

Luke 15 Homework

1. Who are the tax collectors and who are the sinners in verse 1? What is the meaning of “grumble” in verse 2?
2. Some think there are three parables in this chapter and some think the entire chapter is one parable. What is your opinion?
3. Do you think the shepherd would risk losing some more of the 99 sheep by going after the one lost sheep?
4. Are there any righteous people before God? Who in the audience might think they do not need to repent?
5. In the grand scheme of the universe, which is more important: finding 1/10 of your material possessions that had been lost or one sinner coming to repentance?
6. How does the prodigal son parable fit within the first two parables? Why is it so awful for a son to ask that his father give him his inheritance? What percentage of the total value of the father’s estate did the younger son obtain?
7. After the son had wasted all of his inheritance, what happened in the country and how did this affect his situation?
8. What was so particularly bad from the perspective of the son that he could only find work tending swine?
9. Compare the son’s coming to his senses with Jonah after three days in the belly of the fish. Why is it important that he understand he has sinned both against his father and against God?
10. Jewish law would have allowed the father to do what to his son when he saw him again? What is the spiritual significance that the father would not allow the son to perform some works to be forgiven?
11. What is the significance of the father using the fattened calf for the celebration and who owned the calf?
12. How does the son being dead and coming to life compare to your salvation experience?
13. Discuss the older son’s reaction to the father’s actions toward the younger son.
14. Does the older son act like his father’s child or more like perhaps he wanted to act as had the younger son in his rebellion?
15. What is the significance of the father calling the younger son “this brother of yours” in the last sentence? What should the older son have then done?