

Review from last Sunday's message "Family Roots":

Expose my inner thoughts, patterns and attitude to the light of God's Word.

Then I acknowledged my sin to you and did not cover up my iniquity (bent). I said, "I will confess my transgressions to the LORD." And you forgave the guilt of my sin. *Psalm 32:5 (NIV)*

CONFESS

Note: Every great man or woman has had to rise above the pain of their past to reach their God given potential.

Expel any thought, pattern, or attitude that doesn't align with God's Word.

For though we live in the world, we do not wage war as the world does. ⁴The weapons we fight with are not the weapons of the world. On the contrary, they have divine power to demolish strongholds. ⁵We demolish arguments and every pretension that sets itself up against the knowledge of God, and we take captive every thought to make it obedient to Christ. *II Corinthians 10:3-5 (NIV)*

OBEY

Note: If I deal with pain improperly it not only traps my pain inside of me, it also traps dysfunction inside my family systems.

Express agreement with the truth in God's Word about me.

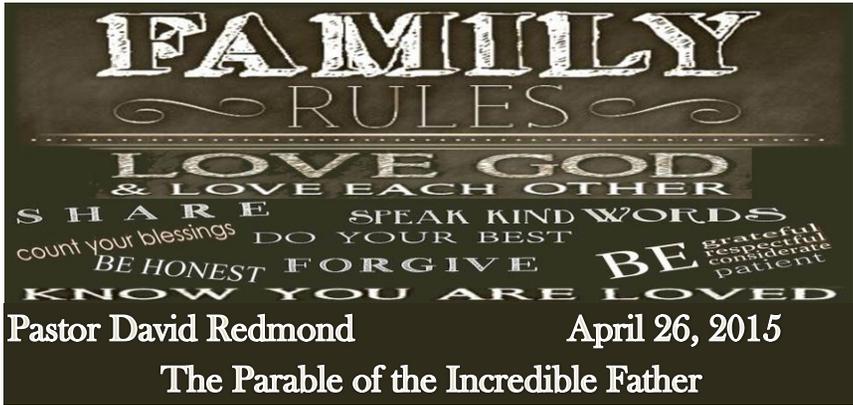
For all of God's promises have been fulfilled in Christ with a resounding "Yes!" And through Christ, our "Amen" (which means "Yes") ascends to God for his glory. ²¹It is God who enables us, along with you, to stand firm for Christ. He has commissioned us, ²²and he has identified us as his own by placing the Holy Spirit in our hearts as the first installment that guarantees everything he has promised us. *II Corinthians 1:20-22 (NLT)*

And do not bring sorrow to God's Holy Spirit by the way you live. Remember, he has identified you as his own, guaranteeing that you will be saved on the day of redemption. ³¹Get rid of all bitterness, rage, anger, harsh words, and slander, as well as all types of evil behavior. ³²Instead, be kind to each other, tenderhearted, forgiving one another, just as God through Christ has forgiven you.

Ephesians 4:30-32 (NLT)

FORGIVE

Sermons are available in audio at: www.concordiawesleyan.com



Now the tax collectors and sinners were all gathering around to hear Jesus. ²But the Pharisees and the teachers of the law muttered, "This man welcomes sinners and eats with them." ³Then Jesus told them this parable: *Luke 15:1-3 (NIV)*

The Parable of the Incredible Father

Parents have great _____ but not ultimate _____.

Luke 15: 11-32

ACT I – A son who acts _____.

Jesus continued: "There was a man who had two sons. ¹²The younger one said to his father, 'Father, give me my share of the estate.' So he divided his property between them.

The Father loves us even when we _____.

This rebellious son would rather have his father's _____; than have his _____.

¹³"Not long after that, the younger son got together all he had, set off for a distant country and there squandered his wealth in wild living. ¹⁴After he had spent everything, there was a severe famine in that whole country, and he began to be in need. ¹⁵So he went and hired himself out to a citizen of that country, who sent him to his fields to feed pigs. ¹⁶He longed to fill his stomach with the pods that the pigs were eating, but no one gave him anything.

A heart of rebellion develops a "_____ attitude."

¹⁷“When he came to his senses, he said, ‘How many of my father’s hired servants have food to spare, and here I am starving to death! ¹⁸ I will set out and go back to my father and say to him: Father, I have sinned against heaven and against you. ¹⁹ I am no longer worthy to be called your son; make me like one of your hired servants.’”

*A heart of repentance develops a
“ _____ ” attitude.*

*My sacrifice, O God, is a broken spirit; a broken and contrite heart you,
God, will not despise. Psalm 51:17 (NIV)*

²⁰ So he got up and went to his father “But while he was still a long way off, his father saw him and was filled with compassion for him; he ran to his son, threw his arms around him and kissed him. ²¹ “The son said to him, ‘Father, I have sinned against heaven and against you. I am no longer worthy to be called your son.’ ²² “But the father said to his servants, ‘Quick! Bring the best robe and put it on him. Put a ring on his finger and sandals on his feet. ²³ Bring the fattened calf and kill it. Let’s have a feast and celebrate. ²⁴ For this son of mine was dead and is alive again; he was lost and is found.’ So they began to celebrate.”

The Father accepts us when we _____.

*Therefore repent and return, so that your sins may be wiped away, in order that times of refreshing may come from the presence of the Lord.
Acts 3:19 (NAS)*

Robe = You are my _____.

Ring = You belong in the _____.

Sandals = You are _____.

God decided in advance to adopt us into his own family by bringing us to himself through Jesus Christ. This is what he wanted to do, and it gave him great pleasure. ⁶ So we praise God for the glorious grace he has poured out on us who belong to his dear Son. ⁷ He is so rich in kindness and grace that he purchased our freedom with the blood of his Son and forgave our sins. ⁸ He has showered his kindness on us, along with all wisdom and understanding. Ephesians 1:5-8 (NLT)

**The Father valued a relationship with his boy
more than he valued his own _____.**

"Grace goes beyond mercy. Mercy gave the prodigal son a second chance. Grace threw him a party." ~Max Lucado

ACT II – A son who acts _____.

The Father loves even when we are

²⁵ “Meanwhile, the older son was in the field. When he came near the house, he heard music and dancing. ²⁶ So he called one of the servants and asked him what was going on. ²⁷ ‘Your brother has come,’ he replied, ‘and your father has killed the fattened calf because he has him back safe and sound.’ ²⁸ “The older brother became angry and refused to go in. So his father went out and pleaded with him. ²⁹ But he answered his father, ‘Look! All these years I’ve been slaving for you and never disobeyed your orders. Yet you never gave me even a young goat so I could celebrate with my friends. ³⁰ But when this son of yours who has squandered your property with prostitutes comes home, you kill the fattened calf for him!’”

Note: It was a good thing the Prodigal encountered his father first when he returned home, rather than his brother.

*A heart of resentment develops a
“ _____ at what I’ve _____ ” attitude.*

³¹ “‘My son,’ the father said, ‘you are always with me, and everything I have is yours. ³² But we had to celebrate, and be glad, because this brother of yours was dead and is alive again; he was lost and is found.’”

**The Father’s valued a relationship with his boy
more than he valued his son’s _____.**

The younger son was lost in his _____.

The older son was lost in his _____ - _____.

*A heart of rejoicing develops a
“ _____ at _____ I am ” attitude.*

Last night an angel of the God whose I am and whom I serve stood beside me ²⁴ and said, 'Do not be afraid' ...Acts 27:23, 24a (NIV)

But we had to celebrate, and be glad, because this brother of yours was dead and is alive again; he was lost and is found. Luke 15:32 (NIV)