

Series: Choices

## Choosing to Come Home

Luke 15:11-24 (NIV)

Jesus continued: "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, and he began to be in need. <sup>15</sup>So he went and hired himself out to a citizen of that country, who sent him to his fields to feed pigs. <sup>16</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 men 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 men.' <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 around 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.

1. SOMETIMES OUR CHOICES \_\_\_\_\_ THE HEART OF GOD.

- The choice of \_\_\_\_\_

v. 12 "The younger one said to his father, 'Father, give me my share of the estate.' So he divided his property between them."

- The choice of \_\_\_\_\_

v. 13 "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."

- The choice of \_\_\_\_\_

v. 14-16 "After he had spent everything, there was a severe famine in that whole country, and he began to be in need. <sup>15</sup>So he went and hired himself out to a citizen of that country, who sent him to his fields to feed pigs. <sup>16</sup>He longed to fill his stomach with the pods that the pigs were eating, but no one gave him anything."

2. THE STEPS WE TAKE TO \_\_\_\_\_ BAD CHOICES.

- The choice of \_\_\_\_\_

v. 17 "When he came to his senses..."

- The choice of \_\_\_\_\_

v. 18 "I will set out and go back to my father..."

- The choice of \_\_\_\_\_

v. 20 "So he got up and went to his father..."

3. THE STEPS GOD TAKES TO \_\_\_\_\_ HIS LOVE FOR US.

- He is \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_

v. 20b "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."

- He responds to our \_\_\_\_\_

v. 21 "The son said to him, 'Father, I have sinned against heaven and against you. I am no longer worthy to be called your son.'"

- His \_\_\_\_\_ is beyond our imagination

v. 22-24 "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."

Sometimes our choices take us to a \_\_\_\_\_ far from the plan God had for us, but when \_\_\_\_\_ repentance happens, God moves to \_\_\_\_\_ us to a right relationship once again.