

TODAY'S MESSAGE:

Life FROM God

Brian Priebe | Executive Pastor | September 24, 2023

Luke 15:11-13 (NIV):

¹¹ ... "There was a man who had two sons. ¹² The younger one said to his father, 'Father, give me my share of the estate.' So he divided his property between them. 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."

Life FROM God believes: God exists to bless my life. Life WITH God we focus on: **Relationship with God is the treasure.**

Luke 12:22-34 (NIV):

²² Then Jesus said to his disciples: "Therefore I tell you, do not worry about your life, what you will eat; or about your body, what you will wear. ²³ For life is more than food, and the body more than clothes.
²⁴ Consider the ravens: They do not sow or reap, they have no storeroom or barn; yet God feeds them. And how much more valuable you are than birds! ²⁵ Who of you by worrying can add a single hour to your life? ²⁶ Since you cannot do this very little thing, why do you worry about the rest?

²⁷ "Consider how the wild flowers grow. They do not labor or spin. Yet I tell you, not even Solomon in all his splendor was dressed like one of these. ²⁸ If that is how God clothes the grass of the field, which is here today, and tomorrow is thrown into the fire, how much more will he clothe you–you of little faith! ²⁹ And do not set your heart on what you will eat or drink; do not worry about it. ³⁰ For the pagan world runs after all such things, and your Father knows that you need them. ³¹ But seek his kingdom, and these things will be given to you as well.

³² "Do not be afraid, little flock, for your Father has been pleased to give you the kingdom. ³³ Sell your possessions and give to the poor. Provide purses for yourselves that will not wear out, a treasure in heaven that will never fail, where no thief comes near and no moth destroys. ³⁴ For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.

Luke 15:14-17 (NIV):

¹⁴ After he had spent everything, there was a severe famine in that whole country, and he began to be in need. ¹⁵ So he went and hired himself out to a citizen of that country, who sent him to his fields to feed pigs. ¹⁶ He longed to fill his stomach with the pods that the pigs were eating, but no one gave him anything. ¹⁷ "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!

Life FROM God: God should make me comfortable Life WITH God: Regardless of my circumstances... it's about relationship with God.

Matthew 11:28 (NIV):

<u>Come to me</u> all you who are weary and burdened, and I will give you rest.

Luke 15:18-20, 22-24 (NIV):

¹⁸ I will set out and go back to my father and say to him: Father, I have sinned against heaven and against you.
¹⁹ I am no longer worthy to be called your son; make me like one of your hired servants.'
²⁰ 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.
²² "...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. ²³ Bring the fattened calf and kill it. Let's have a feast and celebrate. ²⁴ For this son of mine was dead and is alive again; he was lost and is found.' So they began to celebrate."

Life WITH God:

The Father is about relationship with the son

John 3:16 (NIV):

For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life.

John 17:3 (NIV):

Now this is eternal life; that they may know you, the only true God, and Jesus Christ, whom you have sent.

Reflection Questions:

- 1) Read Luke 15:11-17. How does the younger son reflect Life FROM God?
- 2) In what ways do you see aspects of Life FROM God in your own life?
- 3) Read Luke 15:18-24. How does the father reflect Life WITH GOD?
- 4) In what ways do you see aspects of Life WITH God in your own life?



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