

# "The Biggest Loser"

"All Is Not Lost" Series – Message #5

Luke 15:25-32

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NOW THE tax collectors and [notorious and especially wicked] sinners were all coming near to [Jesus] to listen to Him. <sup>2</sup>And the Pharisees and the scribes kept muttering and indignantly complaining, saying, This man accepts and receives and welcomes [preeminently wicked] sinners and eats with them. <sup>3</sup>So He told them this parable: Luke 15:1-3 (AMP)

In This Parable, Jesus Taught These Truths  
About The Older "Good" Son:

## 1. He Had Some \_\_\_\_\_ Issues.

Now his older son was in the field, and when he came and approached the house, he heard music and dancing. <sup>26</sup>And he summoned one of the servants and began inquiring what these things could be. <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 became angry and was not willing to go in... Luke 15:25-28a (NAS)

God sees not as man sees, for man looks at the outward appearance, but the LORD looks at the heart. I Samuel 16:7b (NAS)

As for you, my son Solomon, know the God of your father, and serve Him with a whole heart and a willing mind; for the LORD searches all hearts, and understands every intent of the thoughts If you seek Him, He will let you find Him; but if you forsake Him, He will reject you forever.

I Chronicles 28:9 (NAS)

## 2. He Was \_\_\_\_\_ Driven.

But he answered and said to his father, 'Look! For so many years I have been serving you and I have never neglected a command of yours; and yet you have never given me a young goat... Luke 15:29a (NAS)

A. He Felt He Deserved Credit For \_\_\_\_\_ served.

B. He Measured Success By "\_\_\_\_\_ The \_\_\_\_\_."

C. He Was \_\_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_\_.

## 3. He Was \_\_\_\_\_ Bankrupt.

...you have never given me a young goat, so that I might celebrate with my friends; <sup>30</sup>but when this son of yours came, who has devoured your wealth with prostitutes, you killed the fattened calf for him.' Luke 15:29b-30 (NAS)

A. He Refused To \_\_\_\_\_ His \_\_\_\_\_.

B. He Viewed His Father As A \_\_\_\_\_  
And Himself As A \_\_\_\_\_.

### The Father Showed His Love By:

• **Going \_\_\_\_\_ him.**

But he became angry and was not willing to go in; and his father came out... Luke 15:28a (NAS)

• **Trying to \_\_\_\_\_ with him.**

...and began pleading with him. Luke 15:28c (NAS)

• **Responding in \_\_\_\_\_.**

And he said to him, "Son, you have always been with me..." Luke 15:31a (NAS)

• **Sharing his \_\_\_\_\_.**

"...all that is mine is yours. <sup>32</sup>But we had to celebrate and rejoice, for this brother of yours was dead and has begun to live, and was lost and has been found." Luke 15:31b-32 (NAS)

Here is a trustworthy saying that deserves full acceptance: Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners—of whom I am the worst. <sup>16</sup>But for that very reason I was shown mercy so that in me, the worst of sinners, Christ Jesus might display his unlimited patience as an example for those who would believe on him and receive eternal life. <sup>17</sup>Now to the King eternal, immortal, invisible, the only God, be honor and glory for ever and ever. Amen. I Timothy 1:15-17 (NIV)