

EPISODE NO. 263

Luke 15:11-32

The Story of the Lost Son

11 Then Jesus said, “A man had two sons. 12 The younger son said to his father, ‘Father, give me my part of all our holdings!’ So, the father divided the property with his two sons. 13 Not long afterward, the younger son gathered up all that he had and left. He traveled far away to another country. There the son wasted his money like a fool. 14 He spent everything he had. Then there was a severe famine in that entire country. HE began to starve. 15 So, he went and got a job with one of the important men of that country. The man sent him into the fields to feed pigs. 16 The boy was so hungry that he wanted to stuff himself with the food which the pigs were eating. And, no one was giving him anything. 17 Finally, the boy realized that he had been very foolish. He thought, ‘All of my father’s servants have plenty of food, yet here I am about to die, because I have nothing to eat. 18 I will get up and go to my father. I will say to him: ‘Father, I sinned against God and in front of you. 19 I’m not worthy to be called your son anymore. Treat me as one of your paid servants.’” ’ 20 So, the son got up and went to his father.

“While the son was still a long way off, his father saw him coming. He felt sorry for his son. So, the father ran to him. He hugged and kissed his son. 21 The son said, ‘Father, I sinned against God and in front of you. I’m not worthy to be called your son anymore.’ 22 But the father said to his servants, ‘Hurry! Bring the best robe and dress him. Put a ring on his finger and good shoes on his feet, too. 23 Bring our fattened calf. Kill it and we will have plenty to eat. Then we can have a party! 24 My son was dead, but now he is alive again. He was lost, but now he is found!’ So, they began to celebrate.”

The Other Brother

25 “The older son was in the field. As he came closer to the house, he heard the sound of music and dancing. 26 So, the older son called to one of the servant boys and asked, ‘What does all this mean!?’ 27 The servant said, ‘Your brother has come back. Your father killed the fattened calf for him to eat. Your father was happy, because he got your brother back home safely!’ 28 The older son was angry and wouldn’t go inside to join the party. So, his father went out to beg him to come in. 29 But the son said to his father, ‘Look, I have served you like a slave for many years! I have obeyed every one of

your commands, but you never even killed a goat for ME, so that I could have a party with my friends! 30 But this other son of yours has wasted all of your money on whores. Then he comes home and you kill the fattened calf for him!?’ 31 But the father said to him, ‘Son, YOU are always with me. All that I have is yours! 32 We must be happy and celebrate, because your brother was dead, but now he is alive. He was lost, but now he is found!’ ”