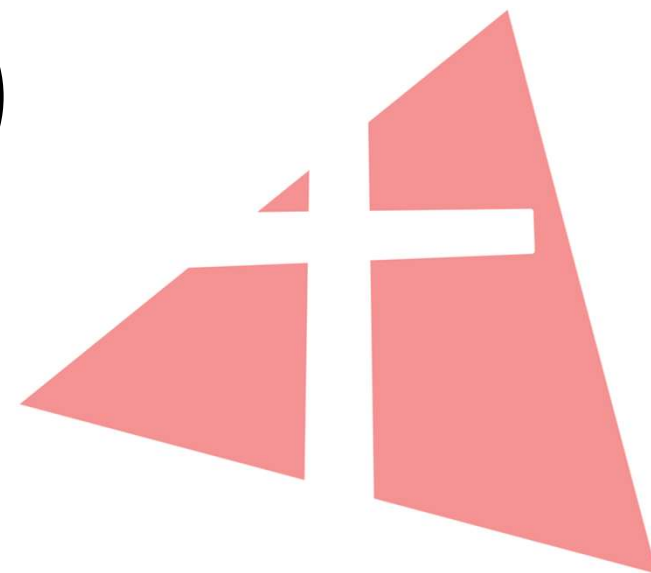


Who is God? Who am I? Lost and Found (Part 3)

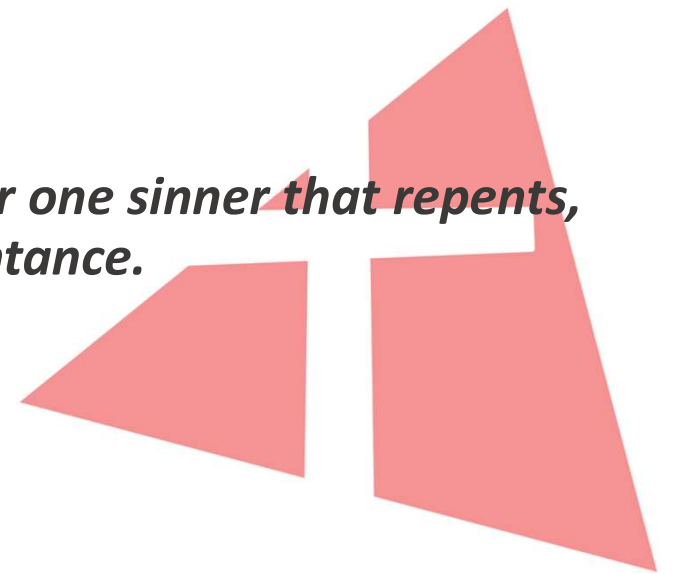
August 25th 2024



Our Focus

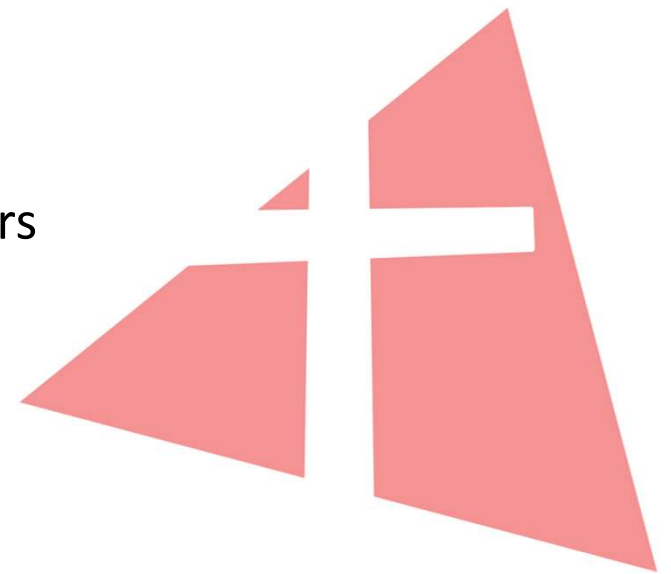
- The relationship aspect of “Who is God?” and “Who am I”?
- Last weeks: The Lost Sheep and the Younger Brother

Luke 15:7 I say unto you, that likewise joy shall be in heaven over one sinner that repents, more than over ninety and nine just persons, who need no repentance.



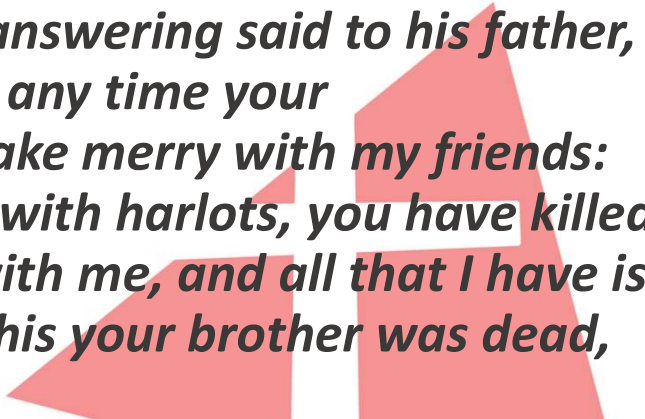
The Setting

- **Jesus speaks to two groups of people**
 - Pharisees
 - Tax Collectors and Sinners
- **The two brothers represent these two groups**
 - The younger brother represents the tax collectors and sinners
 - The older brother represents the Pharisees



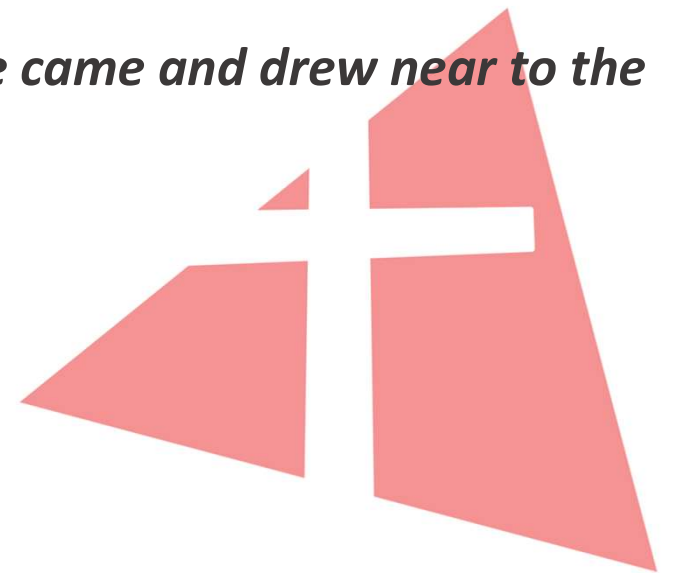
Today's Passage

Luke 15:25-32 (KJ2000) Now his elder son was in the field: and as he came and drew near to the house, he heard music and dancing. And he called one of the servants, and asked what these things meant. And he said unto him, your brother has come; and your father has killed the fatted calf, because he has received him safe and sound. And he was angry, and would not go in: therefore his father came out, and entreated him. And he answering said to his father, Lo, these many years have I served you, neither transgressed I at any time your commandment: and yet you never gave me a kid, that I might make merry with my friends: But as soon as this your son came, who has devoured your living with harlots, you have killed for him the fatted calf. And he said unto him, Son, you are ever with me, and all that I have is yours. It was right that we should make merry, and be glad: for this your brother was dead, and is alive again; and was lost, and is found.



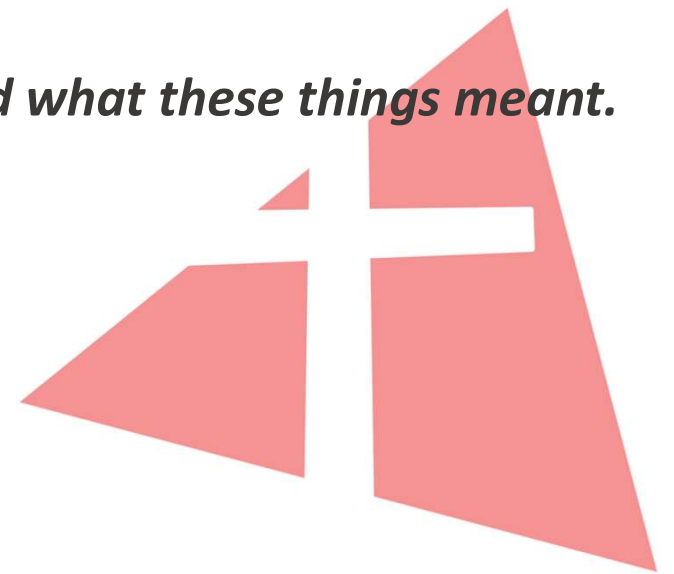
The Older Brother

Luke 15:25 (KJ2000) Now his elder son was in the field: and as he came and drew near to the house, he heard music and dancing.



The Older Brother

Luke 15:26 (KJ2000) And he called one of the servants, and asked what these things meant.



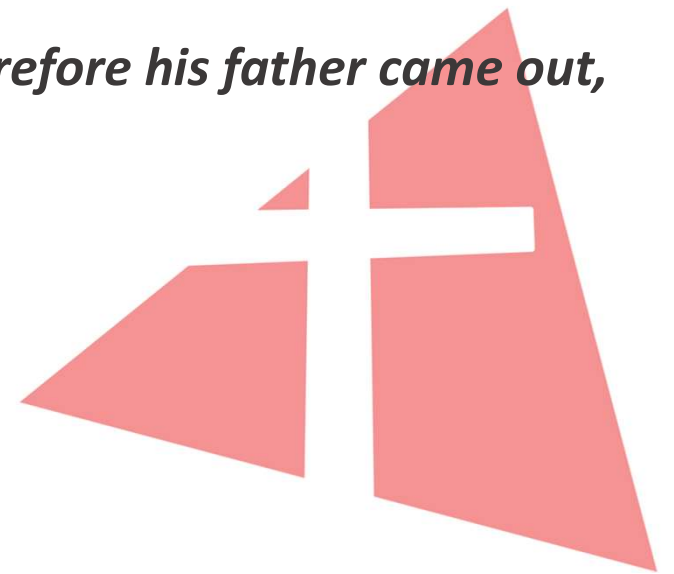
The Older Brother

Luke 15:27 (KJ2000) And he said unto him, your brother has come; and your father has killed the fatted calf, because he has received him safe and sound.



The Older Brother

Luke 15:28 (KJ2000) And he was angry, and would not go in: therefore his father came out, and entreated him.



The Older Brother

Luke 15:29 (KJ2000) And he answering said to his father, Lo, these many years have I served you, neither transgressed I at any time your commandment: and yet you never gave me a kid, that I might make merry with my friends:



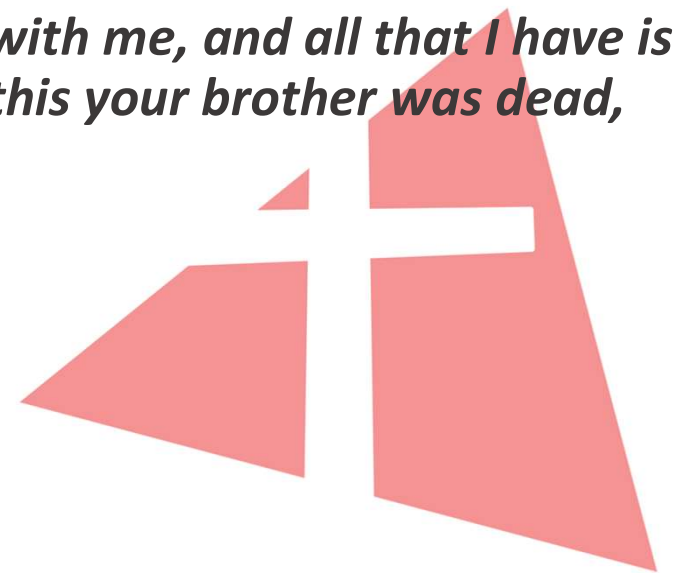
The Older Brother

Luke 15:30 (KJ2000) But as soon as this your son came, who has devoured your living with harlots, you have killed for him the fatted calf.



The Older Brother

Luke 15:31-32 (KJ2000) And he said unto him, Son, you are ever with me, and all that I have is yours. It was right that we should make merry, and be glad: for this your brother was dead, and is alive again; and was lost, and is found.



After the Story

- **Imagine the atmosphere the next day**



The Father

- **The Father was never about money**
- **The Father was never about the law**



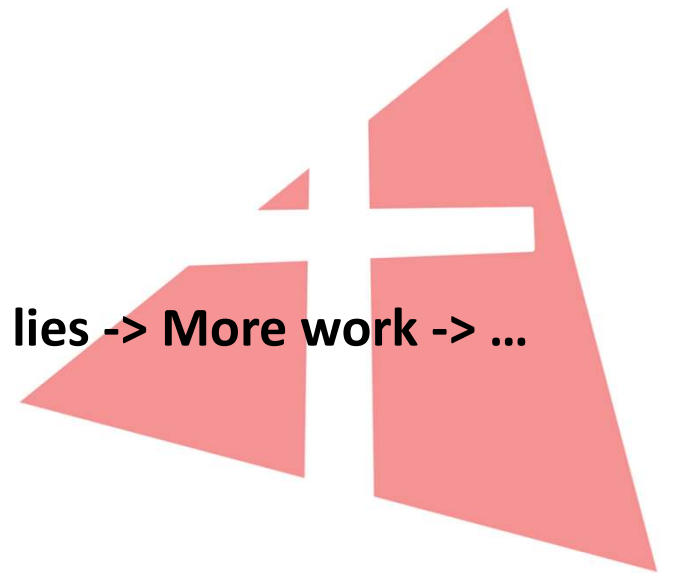
The Father

- **The Father reached the younger son on a heart level**
- **The Father tried to reach the older son on an intellectual level**
 - Probably because he already closed his heart much earlier



The Disconnect

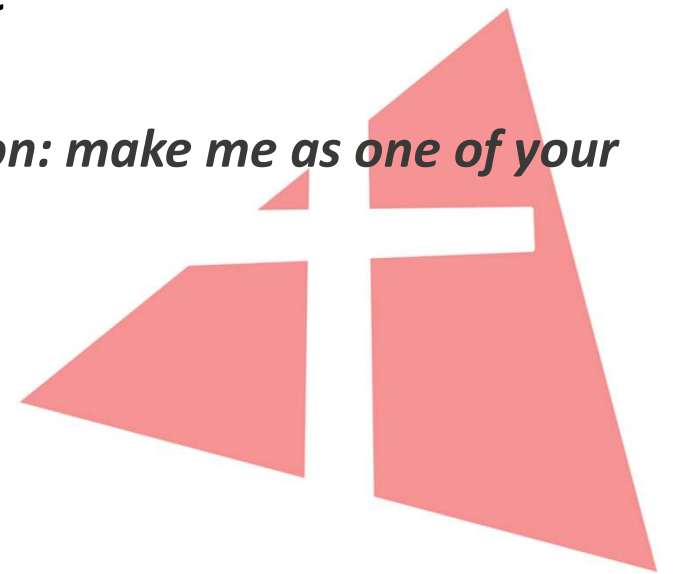
- **The Older Son didn't know what his father wanted**
- **He was just as lost as the younger brother**
 - Just in a different way
- **He was lost in the house**
- **Work -> Exhaustion -> Disconnect from the Father -> believing lies -> More work -> ...**



How did the Older Brother become like this?

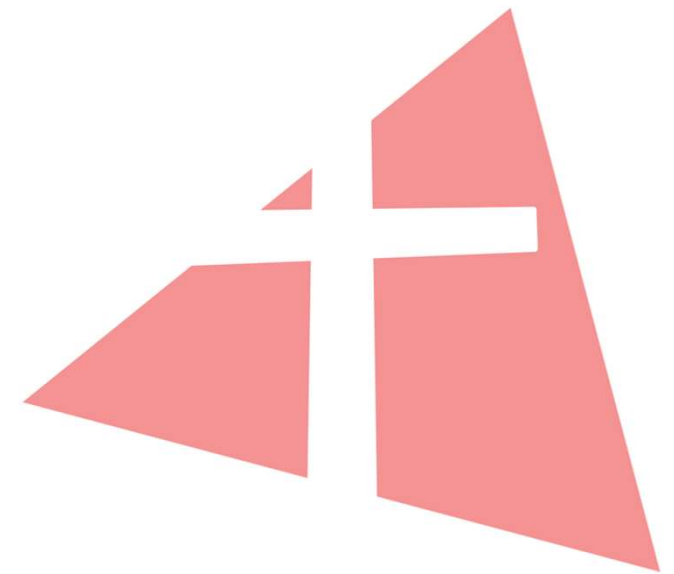
- I believe the older brother had his own far-country experience

Luke 15:19 (KJ2000) And am no more worthy to be called your son: make me as one of your hired servants.



Application

- **The older brother represents the self-righteous elements in our hearts**
- **We can find this part by looking at the symptoms**
 - Anger/frustration towards God or others
 - Exhaustion
 - Feeling treated unfairly
 - Thinking we deserve better
 - Working FOR God instead of spending time with Him
 - Always being critical of others
 - ...



The Father's Response

- He allows us to
 - Get exhausted and crash
 - Wear ourselves out
 - Get angry at others
 - ...



In Conclusion

- Rest in God instead of trying to earn what we already have

