

Give Me My Share – Luke 15:11-32
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Introduction

1. There is a reason this is called “the greatest short story in the world.” A story about a family- a father, older son and a younger son. We call it the “Prodigal Son” but it could be called “The Loving Father” just as well.
2. It is a story meant to reveal the heart and attitude of the unforgiving elder son, which was meant to rebuke those unwilling to reach out and receive the lost who repent...

I. The Meaning Of The Request – Luke 15:11-12

- a. The Younger Son’s Request
 - i. This was stunning because this was so disrespectful to father and the family. It was essentially saying to the father, “I wish you were dead.”
- b. Why Make Such A Request?
 - i. Trouble always comes when we value things over people, pleasure more than duty, and distant scenes more than blessings we have at home. (Luke 12:15)
 - ii. Sin is a heart and love problem and it is comes from loving what we want more than what it costs us.
 - iii. The son wanted to wealth, pleasure and freedom and was like a knife in the heart to his father but he obviously did not care. He loved what he wanted more than the father.

II. The Response To The Request – Luke 15:12b, 20-24

- a. He Divided His Property (bios meaning life)
 - i. The father’s response is just as shocking as the request. Instead of disowning his son as many in a patriarchal society would have done he divided his property.
 - ii. Property was the same word in the Greek for life (bios). He literally divided his life between them. This is much more than land and money.
 - iii. Because of his mercy the younger son later on remembers this which led him to repent and come back home.

III. What Difference Does It Make To Us?

- a. Whether you’re a younger brother type or elder brother type we all have a problem with misplaced love in our hearts (also known as idols) – Colossians 3:5-7
 - i. Like a husband who shares his heart, dreams, problems etc. to another woman who has captured his heart. It is a misplaced love.
 - ii. Or like the elder brother we allow things like making money, children or a position have a controlling position in our hearts. They become our gods (Matthew 6:24).
 - iii. Do you recognize these things in your life? If so, what can be done about them?
- b. The Lord has done for us what the father in the parable did for the son – John 3:16-17
 - i. Jesus went to the cross in weakness and literally allowed his life to be torn apart. They divided his garments so you and I could repent and receive forgiveness – 2 Peter 3:9

