

FINDING TIME



DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

- This is a famous story from Jesus. When you hear it, where do you place yourself in the story?
- This story is often called “The Prodigal Son” (prodigal means “wasteful”). Others call it the story of “Two Lost Sons” or a “Prodigal Father.” How do each of those titles change the focus of the story?
- What does this story teach you about God’s love and our own?
- The story ends with an invitation from the father to his elder son. “Will you come and celebrate this brother of yours who was lost and is now found?” How might you write the ending to the story? Will the elder brother join the party? What will happen as a result of this father’s love for both of his sons?

Jesus said, "There was a man who had two sons. The younger of them said to his father, 'Father, give me the share of the property that will belong to me.' So he divided his property between them. A few days later the younger son gathered all he had and traveled to a distant country, and there he squandered his property in dissolute living. When he had spent everything, a severe famine took place throughout that country, and he began to be in need. So he went and hired himself out to one of the citizens of that country, who sent him to his fields to feed the pigs. He would gladly have filled himself with the pods that the pigs were eating; and no one gave him anything. But when he came to himself he said, 'How many of my father's hired hands have bread enough and to spare, but here I am dying of hunger! I will get up and go to my father, and I will say to him, "Father, I have sinned against heaven and before you; I am no longer worthy to be called your son; treat me like one of your hired hands."' So he set off and went to his father. But while he was still far off, his father saw him and was filled with compassion; he ran and put his arms around him and kissed him.

****There's more to the story. Please read the whole thing for yourself!****