

**Sunday 3<sup>rd</sup> April 2022**

### Luke 15:1-3, 11b-32

New International Version - UK

hear Jesus. <sup>2</sup> But the Pharisees and the teachers of the law muttered, 'This man welcomes sinners, and eats with them.'  
<sup>3</sup> Then Jesus told them this parable:

#### The parable of the lost son

<sup>11</sup> There was a man who had two sons. <sup>12</sup> The younger one said to his father, "Father, give me my share of the estate." So he divided his property between them. <sup>13</sup> '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. <sup>14</sup> After he had spent everything, there was a severe famine in that whole country, who sent him to his fields to feed pigs. <sup>15</sup> He longed to fill his stomach with the pods that the pigs were eating, but no one gave him anything.

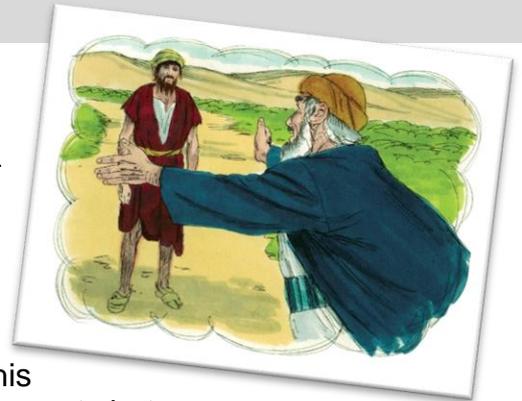
<sup>17</sup> 'When he came to his senses, he said, "How many of my father's hired servants have food to spare, and here I am starving to death! <sup>18</sup> I will set out and go back to my father and say to him: Father, I have sinned against heaven and against you. <sup>19</sup> I am no longer worthy to be called your son; make me like one of your hired servants." <sup>20</sup> So he got up and went to his father. '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 round him and kissed him.

<sup>21</sup> 'The son said to him, "Father, I have sinned against heaven and against you. I am no longer worthy to be called your son." <sup>22</sup> '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. <sup>23</sup> Bring the fattened calf and kill it. Let's have a feast and celebrate. <sup>24</sup> For this son of mine was dead and is alive again; he was lost and is found.'" So they began to celebrate.

<sup>25</sup> 'Meanwhile, the elder son was in the field. When he came near the house, he heard music and dancing. <sup>26</sup> So he called one of the servants and asked him what was going on. <sup>27</sup> "Your brother has come," he replied, "and your father has killed the fattened calf because he has him back safe and sound." <sup>28</sup> 'The elder brother became angry and refused to go in. So his father went out and pleaded with him. <sup>29</sup> But he answered his

father, "Look! All these years I've been slaving for you and never disobeyed your orders. Yet you never gave me even a young goat so I could celebrate with my friends. <sup>30</sup> But when this son of yours who has squandered your property with prostitutes comes home, you kill the fattened calf for him!"

<sup>31</sup> "My son," the father said, "you are always with me, and everything I have is yours. <sup>32</sup> But we had to celebrate and be glad, because this brother of yours was dead and is alive again; he was lost and is found."



New International Version - UK (NIVUK) Holy Bible, New International Version® Anglicized, NIV® Copyright © 1979, 1984, 2011 by Biblica, Inc.™ Used by permission. All rights reserved worldwide.

“Christ loves younger brothers and sisters, wayward souls, people who mess up regularly and royally. He pleads with the older siblings among us to welcome them too as he welcomes us. His love is prodigious and thus also should be ours”

**Lent is a time to unashamedly love the wrecked and broken.**

1. How do the images help you understand the message of the passage?
2. How does the message apply to our living as followers of Jesus?

## **Psalm 118: 1-2, 19-29** New International Version

### **Psalm 118**

- <sup>1</sup> Give thanks to the LORD, for he is good; his love endures forever.
- <sup>2</sup> Let Israel say: "His love endures forever."
- <sup>19</sup> Open for me the gates of the righteous;  
I will enter and give thanks to the LORD.
- <sup>20</sup> This is the gate of the LORD  
through which the righteous may enter.
- <sup>21</sup> I will give you thanks, for you answered me;  
you have become my salvation.
- <sup>22</sup> The stone the builders rejected  
has become the cornerstone;
- <sup>23</sup> the LORD has done this,  
and it is marvellous in our eyes.
- <sup>24</sup> The LORD has done it this very day;  
let us rejoice today and be glad.
- <sup>25</sup> LORD, save us!  
LORD, grant us success!
- <sup>26</sup> Blessed is he who comes in the name of the LORD.  
From the house of the LORD we bless you.
- <sup>27</sup> The LORD is God,  
and he has made his light shine on us.  
With boughs in hand, join in the festal procession  
up to the horns of the altar.
- <sup>28</sup> You are my God, and I will praise you; you are my God, and I will exalt you.
- <sup>29</sup> Give thanks to the LORD, for he is good; his love endures forever.

[New International Version - UK \(NIVUK\)](#)

Holy Bible, New International Version® Anglicized, NIV® Copyright © 1979, 1984, 2011 by [Biblica, Inc.](#)® Used by permission. All rights reserved worldwide.

1. As you read the passage what phrase or word stands out for you?
2. How does this passage relate to your everyday experience?

**LIVE DIFFERENTLY**

Reflections Through Lent Encouraging Us To  
Live With A CHRIST LIKE Perspective