

Outline - July 26, 2020
Luke 15:10-19
The Joy Of Making Your Way Back
Luke 15:20-27

What Brings You Joy

- I. The God who created us rejoices over us**
- A. This was contrary to what the religious leaders believed
 - B. Jesus is reminding them of God's grace and that they may not know God like they think
 - C. Jesus taught there is joy when we turn to God

II. The story (parable) Jesus used to share this point

- A. It begins in a culture
 - 1. Honor and shame
 - 2. Rules and consequences
- B. The shameful request
 - 1. The younger son was dishonorable and disrespectful
 - 2. He was declaring his father to die
 - 3. Only wanted stuff for himself
 - 4. Tired of his father being in the way
 - 5. No more accountability
- C. The simple response
 - 1. Father said "OK " and divided the wealth
 - 2. No judgment, no punishment
 - 3. An unusual reply

III. A shameful rebellion

- A. He liquidates his portion of the estate
- B. He leaves the land of God and goes to the land of paganism
- C. He waste his money, future, reputation
 - 1. What took decades to earn, he wastes in a few days
 - 2. He chooses to rebel, to hate, to waste, to devalue

IV. Then it happened, something occurred he had not "planned for"

- A. The "rebel" finds himself in the worst possible scenario
 - 1. Famine hit the land
 - 2. He went from wealth to want
 - 3. He became a beggar and attached himself to someone who used him
- B. A Jewish boy feeding pigs
 - 1. He was so empty pig slop looked good
 - 2. Worst possible place, worst possible condition

V. The picture Jesus is painting looks familiar

- A. A reckless child
- B. Wasteful and extreme
- C. A disdain for authority and God
- D. Shuns responsibility and accountability
- E. Squanders what is good, self indulgence
- F. He wanted it his way
- G. He got what he wanted

VI. A primary principle

- A. Sin looks for fulfillment outside of God

- B. Which leaves a person
 - 1. Exhausted
 - 2. Empty
 - 3. Helpless
 - 4. Alone
 - 5. Embarrassed
 - 6. Hurting
 - 7. Feeling emptiness with pig slop

VII. He came to his senses, brought sincere repentance

- A. This begins with a true assessment of your condition
 - 1. He remembered the generosity of his father
 - 2. He remembered how good the hired help had it
- B. He knew what he deserved
 - 1. Judgment
 - 2. Shame
 - 3. Paying back
 - 4. Rebuke
- C. He started back home
 - 1. Alone
 - 2. Hungry
 - 3. Godless
 - 4. Shameful
 - 5. Diseased
 - 6. Near death
 - 7. Smelling like a pig

VIII. The amazing turn

- A. While far away, his father saw him
- B. Felt compassion
- C. Ran to him
- D. Met him before anyone else
- E. Hugs, kisses
- F. Showed him grace
- G. Rejoiced
(Point to the Pharisees, if you didn't know that about God you don't know God)

IX. The rejoicing, celebration, party

- A. Best Robe=honor
- B. Ring=authority
- C. Sandals=son/family
- D. Fatted calf=celebration

X. The older brother

- A. A complainer
- B. An enemy of grace
- C. There with the father, but really far away from him
- D. Refuses to rejoice
- E. Represents the Pharisees
- F. Who killed Jesus

We Can Come Back
Jesus Made A Way
It Brings Joy to God
It Brings Blessing To You

