

Introduction

- A parable is an earthly story designed to teach a spiritual lesson through a comparison
- Often, Jesus' parables focused on the kingdom of God and were designed to hide the truth from the rebellious but to encourage the humble to seek the truth

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Jesus' Parable of The Lost Son

A sinful wasteful lost son repents of his sins and humbly returns to a loving merciful watchful rejoicing father who forgives and welcomes him back home

Introduction

- Sometimes Jesus' parables were designed to contrast the sinful attitudes of the so-called righteous with those outcast sinners who humbly turned to God's mercy
- In Luke 15 Jesus tells three parables to expose the self-righteous grumbling unloving attitude of the Pharisees and scribes who refused to seek for, rejoice over the salvation and accept those who they considered unworthy sinners

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Jesus' Parable of The Lost Son

1. Background
2. The parable
3. Applications

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Pharisees and Scribes Upset With Jesus Receiving and Eating With Sinners

Luk 15:1 Now all the tax collectors and the sinners were coming near Him to listen to Him.

Luk 15:2 Both the Pharisees and the scribes *began* to grumble, saying, "This man receives sinners and eats with them."

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Jesus' Parable of The Lost Sheep

Luk 15:3 So He told them this parable, saying,

Luk 15:4 "What man among you, if he has a hundred sheep and has lost one of them, does not leave the ninety-nine in the open pasture and go after the one which is lost until he finds it?

Luk 15:5 "When he has found it, he lays it on his shoulders, rejoicing.

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Jesus' Parable of The Lost Sheep

Luk 15:6 "And when he comes home, he calls together his friends and his neighbors, saying to them, 'Rejoice with me, for I have found my sheep which was lost!'

Luk 15:7 "I tell you that in the same way, there will be *more* joy in heaven over one sinner who repents than over ninety-nine righteous persons who need no repentance.

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Jesus' Parable of The Lost Coin

Luk 15:8 "Or what woman, if she has ten silver coins and loses one coin, does not light a lamp and sweep the house and search carefully until she finds it?

Luk 15:9 "When she has found it, she calls together her friends and neighbors, saying, 'Rejoice with me, for I have found the coin which I had lost!'

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Jesus' Parable of The Lost Coin

Luk 15:10 "In the same way, I tell you, there is joy in the presence of the angels of God over one sinner who repents."

Then, He tells the parable of the lost (usually called prodigal) son

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The Younger of The Father's Two Sons Asked For His Inheritance

Luk 15:11 And He said, "A man had two sons.

Luk 15:12 "The younger of them said to his father, 'Father, give me the share of the estate that falls to me.' So he divided his wealth between them.

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The Younger Son Would Receive One-third Inheritance

Deu 21:17 "But he shall acknowledge the firstborn, the son of the unloved, by giving him a double portion of all that he has, for he is the beginning of his strength; to him belongs the right of the firstborn.

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Through Wasteful Living He Spends All His Money

Luk 15:13 "And not many days later, the younger son gathered everything together and went on a journey into a distant country, and there he squandered his estate with loose living.

Luk 15:14 "Now when he had spent everything, a severe famine occurred in that country, and he began to be impoverished.

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Hired To Feed Swine

Luk 15:15 "So he went and hired himself out to one of the citizens of that country, and he sent him into his fields to feed swine.

Luk 15:16 "And he would have gladly filled his stomach with the pods that the swine were eating, and no one was giving *anything* to him.

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Swine Listed As Unclean Under The Law of Moses

Lev 11:3 'Whatever divides a hoof, thus making split hoofs, *and* chews the cud, among the animals, that you may eat.

Lev 11:7 and the pig, for though it divides the hoof, thus making a split hoof, it does not chew cud, it is unclean to you.

Lev 11:8 'You shall not eat of their flesh nor touch their carcasses; they are unclean to you.

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The Lost Wasteful Son Repents of His Sins

Luk 15:17 "But when he came to his senses, he said, 'How many of my father's hired men have more than enough bread, but I am dying here with hunger!

Luk 15:18 'I will get up and go to my father, and will say to him, "Father, I have sinned against heaven, and in your sight;

Luk 15:19 I am no longer worthy to be called your son; make me as one of your hired men."

15

The Lost Son Returns and Is Welcomed By A Loving Forgiving Rejoicing Father

Luk 15:20 "So he got up and came to his father. But while he was still a long way off, his father saw him and felt compassion *for him*, and ran and embraced him and kissed him.

Luk 15:21 "And the son said to him, 'Father, I have sinned against heaven and in your sight; I am no longer worthy to be called your son.'

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The Lost Son Returns and Is Welcomed By A Loving Forgiving Rejoicing Father

Luk 15:22 "But the father said to his slaves, 'Quickly bring out the best robe and put it on him, and put a ring on his hand and sandals on his feet;

Luk 15:23 and bring the fattened calf, kill it, and let us eat and celebrate;

Luk 15:24 for this son of mine was dead and has come to life again; he was lost and has been found.' And they began to celebrate.

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The Older Brother Grumbles and Rejects His Younger Brother

Luk 15:25 "Now his older son was in the field, and when he came and approached the house, he heard music and dancing.

Luk 15:26 "And he summoned one of the servants and *began* inquiring what these things could be.

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The Older Brother Grumbles and Rejects His Younger Brother

Luk 15:27 "And he said to him, 'Your brother has come, and your father has killed the fattened calf because he has received him back safe and sound.'

Luk 15:28 "But he became angry and was not willing to go in; and his father came out and *began* pleading with him.

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The Older Brother Grumbles and Rejects His Younger Brother

Luk 15:29 "But he answered and said to his father, 'Look! For so many years I have been serving you and I have never neglected a command of yours; and yet you have never given me a young goat, so that I might celebrate with my friends;

Luk 15:30 but when this son of yours came, who has devoured your wealth with prostitutes, you killed the fattened calf for him.'

20

The Older Brother Grumbles and Rejects His Younger Brother

Luk 15:31 "And he said to him, 'Son, you have always been with me, and all that is mine is yours.

Luk 15:32 'But we had to celebrate and rejoice, for this brother of yours was dead and *has begun* to live, and *was* lost and has been found.'"

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The Three Main People In The Parable

- The watchful, loving, forgiving, rejoicing, welcoming father represents our heavenly Father
- The younger son represents the penitent sinners, tax collectors and sinners rejected by the Pharisees and scribes
- They trusted in the mercy of God for their salvation and not in themselves

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The Three Main People In The Parable

- The older son represents the Pharisees and scribes who displayed self-righteousness, trusting in their own selves to be righteous and despising and rejecting the "common" Jews who they called sinners

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Being Lost Is A Sinful Self-destructive Choice That Separates Us From God

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Being Lost Is A Sinful Self-destructive Choice That Separates Us From God

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Being Lost Is A Sinful Self-destructive Choice That Separates Us From God

Isa 59:2 But your iniquities have made a separation between you and your God, And your sins have hidden *His* face from you so that He does not hear.

Rom 6:23 For the wages of sin is death, but the free gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord.

Eph 2:1 And you were dead in your trespasses and sins,

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Being Lost Is A Sinful Self-destructive Choice That Separates Us From God

Eph 2:2 in which you formerly walked according to the course of this world, according to the prince of the power of the air, of the spirit that is now working in the sons of disobedience.

Eph 2:3 Among them we too all formerly lived in the lusts of our flesh, indulging the desires of the flesh and of the mind, and were by nature children of wrath, even as the rest.

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Why Not Choose To Turn To God Today?

Act 2:36 "Therefore let all the house of Israel know for certain that God has made Him both Lord and Christ--this Jesus whom you crucified."

Act 2:37 Now when they heard *this*, they were pierced to the heart, and said to Peter and the rest of the apostles, "Brethren, what shall we do?"

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Why Not Choose To Become A Christian Today?

Act 2:38 Peter *said* to them, "Repent, and each of you be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of your sins; and you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit.

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Why Not Choose To Be Restored As A Christian Today?

Act 8:22 "Therefore repent of this wickedness of yours, and pray the Lord that, if possible, the intention of your heart may be forgiven you.

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Summary of The Parable of The Lost Son

- The younger of the father's two sons asked for his inheritance
- Through wasteful living he spends all his money
- Hired to feed swine
- The lost wasteful son repents of his sins
- The lost son returns and is welcomed by a loving forgiving rejoicing father
- The older brother grumbles and rejects his younger brother

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Lessons From The Parable of The Lost Son

1. Being lost is a sinful self-destructive choice that separates us from God

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Repentance Is An Essential Condition For Our Salvation

- Repentance is a change of mind that leads us to turn from sin and turn to God
- It is caused by godly sorrow and results in a changed life
- When he realized his sins were against God, the lost son repented of his sins and turned to God by going back home and confessing his sins

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Repentance Is An Essential Condition For Our Salvation

- To become a Christian we must repent and be baptized for forgiveness of our sins
- To live as a Christian, we must keep repenting, confessing our sins and praying to God to forgive us

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Repentance Is Caused By Godly Sorrow and Leads To A Changed Life

2Co 7:9 I now rejoice, not that you were made sorrowful, but that you were made sorrowful to *the point of* repentance; for you were made sorrowful according to *the will of* God, so that you might not suffer loss in anything through us.

2Co 7:10 For the sorrow that is according to *the will of* God produces a repentance without regret, *leading* to salvation, but the sorrow of the world produces death.

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Repentance Is Caused By Godly Sorrow and Leads To A Changed Life

Psa 51:4 Against You, You only, I have sinned And done what is evil in Your sight, So that You are justified when You speak And blameless when You judge.

Act 26:20 but *kept* declaring both to those of Damascus first, and *also* at Jerusalem and *then* throughout all the region of Judea, and *even* to the Gentiles, that they should repent and turn to God, performing deeds appropriate to repentance.

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The Lost Son Repented, Went Home and Confessed His Sins

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We Must Repent To Become A Christian

Rom 6:3 Or do you not know that all of us who have been baptized into Christ Jesus have been baptized into His death?

Rom 6:4 Therefore we have been buried with Him through baptism into death, so that as Christ was raised from the dead through the glory of the Father, so we too might walk in newness of life.

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As Christians We Must Keep Repenting of Our Sins

Act 8:22 "Therefore repent of this wickedness of yours, and pray the Lord that, if possible, the intention of your heart may be forgiven you.

1Jn 1:9 If we confess our sins, He is faithful and righteous to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

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God Is Always Ready And Willing To Welcome All Penitent Sinners

Luk 15:7 "I tell you that in the same way, there will be *more* joy in heaven over one sinner who repents than over ninety-nine righteous persons who need no repentance.

Luk 15:10 "In the same way, I tell you, there is joy in the presence of the angels of God over one sinner who repents."

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Joh 3:16 "For God so loved the world, that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him shall not perish, but have eternal life.

2Pe 3:9 The Lord is not slow about His promise, as some count slowness, but is patient toward you, not wishing for any to perish but for all to come to repentance.

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God Is Always Ready And Willing To Welcome All Penitent Sinners

Act 10:34 Opening his mouth, Peter said: "I most certainly understand *now* that God is not one to show partiality,

Act 10:35 but in every nation the man who fears Him and does what is right is welcome to Him.

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Christians Must Rejoice And Accept All Who Repent To Be Saved

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1Co 6:9 Or do you not know that the unrighteous will not inherit the kingdom of God? Do not be deceived; neither fornicators, nor idolaters, nor adulterers, nor effeminate, nor homosexuals,

1Co 6:10 nor thieves, nor *the* covetous, nor drunkards, nor revilers, nor swindlers, will inherit the kingdom of God.

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Christians Must Rejoice And Accept All Who Repent To Be Saved

1Co 6:11 Such were some of you; but you were washed, but you were sanctified, but you were justified in the name of the Lord Jesus Christ and in the Spirit of our God.

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Christians Must Rejoice And Accept All Who Repent To Be Saved

Gal 6:1 Brethren, even if anyone is caught in any trespass, you who are spiritual, restore such a one in a spirit of gentleness; *each one* looking to yourself, so that you too will not be tempted.

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Christians Must Rejoice And Accept All Who Repent To Be Saved

Eph 4:31 Let all bitterness and wrath and anger and clamor and slander be put away from you, along with all malice.

Eph 4:32 Be kind to one another, tender-hearted, forgiving each other, just as God in Christ also has forgiven you.

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Christians Must Rejoice And Accept All Who Repent To Be Saved

1Co 13:4 Love is patient, love is kind *and* is not jealous; love does not brag *and* is not arrogant,

1Co 13:5 does not act unbecomingly; it does not seek its own, is not provoked, does not take into account a wrong *suffered*,

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Christians Must Rejoice And Accept All Who Repent To Be Saved

1Co 13:6 does not rejoice in unrighteousness, but rejoices with the truth;

1Co 13:7 bears all things, believes all things, hopes all things, endures all things.

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Christians Must Rejoice And Accept All Who Repent To Be Saved

1Co 5:1 It is actually reported that there is immorality among you, and immorality of such a kind as does not exist even among the Gentiles, that someone has his father's wife.

1Co 5:2 You have become arrogant and have not mourned instead, so that the one who had done this deed would be removed from your midst.

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Christians Must Rejoice And Accept All Who Repent To Be Saved

2Co 2:6 Sufficient for such a one is this punishment which *was inflicted* by the majority,

2Co 2:7 so that on the contrary you should rather forgive and comfort *him*, otherwise such a one might be overwhelmed by excessive sorrow.

2Co 2:8 Wherefore I urge you to reaffirm *your* love for him.

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Christians Must Rejoice And Accept All Who Repent To Be Saved

1Co 15:9 For I am the least of the apostles, and not fit to be called an apostle, because I persecuted the church of God.

1Co 15:10 But by the grace of God I am what I am, and His grace toward me did not prove vain; but I labored even more than all of them, yet not I, but the grace of God with me.

1Co 15:11 Whether then *it was* I or they, so we preach and so you believed.

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Lessons From The Parable of The Lost Son

1. Being lost is a sinful self-destructive choice that separates us from God
2. Repentance is an essential condition for our salvation
3. God is always ready and willing to welcome all penitent sinners
4. Christians must rejoice and accept all who repent to be saved

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