# DISCIPLES

# #1 Where Are You Coming From?

## THE PARABLE OF THE LOST SONS

*Luke 15:1* Now the tax collectors and sinners were all drawing near to hear him. <sup>2</sup>And the Pharisees and the scribes grumbled, saying, "This man receives sinners and eats with them." <sup>3</sup>So he told them this parable...

# ACT 1 - THE REBELLIOUS SON

<u>Luke 15:11</u> And he said, "There was a man who had two sons. <sup>12</sup>And the younger of them said to his father, 'Father, give me the share of property that is coming to me.' And he divided his property between them. <sup>13</sup>Not many days later, the younger son gathered all he had and took a journey into a far country, and there he squandered his property in reckless living. <sup>14</sup>And when he had spent everything, a severe famine arose in that country, and he began to be in need. <sup>15</sup>So he went and hired himself out to one of the citizens of that country, who sent him into his fields to feed pigs. <sup>16</sup>And he was longing to be fed with the pods that the pigs ate, and no one gave him anything.

<u>Luke 15:17</u> "But when he came to himself, he said, 'How many of my father's hired servants have more than enough bread, but I perish here with hunger! <sup>18</sup>I will arise and go to my father, and I will say to him, "Father, I have sinned against heaven and before you. <sup>19</sup> I am no longer worthy to be called your son. Treat me as one of your hired servants." <sup>20</sup>And he arose and came to his father. But while he was still a long way off, his father saw him and felt compassion, and ran and embraced him and kissed him. <sup>21</sup>And the son said to him, 'Father, I have sinned against heaven and before you. I am no longer worthy to be called your son.' <sup>22</sup>But the father said to his servants, 'Bring quickly the best robe, and put it on him, and put a ring on his hand, and shoes on his feet. <sup>23</sup>And bring the fattened calf and kill it, and let us eat and celebrate. <sup>24</sup>For this my son was dead, and is alive again; he was lost, and is found.' And they began to celebrate.

# ACT 2 – THE RESENTFUL BROTHER

<u>Luke 15:25</u> "Now his older son was in the field, and as he came and drew near to the house, he heard music and dancing. <sup>26</sup>And he called one of the servants and asked what these things meant. <sup>27</sup>And he said to him, 'Your brother has come, and your father has killed the fattened calf, because he has received him back safe and sound.' <sup>28</sup>But he was angry and refused to go in. His father came out and entreated him, <sup>29</sup>but he answered his father, 'Look, these many years I have served you, and I never disobeyed your command, yet you never gave me a young goat, that I might celebrate with my friends. <sup>30</sup>But when this son of yours came, who has devoured your property with prostitutes, you killed the fattened calf for him!' <sup>31</sup>And he said to him, 'Son, you are always with me, and all that is mine is yours. <sup>32</sup>It was fitting to celebrate and be glad, for this your brother was dead, and is alive; he was lost, and is found.'"

### THE CHARACTERS:

A Father... a rebellious younger son... a resentful older brother

### THE LESSONS:

- 1. There are two kinds of lostness!
- 2. The essence of being lost is *using* the Father instead of *loving* the Father
- 3. The way back to the Father is always through REPENTANCE
- 4. The compassionate Father stands ready and eager to receive back lost prodigals who come to their senses, truly repent, and humbly return to Him.
- 5. Being reinstated to sonship cannot be earned, only received
- 6. The Father is eager to invite 'older brothers' into His party, if they will humble themselves, see their own sin, and repent of their self-righteousness
- 7. Whenever a 'bad' or 'good' son/daughter repents and returns to the Father, He graciously welcomes them home and celebrates!

### THE THIRD SON IN THE STORY ...

### BIBLE READING PLAN

Sunday: Mark 8
Monday: Mark 9

Thursday: Mark 12
Friday: Mark 13

- Monday: Mark 9 Tuesday: Mark 10 Wednesday: Mark 11
- Saturday: Mark 14
  - Sunday: Mark 15