

**Have You Left the  
Far Country and  
Come Home to  
the Father**

# No one chooses the family they're born into

- ❑ Some have been blessed with both fathers and mothers who regularly demonstrated love and care.
- ❑ Others experienced abuse, abandonment, and perpetual disappointment from their parents.
- ❑ Some are somewhere in between.
- ❑ Yet, **ALL** are given the opportunity to be born again into the family of the most loving Father of all.

**Luke 15:11-15 (NASB<sub>1995</sub>)** <sup>11</sup> And He said, "A man had two sons.  
<sup>12</sup> "The younger of them said to his father, 'Father, give me the share of the estate that falls to me.' So he divided his wealth between them.

<sup>13</sup> "And not many days later, the younger son gathered everything together and went on a journey into a distant country, and there he squandered his estate with loose living. <sup>14</sup> "Now when he had spent everything, a severe famine occurred in that country, and he began to

be impoverished. <sup>15</sup> "So he went and hired himself out to one of the citizens of that country, and he sent him into his fields to feed swine.

<sup>16</sup> "And he would have gladly filled his stomach with the pods that the swine were eating, and no one was giving *anything* to him.

Are you still in the distant country? If yes, why?

**Luke 15:17-20 (NIV<sub>2011</sub>)** <sup>17</sup> "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! <sup>18</sup> I will set out and go back to my father and say to him: Father, I have sinned against heaven and against you. <sup>19</sup> I am no longer worthy to be called your son; make me like one of your hired servants.' <sup>20</sup> 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.

*God has given us free will to choose to repent and seek Him and His refuge*

*This is the true heart of the Father. Cultural norms have no hold on Him and He wants us to see His great love*

*True repentance recognizes the extent of our sin and our need for God*

Are you rejecting the enemy's temptation to stay in a place of shame? Will you rest in the comfort of the Father's love?

**Luke 15:21-24 (NKJV)** <sup>21</sup> And the son said to him, 'Father, I have sinned against heaven and in your sight, and am no longer worthy to be called your son.' <sup>22</sup> But the father said to his servants, 'Bring out the best robe and put *it* on him, and put a ring on his hand and sandals on *his* feet. <sup>23</sup> And bring the fatted calf here and kill *it*, and let us eat and be merry; <sup>24</sup> for this my son was dead and is alive again; he was lost and is found.' And they began to be merry.

*Sincerely confessing your sins before the Lord prepares your heart for a saving faith that produces action.*

*There is only one way to move from death to life and that's through saving faith that receives abundant grace.*

*God knows our heart and loves us deeply even before we've repented. He desires an intimate relationship with us.*

**We are all on equal ground before our Heavenly Father.  
How will you respond to His love?**