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The Fathers Embrace

- Jesus came to reveal the Father.
- Jesus constantly told us what His Kingdom is like.

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Luke 15:1 - 2
"Then all the tax collectors and sinners drew near to him to hear Him. And the Pharisees and scribes complained, saying, 'This Man receives sinners and eats with them.' So He spoke this parable to them, saying: 'What man of you... ' "

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Jesus is reshaping orphans who think like slaves, to form sons who think like kings.

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Luke 15:8 - 10 - Parable of the Lost Coin

"Or what woman, having ten silver coins, if she loses one coin, does not light a lamp, sweep the house, and search carefully until she finds it? And when she has found it, she calls her friends and neighbors together, saying, 'Rejoice with me, for I have found the piece which I lost!' Likewise, I say to you, there is joy in the presence of the angels of God over one sinner who repents."

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A. 10 silver coins was the headdress of a married woman.



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B. The value of the coin did not change when it was lost!

- If our value is set. It's about learning to be available, more than trying to be valuable!
- YET, a believer who avails themselves to God, but links their value to what God does or doesn't DO through them; removes their availability... WHY?

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Our Father won't reinforce a son who is behaving like an orphan, or thinking like a slave!

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Luke 15:11 - 16

Then He said: "A certain man had two sons. And the younger of them said to his father, 'Father, give me the portion of goods that falls to me.' So he divided to them his livelihood. And not many days after, the younger son gathered all together, journeyed to a far country, and there wasted his possessions with prodigal living. But when he had spent all, there arose a severe famine in that land, and he began to be in want. Then he went and joined himself to a citizen of that country, and he sent him into his fields to feed swine. And he would gladly have filled his stomach with the pods that the swine ate, and no one gave him anything.

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● The Request

- Culturally shameful.

"To my knowledge, in all of Middle Eastern literature (aside from this parable) from ancient times to the present, there is no case of any son, older or younger, asking for his inheritance from a father who is still in good health."

Kenneth Bailey: 'Poet and Peasant'

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● The Response

'So he divided to them his livelihood.'

Earthly fathers often miss a child's heart, if they are more concerned how THEIR CHILDS BEHAVIOR impacts their reputation. Fathering is more concerned with the formation of the childs heart, regardless of how that reflects upon them as parents.

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● The Result

'he wasted his possessions with prodigal living'

Prodigal:

- reckless extravagance
- riotous
- wasteful

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• The Return

Luke 15:17 - 19

"But when he came to himself, he said, 'How many of my father's hired servants have bread enough and to spare, and I perish with hunger! I will arise and go to my father, and will say to him, "Father, I have sinned against heaven and before you, and I am no longer worthy to be called your son. Make me like one of your hired servants." '

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Kezazah - 'Cutting off Ceremony'

'In order to evoke a Kezazah ceremony, you had either left your people, and joined yourself to a Gentile, or sold a part of an inherited estate. '

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● The Restoration

Luke 15:20 - 24

"And he arose and came to his father. **But when he was still a great way off**, his father saw him and had compassion, and ran and fell on his neck and kissed him. And the son said to him, 'Father, I have sinned against heaven and in your sight, and am no longer worthy to be called your son.'

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● The Restoration

Luke 15:20 - 24

But the father said to his servants, 'Bring out the best robe and put it on him, and put a ring on his hand and sandals on his feet. And bring the fatted calf here and kill it, and let us eat and be merry; for this my son was dead and is alive again; he was lost and is found.' And they began to be merry.

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- A. He saw him.
- B. He ran.
- C. He fell on his neck and kissed him.
- D. He put the best robe on him.
- E. He gave him a ring
- F. He gave him sandals
- G. He killed the fatted calf

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