



True Vine's Virtual VBS 2020 *Grades 9-12*

June 15, 2020

Week 3 At Sea: *Lavished With Grace Luke 15:22-23*

- **Deck Plan-** Luke 15:20-32
- **Key Card-** “The Father said to his servants, Quick! Bring the best robe and put it on him. Put a ring on his finger and sandals on his feet. Bring the fattened calf and kill it. Let’s have a feast and celebrate.”
- **Main Seating-** Lord, thank You for extending Your grace to us. Help us to never take You or Your many blessings for granted. In Jesus” name we pray. Amen.

The parable of the Prodigal Son is found in Luke 15:11-32.

Prodigal Son Story Summary

The story of the Prodigal Son, also known as the Parable of the Lost Son, follows immediately after the parables of the Lost Sheep and the Lost Coin. With these three parables, Jesus demonstrated what it means to be lost, how heaven celebrates with joy when the lost are found, and how the loving Father longs to save people.

Jesus was also responding to the Pharisees' complaint: "This man welcomes sinners and eats with them."

The story of the Prodigal Son begins with a man who has two sons. The younger son asks his father for his portion of the family estate as an early inheritance. Once received, the son promptly sets off on a long journey to a distant land and begins to waste his fortune on wild living.

When the money runs out, a severe famine hits the country and the son finds himself in dire circumstances. He takes a job feeding pigs. Eventually, he grows so destitute that he even longs to eat the food assigned to the pigs.

The young man finally comes to his senses, remembering his father. In humility, he recognizes his foolishness and decides to return to his father and ask for forgiveness and mercy. The father who has been watching and waiting, receives his son back with open arms of compassion. He is overjoyed by the return of his lost son.

Immediately the father turns to his servants and asks them to prepare an enormous feast in celebration of his son's return.

Meanwhile, the older son boiles in anger when he comes in from working the fields to discover a party with music and dancing to celebrate his younger brother's return. The father tries to dissuade the older brother from his jealous rage explaining, "You are always with me, and everything I have is yours."

The parable of the Prodigal Son is one that is often told from many perspectives. As parables have different interpretations, Luke's gospel presents Jesus' parable of the Prodigal Son along with two other stories relating to lost possessions- the lost sheep and the lost coin. In each instance, there is a recognition that something is lost, a pursuit or longing for what was lost, and a celebration upon finding it.

The father's compassion extended beyond simply saying, I forgive you. Instead, when the father saw the younger son returning, he ran to him, hugged him, dressed him, and celebrated him.

Who have or need to show grace to? Be kind and compassionate and remember how God shows His mercy towards us!!

- 1. Sometimes guilt over what we have done convinces us that we can't pray or go back to God. Based on the story, do you think God would rather forgive our worst sin and restore our relationship with Him, or leave us to suffer and struggle in sin?**
- 2. What does that say about God's heart toward us?**