

Review:

Lesson 1: Joyful & Teachable

Lesson 5: Teach Us to Pray

Lesson 9: Lost Things, Pt. 1

Lesson 2: Spiritual Foundations

Lesson 6: Stewarding Our Stuff

Lesson 3: The Audience of Parables

Lesson 7: Self-Righteousness

Lesson 4: What Love Looks Like

Lesson 8: Distractions, Excuses

Lost Things, pt. 2

Luke 15:11-24

A decision to follow Christ, i.e., to make Him “Lord” begins with the understanding that the world and all of us in it are fatally _____ and that we are powerless to change that harsh reality apart from God.

Discussion 1. Was there a “rock bottom” moment for you, when you realized you were fatally broken and needing a savior? Why do you think that realization is so important to truly following Christ? Are any of the 5 people on your BLESS list at a rock bottom place right now?

The bad news about the gospel is that it is stewarded by broken, flawed people such as you and me. But the truly amazing news about it is that the God behind it is shockingly _____ and merciful and welcoming to all who want Him.

Discussion 2. Do you think God’s forgiveness and mercy are as shocking to our current culture as they were to Jesus’ original listeners? Why or why not?

God’s forgiveness and mercy are completely unmerited. Our only part in the entire process is the genuine and regular _____ back to Him. This is repentance.

Discussion 3. We cannot earn God’s forgiveness, but we do have to receive it, through our regular repentance. Would there be any way for you to have a heart that is open to receiving God’s forgiveness without also being repentant? Why or why not?

Our _____ with those who are judgmental of others too often makes us judgmental of those who are judgmental. We become the very ugly thing that disgusted us in the first place. Help us, Jesus.

Discussion 4. To whom do you more easily relate: the younger brother or the older brother? Do you find you are sometimes one and sometimes the other? How do we AVOID becoming the older brother?

Discussion 5. How does this lesson cause you to pray? How does it prepare your heart for worship?