

Luke 15:11-32 (New International Version)

The Parable of the Lost Son

Characters:

Father	Servant	Friend 3
Son 1	Friend 1	Employer
Son 2	Friend 2	Narrator

Props:

Coins pigs pig food

NARRATOR: This is a story that Jesus told. There was a man who had two sons. ¹²The younger one said to his father:

SON 2: Father, give me my share of the estate.

NARRATOR: So he divided his property between them.

FATHER: Here my sons, you each now have half of all I have.

NARRATOR: Not long after that, the younger son got together all he had, set off for a distant country.

SON 2: Good bye father, good bye brother.

SON 2: Come, my friends, let's have a party! We can have lots of fancy food in this nice restaurant. I'll pay for everything. I'll buy you all presents and we'll have lots of fun!

FRIEND 1: This is great! Let's do this every week!

SON 2: Yes! Let's!

NARRATOR: After he had spent everything, there was a severe famine in that whole country, and he began to be in need.

SON 2: Friend, can I stay with you for awhile? I can't afford a hotel any more.

FRIEND 2: No, you can't.

SON 2: Friend, can I eat dinner with you today?

FRIEND 3: No, you can't.

SON 2: I am so hungry! I must get a job but who will hire me? I am in a strange land and have no references.

SON 2: Will you hire me?

EMPLOYER: Well, I don't know you but I guess you could take care of my pigs. You can't do much damage there. Give this food to the pigs every day. Make sure they eat all of it.

SON 2: I am so hungry! I could even eat the food I am giving to the pigs but the overseer won't allow it. They all go to lunch but no one gives me anything to eat.

SON 2: 'How many of my father's hired men have food to spare, and here I am starving to death! ¹⁸I 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.'

NARRATOR: 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 around him and kissed him.

FATHER: My son! My son!

SON 2: 'Father, I have sinned against heaven and against you. I am no longer worthy to be called your son.'

FATHER (to servants): Bring the best robe and put it on him. Put a ring on his finger and sandals on his feet. ²³Bring 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.

NARRATOR: Meanwhile, the older son was in the field. When he came near the house, he heard music and dancing. ²⁶So he called one of the servants:

SON 1: What is going on?

SERVANT: Your brother has come, and your father has killed the fattened calf because he has him back safe and sound.'

SON 1: (*becomes angry*) I will not go in and celebrate with them!

FATHER: My son, please come in and celebrate with us.

SON 1: '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. ³⁰But when this son of yours who has squandered your property with prostitutes comes home, you kill the fattened calf for him!'

FATHER: 'My son, you are always with me, and everything I have is yours. ³²But we had to celebrate and be glad, because this brother of yours was dead and is alive again; he was lost and is found.' "