

01/11/2026

SUNDAY SCHOOL Section Review

Enduring Beliefs of the Christian Faith

Grace and Reconciliation

■ 1/4: 1 John 1:5 – 2:6

When we CHOOSE to follow Christ, one must recognize that we are sinners who need forgiveness while at the same time we CHOOSE to be humble and strive to be obedient. We lie when denying either

Mount Zion A.M.E. Church of New Brunswick, NJ
01/11/2026

By Paul T. Bennett Church School Superintendent

Enduring Beliefs of the Christian Faith

Grace and Reconciliation

Repentance and Faith

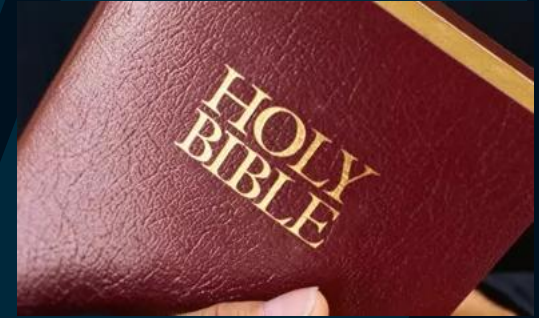
Luke 15:11 – 24;

Acts 2:38 – 39

*Anchor Text

2 TIMOTHY 3:16 (NIV)

¹⁶ All Scripture is God-breathed
and is useful for teaching,
rebuking, correcting and
training in righteousness,



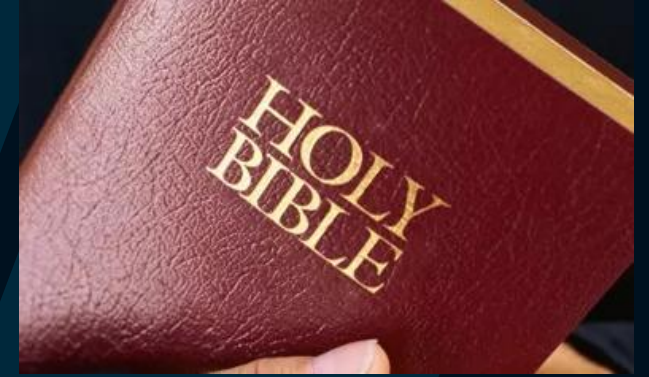
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Lesson Text

Parable of the Lost Son

Luke 15:11-12 (NKJV)

¹¹ Then He said: "A certain man had two sons. ¹² 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.



Lesson Text

Parable of the Lost Son

Luke 15:11-13 (NKJV)

¹³ And not many days after, the younger son gathered all together, journeyed to a far country, and there wasted his possessions with [a]prodigal living.

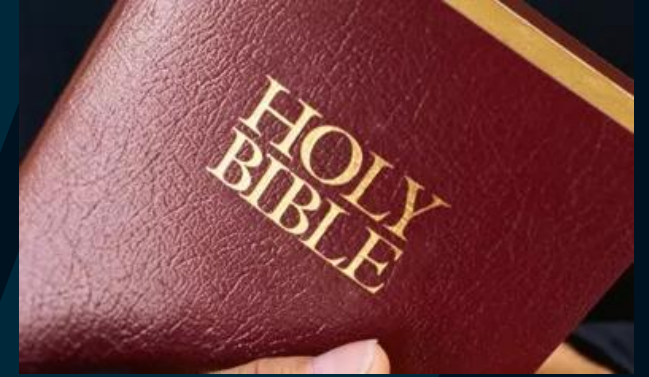


Lesson Text

Parable of the Lost Son

Luke 15:14-15 (NKJV)

¹⁴ But when he had spent all, there arose a severe famine in that land, and he began to be in want. ¹⁵ Then he went and joined himself to a citizen of that country, and he sent him into his fields to feed swine.



Lesson Text

Parable of the Lost Son

Luke 15:16 (NKJV)

¹⁶ And he would gladly have filled his stomach with the [b]pods that the swine ate, and no one gave him anything.



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COMMENTARY – LET THEM GO...

- As parents, we want to instill knowledge, understanding and wisdom into our children, but **EXPERIENCE** and **FAILURE** are the best teachers
- Loving our children enough to let them go is painful, but often necessary

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COMMENTARY – LET THEM GO...

- In those times, we trust God's Word that if we train them up in the way they should go, when they grow old, they will not depart from it (**Proverbs 22:6**)

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Lesson Text

Parable of the Lost Son

Luke 15:17 (NKJV)

17 “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!’



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Lesson Text

Parable of the Lost Son

Luke 15:18-19 (NKJV)

¹⁸ I will arise and go to my father, and will say to him, "Father, I have sinned against heaven and before you, ¹⁹ and I am no longer worthy to be called your son. Make me like one of your hired servants." '



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COMMENTARY: SELF AWARENESS

The fear of the LORD is the instruction of wisdom, And before honor is humility

– Proverbs 15:33



Self-Awareness is the catalyst for transformation, restoration and reconciliation

Lesson Text

Parable of the Lost Son

Luke 15:20 (NKJV)

²⁰ “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.

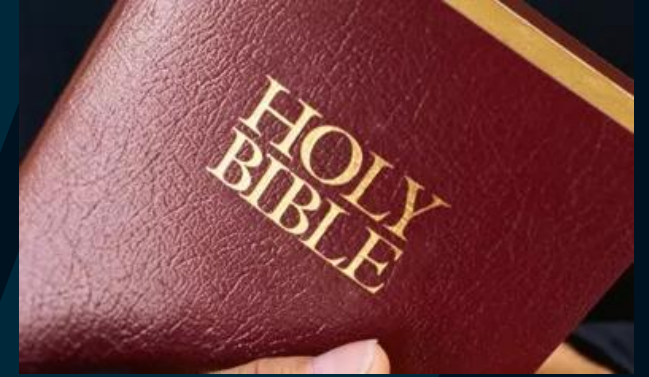


Lesson Text

Parable of the Lost Son

Luke 15:21 (NKJV)

**21 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.'**

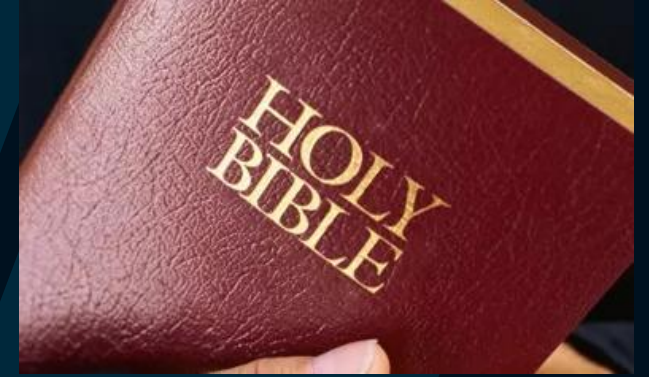


Lesson Text

Parable of the Lost Son

Luke 15:22 (NKJV)

22 “But the father said to his servants, [c]‘Bring out the best robe and put it on him, and put a ring on his hand and sandals on his feet.



Lesson Text

Parable of the Lost Son

Luke 15:23-24 (NKJV)

²³ And bring the fattened calf here and kill it, and let us eat and be merry;
²⁴ 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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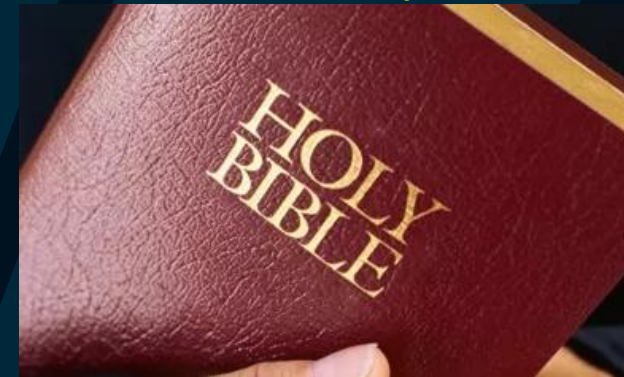
COMMENTARY – THE ‘GOOD’ SON

- A side narrative to the story is that of the son who did not leave, the one that did not disobey God and remained faithful. He became jealous because he was never given a feast

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COMMENTARY – THE ‘GOOD’ SON

- The father reminded him of how he has always been blessed and in a way, didn't 'need' a banquet.
- We can take our blessings for granted, which is another reason why being away from it is useful



Lesson Text

ACTS 2:38 (NKJV)

38 Then Peter said to them,
"Repent, and let every one of you
be baptized in the name of Jesus
Christ for the ^[a]remission of sins;
and you shall receive the gift of the
Holy Spirit.



Lesson Text

ACTS 2:39 (NKJV)

39 For the promise is to you and to your children, and to all who are afar off, as many as the Lord our God will call."

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COMMENTARY – COME HOME!

- Pride keeps people away from God, but that pride built on a false narrative of God's wrath
- The truth is, God loves us and wants to restore our relationship with Him

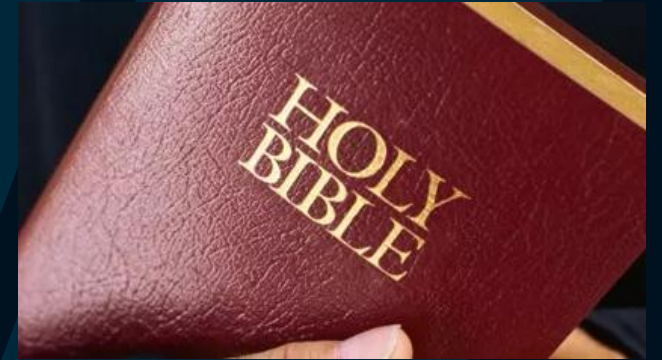
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COMMENTARY – COME HOME!

- Some of that narrative comes religious people. They preach a god of vengeance and punishment
- The Gospel is about reconciliation and repair. It is the GOOD NEWS that the world needs

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Scripture References



2 CORINTHIANS 5:11- 21

The Ministry of Reconciliation

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By Paul T. Bennett Church School Superintendent

Church School Creed

Our Church School must grow & grow
And we must help to make it so
Every member a Christian
Every Christian a worker
Every worker trained
A worker that will not be ashamed
This we ask in Jesus' name

-AMEN

Mount Zion A.M.E. Church of New Brunswick, NJ
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Church School Benediction

We have come

We have studied

We have learned

So until our next coming together

To study God's word

May His rich blessings reside with you

And may His Grace be eternally yours

-AMEN