

# The Lost Sons

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**Summary:** Jesus told a story about a father with two sons. One was disobedient, left and then returned, the other was always present but never plugged in. How can we be a better child to our Father in Heaven?

**Ice Breaker Questions (Choose one or do them all, everyone answers):**

- **What was your least favorite food as a child? Do you still hate it?**
- **What is the best piece of advice you've been given?**

**Diving In:**

- **What is the most expensive/valuable/important thing you've lost?**
- **Read Luke 15: 11-19 – The Younger Lost Son**
  - **What did the younger son ask of his father? How would you respond to your kid if they did something similar?**
  - **What did the younger son do with the money? What happened when the money ran out?**
- **Read Luke 15: 20-24 – The Forgiving Father**
  - **What was the father doing while his son was away?**
  - **What does he do when he sees his son in the distance?**
  - **He gives the son a robe, a ring, and sandals. What is significant about those 3 items?** *The robe was for covering, he was no longer exposed due to sin but was now accepted. The ring was for provision. He could transact business in the father's name. The sandals represented that he was not a slave, but was free to come and go as he pleased.*

**Going Deeper:**

- **Read Luke 15: 25-32**

- **This son didn't leave physically, but how does he display a misunderstanding of the father's heart?**
- **Compare the older son slaving for his father with the gifts the younger son received. Why do you think the son was so angry with the father?**
- **How did the father react to the son showing his true colors?**
- **If you could talk to the older son in that moment, what would you say to him?**
- **What are some ways that people act like the younger son?**
- **What are some ways that people act like the older son?**
- **What are some ways that we can become more like the father?**
- **How do we develop an attitude of gratitude that will protect us from slipping in to the older sons judgmentalism?**

**How can we pray for you?**