



# Teaching the way of God

## **PRODIGAL" LOVE (LUKE 15:11-24 ESV)**

### **1. About You (Self-Reflection)**

- Have you ever longed to hear words like “I love you” or “I’m proud of you” from someone significant in your life? How has the presence or absence of those words shaped your view of love or value?
- The son in the story isn’t just breaking rules—he’s rejecting relationship. In what ways do you sometimes distance yourself from God? What might be at the root of that tendency?
- When you think of God, do you more often imagine Him as joyful or stern? Why do you think that is, and how might that affect the way you relate to Him?
- Do you see yourself as someone who reflects the Father’s joy and grace in your relationships? In what ways do you want to grow in this?

### **2. Into the Bible (Biblical Exploration)**

- Compare the younger and elder sons’ approaches to the father (rebellion vs. moral performance). How do both reflect different forms of sin according to Romans 3:10–12 or Isaiah 64:6?
- Reflect on John 1:12 and Galatians 4:4–7. How do these verses expand your understanding of what it means to be restored as a son or daughter of God?

### **3. Application (Practical Life Change)**

- Spurgeon hoped that this parable would lead people to “arise and go to [their] Father.” Is there any part of your life where you feel far from God right now? What would it look like for you to take a step toward Him this week?
- The father divides his life (bios) for his son, showing costly love. What’s one way you could practice “costly love” toward someone in your life this week—especially someone who may have hurt or disappointed you?
- How can you cultivate a greater awareness and celebration of God's joy in your worship, family life, or community? Could this affect the way you sing, pray, or share your faith?