

SESSION 3 PARTICIPANTS' HANDOUT

THE REBELLIOUS SON - HIS REDEMPTION

THE SON PRODIGAL

VIEW

Watch Session Three: *The Prodigal Son* (8 minutes)

SESSION BIG IDEA

When the younger son returns home (in a way, from the dead) grace is offered and celebration is necessary.

BIBLE STUDY NOTES

Read Luke 15: 11-31

Notes _____

APPLICATION

At the end of lesson two, we find the prodigal son in a bleak condition. A decision must be made. A famous poem by Robert Frost describes *“Two roads diverged in a yellow woods, And sorry I could not travel both...”* Discuss below the rebellious son’s possible “road” choices at this point in the story and the likely outcome of each path.

Ponder the achievement of God. God doesn’t condone our sin, nor does he compromise his standard. He doesn’t ignore our rebellion, nor does he relax his demands. Rather than dismiss our sin, he assumes our sin, and incredibly sentences himself. God is still holy. Sin is still sin. And we are redeemed.

-Max Lucado from In the Grip of Grace

List below some of the ways the son’s sin cost the Father.

Emotionally: _____

Physically: _____

Financially: _____

What does our sin teach us about God’s grace? _____

Luke 15:17 says, “But when **he came to his senses...**”

List below several likely realizations of the prodigal son that help to bring him “to his senses” and initiate his journey back home to the Father.

PERSONAL REFLECTION

II Corinthians 7:10 says, *“For godly sorrow produces repentance leading to salvation.”* When we truly repentant, our will is put into action, our direction is reversed, and God gives us the gift of eternal life. Do you feel convicted of the presence of sin in your life? Do you have the desire to form (or renew) a personal relationship with God through Jesus Christ?

Mercy is God not punishing us for our sins as we deserve. Grace is God blessing us even though we do not deserve it. How has God shown you grace and mercy? _____

MEMORIZE

The ability to ask for forgiveness of sin is truly a blessed gift from God. At the Last Supper, Jesus declares, **“This is my blood of the covenant, which is poured out for many for the forgiveness of sins”** (Matthew 26:28) Another forgiveness scripture is Jesus’ prayer from the cross, **“Father, forgive them; for they do not know what they are doing”** (Luke 23:34).

Take a few minutes each day this week to reflect on God’s gift of forgiveness as you memorize Matthew 26:28 and Luke 23:34.

PRAY

A consistent prayer life is key to repentance, and repentance is key to humility and being in a right relationship with the Father. Jesus said that we are to offer a **broken heart and a contrite spirit** when we pray. When you pray this week, focus on having a heart of **humility**. A humble heart isn’t selfish but looks out for the good of others. A humble heart isn’t proud, but serves and loves. “Lord, give me a humble heart!”