

The Scandalous Grace of the Father

If you tear everything down and do not build up anything in its place, everyone becomes homeless.

Now the tax collectors and sinners were all drawing near to hear him

² And the Pharisees and the scribes grumbled, saying, “This man receives sinners and eats with them.”

God is not holding you to the standard of your friend, God is holding you to His standard.

Luke 15:11-16

¹¹ And he said, “There was a man who had two sons. ¹² And the younger of them said to his father, ‘Father, give me the share of property that is coming to me.’ And he divided his property between them. ¹³ Not many days later, the younger son gathered all he had and took a journey into a far country, and there he squandered his property in reckless living. ¹⁴ And when he had spent everything, a severe famine arose in that country, and he began to be in need. ¹⁵ So he went and hired himself out to one of the citizens of that country, who sent him into his fields to feed pigs. ¹⁶ And he was longing to be fed with the pods that the pigs ate, and no one gave him anything.

If you ever hear the truth being preached and immediately think of someone else, that is self-righteousness creeping in.

Luke 15:17-19

¹⁷ “But when he came to himself, he said, ‘How many of my father's hired servants have more than enough bread, but I perish here with hunger! ¹⁸ I will arise and go to my father, and I will say to him, “Father, I have sinned against heaven and before you. ¹⁹ I am no longer worthy to be called your son. Treat me as one of your hired servants.”’

Luke 15:20-24

²⁰ And he arose and came to his father. But while he was still a long way off, his father saw him and felt compassion, and ran and embraced him and kissed him. ²¹ And the son said to him, 'Father, I have sinned against heaven and before you. I am no longer worthy to be called your son. ²² But the father said to his servants, 'Bring quickly the best robe, and put it on him, and put a ring on his hand, and shoes on his feet. ²³ And bring the fattened calf and kill it, and let us eat and celebrate. ²⁴ For this my son was dead, and is alive again; he was lost, and is found.' And they began to celebrate.

Galatians 1:15-16

But when God, who set me apart from my mother's womb and called me by his grace, was pleased ¹⁶ to reveal his Son in me so that I might preach him among the Gentiles

We have a God who delights in saving everyone and anyone, no matter how sinful and wretched you are.

Luke 15:25

⁵ "Now his older son was in the field, and as he came and drew near to the house, he heard music and dancing.

Luke 15:26

²⁶ And he called one of the servants and asked what these things meant.

Luke 15:27-28a

²⁷ 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.' ²⁸ But he was angry and refused to go in.

Luke 15:28b

His father came out and entreated him,

Luke 15:29-30

²⁹ 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.

³⁰ But when this son of yours came, who has devoured your property with prostitutes, you killed the fattened calf for him!'

When you try and redefine the victory to your liking, it will not look like the victory that is going on in the Father's house.

Luke 15:31-32

³¹ And he said to him, 'Son, you are always with me, and all that is mine is yours. ³² It was fitting to celebrate and be glad, for this your brother was dead, and is alive; he was lost, and is found.'"