

SERIES: FAMILY ON PURPOSE  
Part 5c: The Extravagant Love of a Father

*"Tax collectors and other notorious sinners often came to listen to Jesus teach.*

*<sup>2</sup>This made the Pharisees and teachers of religious law complain that He was associating with such sinful people—even eating with them! <sup>3</sup>So Jesus told them this story:... <sup>11b</sup>'A man had two sons. <sup>12</sup>The younger son told his father, "I want my share of your estate now before you die." So his father agreed to divide his wealth between his sons. <sup>13</sup>A few days later this younger son packed all his belongings and moved to a distant land, and there he wasted all his money in wild living.*

*<sup>14</sup>About the time his money ran out, a great famine swept over the land, and he began to starve. <sup>15</sup>He persuaded a local farmer to hire him, and the man sent him into his fields to feed the pigs. <sup>16</sup>The young man became so hungry that even the pods he was feeding the pigs looked good to him. But no one gave him anything.*

*<sup>17</sup>When he finally came to his senses, he said to himself, "At home even the hired servants have food enough to spare, and here I am dying of hunger! <sup>18</sup>I will go home to my father and say, 'Father, I have sinned against both heaven and you,*

*<sup>19</sup>and I am no longer worthy of being called your son. Please take me on as a hired servant.'" <sup>20</sup>So he returned home to his father. And while he was still a long way off, his father saw him coming. Filled with love and compassion, he ran to his son, embraced him, and kissed him. <sup>21</sup>His son said to him, "Father, I have sinned against both heaven and you, and I am no longer worthy of being called your son."*

*<sup>22</sup>But his father said to the servants, "Quick! Bring the finest robe in the house and put it on him. Get a ring for his finger and sandals for his feet. <sup>23</sup>And kill the calf we have been fattening. We must celebrate with a feast, <sup>24</sup>for this son of mine was dead and has now returned to life. He was lost, but now he is found."*

*So the party began. <sup>25</sup>Meanwhile, the older son was in the fields working. When he returned home, he heard music and dancing in the house, <sup>26</sup>and he asked one of the servants what was going on. <sup>27</sup>"Your brother is back," he was told, "and your father has killed the fattened calf. We are celebrating because of his safe return."*

*<sup>28</sup>The older brother was angry and wouldn't go in. His father came out and begged him, <sup>29</sup>but he replied, "All these years I've slaved for you and never once refused to do a single thing you told me to. And in all that time you never gave me even one young goat for a feast with my friends. <sup>30</sup>Yet when this son of yours comes back after squandering your money on prostitutes, you celebrate by killing the fattened calf!" <sup>31</sup>His father said to him, "Look, dear son, you have always stayed by me, and everything I have is yours. <sup>32</sup>We had to celebrate this happy day. For your brother was dead and has come back to life! He was lost, but now he is found!"*" Luke 15:1-3, 11-32

How to respond to the Father's request that you come to His feast!

I. What is it we all \_\_\_\_\_?

*"We must celebrate with a feast!" Luke 15:23b*

A. To \_\_\_\_\_ to God's  
\_\_\_\_\_ love

*"And while he was still a long way off, his father saw him coming. Filled with love and compassion, he ran to his son, embraced him, and kissed him." Luke 15:20*

Notes:

B. \_\_\_\_\_ that repentance goes beyond our \_\_\_\_\_ for our individual sins

II. Who is it that we need \_\_\_\_\_?

A. We \_\_\_\_\_ our \_\_\_\_\_ Elder Brother

*John 1:1-5, 10-15; Luke 19:10*

B. \_\_\_\_\_ the \_\_\_\_\_ that  
our Elder Brother \_\_\_\_\_ for us

*Philippians 2:5-11; Romans 3:21-25b; Romans 6:20-23;  
Romans 10:9-13; 1 Peter 1:17-23; Hebrews 2:11-18*