

VIEW

Watch Session Five: *The Prodigal Son* (10 minutes)

SESSION BIG IDEA

While both brothers show arrogance and rebellion against the Father, He continually offers them unbelievable grace and mercy.

BIBLE STUDY NOTES

Read Luke 15:20-25 and 31-32

Story Notes: _____

APPLICATION

In this parable, the father represents God who is loving and merciful and eager to welcome back repentant sinners. Jesus tells this story to show just how badly God wants His wayward children to reconcile with Him and how ready he is to receive us back when we come to Him in repentance and faith. Notice when the son arrives, the father doesn't even hear the son's rehearsed apology before leaping into action. Take a minute to imagine the storyline in this parable and from the father's point of view, describe below the scene as it plays out in your imagination. Begin with how the father must have been watching down the road day after day.

PERSONAL REFLECTION

List some of the obvious sins of each son.
Rebellious Son: _____

Religious Son: _____

While the father certainly had every right to give these two exactly what they deserved, he chose to offer forgiveness, a perfect example of God's grace and mercy.
Define grace: _____

Define mercy: _____

While grace and mercy are given to us so freely, we often struggle to offer it the same to others. Take a few minutes to reflect on your own track record of offering grace, mercy and forgiveness to those who have wronged you. How often do you celebrate when a sinner returns home, or are you at times suspicious or reluctant like the representatives of the religious establishment who considered themselves righteous and needing no forgiveness or reconciliation with God?

Have you been given things you don't deserve? What are the robes, rings, fattened calves, and celebrations you've been given as a result of an undeserving amount of grace and mercy? _____

MEMORIZE

Therefore let us draw near with confidence to the throne of grace, so that we may receive mercy and find grace to help in time of need. -Hebrews 4:16

But God, being rich in mercy, because of His great love with which He loved us, -Ephesians 2:4

PRAY

Father, thank you for your grace and mercy in my life. Thank you for giving me the strength to handle anything that comes my way. I love you and receive your empowerment in every area of my life. In Jesus' name, amen! Pray God's words in Isaiah 27: 5... *"Let him rely on My protection, Let him make peace with Me."*