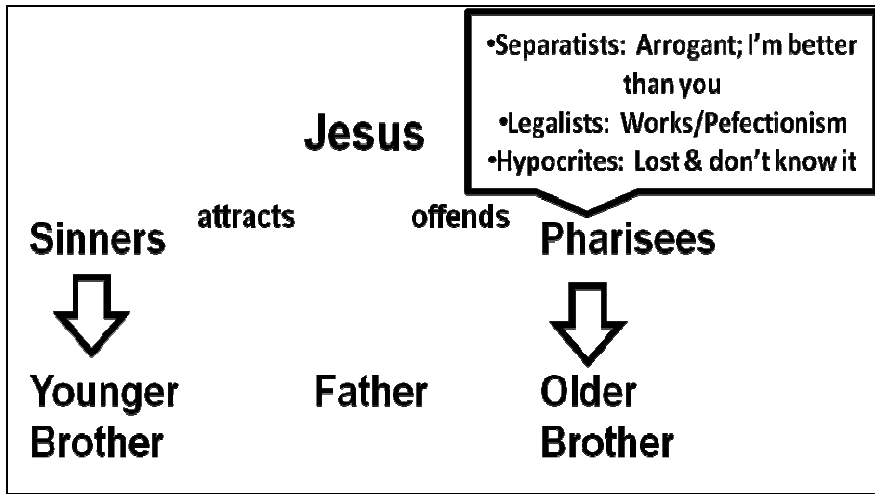


**Lost and Found: “From Anger to Celebration”**  
**Luke 15:25-32**

**Luke 15: The Parable of the Prodigal Son and His Brother**

<sup>25</sup> “Now his older son was in the field, and as he came and drew near to the house, he heard music and dancing. <sup>26</sup> And he called one of the servants and asked what these things meant. <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 was angry and refused to go in. His father came out and entreated him, <sup>29</sup> but he answered his father, ‘Look, these many years I have served you, and I never disobeyed your command, yet you never gave me a young goat, that I might celebrate with my friends. <sup>30</sup> But when this son of yours came, who has devoured your property with prostitutes, you killed the fattened calf for him!’ <sup>31</sup> And he said to him, ‘Son, you are always with me, and all that is mine is yours. <sup>32</sup> It was fitting to celebrate and be glad, for this your brother was dead, and is alive; he was lost, and is found.’ ”



**Character Traits**

- Suspicious
- Angry
- Unwilling to enter
- Disrespectful
- Bitterness
- Arrogance
- Insult
- Distortion of facts
- Accusations

Outside: obedient

Inside: angry, alienated, joyless, lost

## **The Father**

- Demonstration of love**
- Overlooks insults**
- Pleads (goes for the heart)**
- Gentle**
- Affirmation of sonship**
- Necessity of celebration**

**How will I be different today because of the story of the Prodigal son and his brother?**

### **Day by Day in the Word**

“Day by Day in the Word” is a tool we use to help in the transformation process in which the Spirit of God uses the Word of God to bring about Christlikeness.

#### **Monday-Tuesday**

- Let’s begin today by making observations about the Pharisees within the Gospel of Luke. Jesus is speaking to them in Luke 15:1-2 and it will help us understand what they think about him. See Luke 5:17, 21, 30; 6:7; 7:30; 11:39, 53; 15:2; 16:14; and 19:7 (term not used, but implied).
- Now let’s contrast how the Pharisees approach Jesus with how various outcasts approach Jesus. Make observations from Luke 5:29-32; 7:29-39; 19:1-10. What differences do you find?
- When you became a Christian, which group did you come out of? How do you find yourself being tempted to return to this group? What can you do to overcome that temptation? Share your thoughts with a group of friends.

#### **Wednesday-Thursday**

- Read Luke 15:1-32. Remember the people to whom Jesus is speaking. Contrast the first two parables (lost sheep and lost coin) with the last parable. After you’ve identified the differences, what is Christ trying to teach us?
- If we were to identify ourselves with the shepherd and the woman, what would we be doing now? How would this affect your life? What changes would need to be made?

#### **Friday-Saturday**

- Read Luke 15:25-32 and identify the “sin” of the older brother and the demonstration of love and expression of grace with the father. What does the son need to do?
- What do you learn from the father? What character traits and actions can you incorporate into your own life? Share with a group of friends what you’ve learned and begun to apply to your life from the parables of Luke 15.