5:2b MSG) His love was not cautious but extravagant. He didn't love in order to get something from us but to give everything of himself to us. Love like that.

4. The Father's Love is _____.

(John 12:25 NLT) Those who love their life in this world will lose it. Those who care nothing for their life in this world will keep it for eternity.

A.W. Tozer one time commented, "What comes into our minds when we think about God is the most important thing about us."

What comes into my mind when I think about God?

Harvest Notes

A Father's Love

Jon Callahan

The Biblical Example

(Luke 15:11-24) Then He said: "A certain man had two sons. 12) And the younger of them said to his father, 'Father, give me the portion of goods that falls to me.' So he divided to them his livelihood. 13) And not many days after, the younger son gathered all together, journeyed to a far country, and there wasted his possessions with prodigal living. 14) But when he had spent all, there arose a severe famine in that land, and he began to be in want.

15) Then he went and joined himself to a citizen of that country, and he sent him into his fields to feed swine. 16) And he would gladly have filled his stomach with the pods that the swine ate, and no one gave him anything.

17) "But when he came to himself, he said, 'How many of my father's hired servants have bread enough and to spare, and I perish with hunger! 18) I will arise and go to my father, and will say to him, "Father, I have sinned against heaven and before you, 19) and I am no longer worthy to be called your son. Make me like one of your hired servants."' "

20) "And he arose and came to his father. But when he was still a great way off, his father saw him and had compassion, and ran and fell on his neck and kissed him. 21) And the son said to him, 'Father, I have sinned against heaven and in your sight, and am no longer worthy to be called your son.'

22) "But the father said to his servants, 'Bring out the best robe and put it on him, and put a ring on his hand and sandals on his feet. 23) And bring the fatted calf here and kill it, and let us eat and be merry; 24) for this my son was dead and is alive again; he was lost and is found.' And they began to be merry.

Thinking About His Love

1. The Father's Love is **Relational**.

(Revelation 3:20 NLT) "Look! I stand at the door and knock. If you hear my voice and open the door, I will come in, and we will share a meal together as friends.

2. The Father's Love is **Sacrificial**.

(John 3:16 MSG) "This is how much God loved the world: He gave his Son, his one and only Son. And this is why: so that no one need be destroyed; by believing in him, anyone can have a whole and lasting life.

3. The Father's Love is **Extravagant**.

(Ephesians 5:2b MSG) His love was not cautious but extravagant. He didn't love in order to get something from us but to give everything of himself to us. Love like that.

4. The Father's Love is **Eternal**.

(John 12:25 NLT) Those who love their life in this world will lose it. Those who care nothing for their life in this world will keep it for eternity.

A.W. Tozer one time commented, "What comes into our minds when we think about God is the most important thing about us."

What comes into my mind when I think about God?
