

# A TIME TO COME HOME



*Luke 15:1 says, "There was a man who had two sons." The younger son was sick of life, sick of work, and not satisfied with that he had. He chose to leave the father, the family & the farm.*

*It had to be hurtful to the father. He had done everything to provide for this son. It was not the father's fault. The son made a decision, a bad decision but he did not know it yet.*

*Many of us have done this to our Heavenly Father – God. I have & it grieves me to this day.*

1. Write out Isaiah 53:6. \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
2. Jeremiah 17:9 "The heart is \_\_\_\_\_ above all things and \_\_\_\_\_; who can understand it?"

*We don't really know what we are capable of; we really do not know what we might do if pressed into a corner, if mistreated or hurt, if driven away by a dysfunctional family, if seduced by a dangerous person or group, if doing everything wrong. In the younger son's case, his greed, dishonesty, and selfishness drove him away.*

3. Describe the son's experiences: (Luke 15:13-16)
  - a. He journeyed to a \_\_\_\_\_.
  - b. He \_\_\_\_\_ his possessions with foolish living.
  - c. He \_\_\_\_\_ it all.
  - d. He began to be in \_\_\_\_\_.
  - e. He joined himself to a \_\_\_\_\_ of that country.
  - f. He was sent to the fields to feed \_\_\_\_\_.
  - g. He was hungry, and no one gave him \_\_\_\_\_.

***HE HAD NO ONE; HE WAS ALONE; HE FELT WORTHLESS; HE WAS LOST.***

4. What were his thoughts after he came back to his senses? (Lk. 15:17-19)
- My father is still there at home, where He has always been.
  - "I perish with \_\_\_\_\_."
  - "I will arise and go to my \_\_\_\_\_."
  - "I am no longer \_\_\_\_\_ to be your \_\_\_\_\_."

*Remember when you wandered from God or family or common sense or the law? After a while, things began to fall apart. You couldn't fix them; you had no one to help you fix them. Sometimes, people consider suicide or just start hurting people.*

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5. The "Younger Son" (the Prodigal) headed for home. The father was watching for him. What did the father do? (Luke 15:20)
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*The son gave his speech: "Father, I am worthless. I am of no value to you now. I am of no value to anyone now; no one wants me; what am I good for now?"*

6. What did the father say? (Luke 15:22)
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- Bring out the best \_\_\_\_\_, & put it on him.
  - Put a \_\_\_\_\_ on his hand and \_\_\_\_\_ on his feet.
  - Bring & kill the \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_, and let's eat & be happy.
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*The father made no mention of loss of worth or value. Everything he did & said showed that the son **HAD NOT LOST ANY WORTH OR VALUE**. He was still one of the sons WHO HAD BEEN **LOST BUT NOW WAS FOUND!!***

***"LOST" means "to be away wandering, flirting with destruction, and probably in the process of being punished."***

***IT DOES NOT MEAN WORTHLESS & OF NO VALUE.***

*There is a story of a man who found a \$100 bill in an alley. It was in a dumpster, wripped, waded up, soaked in garbage juice, and faded badly. He took it home and tried to clean it up but it got worse and honestly looked worthless. He took it to his local bank; being extremely embarrassed, he stepped up to the counter and handed the teller the disgusting-looking money. The teller did not even comment on the bill or its condition. He simply handed the man a nice, new \$100 bill, and wished him a good day.*

*You and I are that beat-up \$100 bill. Through all the failures, mistakes, and the consequences, we have lost NO VALUE in the heart of God. He loves us the same.*

*Don't let anyone tell you that you are worthless. Come on home. God's waiting.*

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