

A STEP & A SPRINT
Series - "Amazing Grace"
September 27, 2009
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Jesus continued: "There was a man who had two sons" (Luke 15:11, NIV).

"Now the tax collectors and "sinners" were all gathering around to hear Him. But the Pharisees and the teachers of the law muttered, "This man welcomes sinners and eats with them" (Luke 15:1-2, NIV).

† In this parable, Jesus is saying that both the _____ & _____ persons and the _____ & _____ persons are lost. Both are dead ends.

ACT 1

"The younger one said to his father, 'Father, give me my share of the estate.' Luke 15:12, NIV).

1. THE YOUNGER SON WANTED HIS FATHER'S _____, NOT HIS FATHER'S _____.

The parents must say to the elders, 'This son of ours is stubborn and rebellious and refuses to obey. He is a glutton and a drunkard.' ²¹Then all the men of his town must stone him to death" (Deut. 21:20-21a, NLT).

"So he divided his property between them" (Luke 15:12b, NIV).

† The word Jesus uses for "property" is the word [βίος, bios], which means "life." It is where we get our English word "biology."

"Not long after that, the younger son got together all he had, set off for a distant country and there squandered his wealth in wild living. After he had spent everything, there was a severe famine in that whole country, and he began to be in need" (Luke 15:13-14, NIV).

"So he went and hired himself out to a citizen of that country, who sent him to his fields to feed pigs. ¹⁶He longed to fill his stomach with the pods that the pigs were eating, but no one gave him anything" (Luke 15:15-16, NIV).

† "Sin will always take you _____ than you ever wanted to _____; it will keep you _____ than you ever wanted to _____; and it will _____ you more than you ever wanted to _____"
(Source unknown. Found at the following web site: <http://inpursuitofjesus.wordpress.com/>)

2. THERE IS A "GRACE PERIOD" BETWEEN PLEASURE AND PUNISHMENT AND THAT GRACE PERIOD IS CALLED _____.

3. COME TO MY _____.

"When he came to his senses" (Luke 15:17a, NIV).

"How many of my father's hired men have food to spare, and here I am starving to death!" (Luke 15:17b, NIV).

"Everyone has sinned and is far away from God's saving presence" (Romans 3:23, TEV).

"I will set out and go back to my father and say to him: Father, I have sinned against heaven and against you. ¹⁹I am no longer worthy to be called your son; make me like one of your hired men"
(Luke 15:18-19, NIV).

ACT 2

Jesus said, "Truth that sets you free" (John 8:32, NLT).

"This man welcomes sinners and eats with them" (Luke 15:3,NIV).

Jesus said, "I am the way and the truth and the life" (John 14:6, NLT).

"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" (Luke 15:20, NIV).

"The son said to him, 'Father, I have sinned against heaven and against you. I am no longer worthy to be called your son'" (Luke 15:21, NIV).

"But 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. (Luke 15:21-22, NIV).

"Love covers a multitude of sins" (1 Peter 4:8, NIV).

"Bring the fattened calf and kill it. Let's have a feast and celebrate. ²⁴For this son of mine was dead and is alive again; he was lost and is found' (Luke 15:23-24a, NIV).

"So they began to celebrate" (Luke 15:24b, NIV).

"Happy are those whose sins are forgiven, whose wrongs are pardoned. ² Happy is the one whom the LORD does not accuse of doing wrong and who is free from all deceit. ³ When I did not confess my sins, I was worn out from crying all day long. ⁴ . . . my strength was completely drained, as moisture is dried up by the summer heat. ⁵ Then I confessed my sins to you; I did not conceal my wrongdoings. I decided to confess them to you, and you forgave all my sins" (Psalm 32:1-5, TEV).

"Greater is God's wonderful grace and his gift of righteousness, for all who receive it will live in triumph over sin and death through this one man, Jesus Christ" (Romans 5:17, NLT).

† October 4 - "EBS"

† October 11 - "Hanging By A Thread"

† October 18 - Joe Car

† Next Series - Boot Camp (October 25, Nov. 1, 8, 15, 22)

† Christmas Series - "It's The Most Wonderful Time of the Year!?" (November 29, December 6, 13, 20, 24).