June 07 / Sunday Baseball: A Home Run Read Luke 15:11-32



08 / Mon – Let me out of here! | Read Luke 15:11-12

When you were a little kid, did you ever run away from home or wished you could? In this parable, a story with a deeper meaning, the younger son decided to leave home and take his inheritance with him. Maybe he wanted to see the world and experience new things, maybe he just wanted to be his own boss. Whatever the reason, his father reluctantly let him go. Have you ever walked away for a time from your Father in heaven? What happened?

09 / Tue – Choices can cost more than just money | Read <u>Luke 15:13</u>

For a while, this young man was living the dream - free to do whatever he wanted, enough money to buy whatever his heart desired, and probably more friends than he had ever had before. As you read this familiar story, stop to consider what else he was squandering. What boundaries did he cross, what relationships did he damage, what values did he toss aside in pursuit of pleasure? Have you ever squandered any of these in the past? If not, what kept you from doing so?

10 / Wed - Stuff happens | Read Luke 15:14

At best, the future is only an educated guess. Experts look at events of the past and trends in the present to try to predict, but no one really knows what tomorrow will bring. A wise person will build margins in their life, keeping something in reserve for difficult times. This is not only true in finances but also in other areas of life. In a time when you could lose everything, what is the source of *your* reserves and how can you hang on to your integrity?

11 / Thu - Wake up | Read <u>Luke 15:15-19</u>

"You made the mess, now you clean it up" is a comment people may hear when things go sideways. And that is what this son, far from home, tried to do. His need to survive caused him to do things he would never have done under normal circumstances. What brought him to his senses and made him consider a run for home base? When you mess up big time, what wakes you up to reality and then propels you back to your Father?

12 / Fri – The reception | Read Luke 15:20-24 / John 3:17

This parable is one of three in Luke 15 that Jesus told about being lost. The point, repeated three times for emphasis, is how God thinks regarding what has been lost and His response when the lost has been found. What was the father's reaction when his son came home? That is how your heavenly Father responds when you repent (turn around) and reach out for Him. The son didn't let pride or guilt or shame stop him because he knew the character of his dad. Do you?

13 / Sat - Pointing fingers | Read <u>Luke 15:1-2 and 25-32</u>

The three parables in Luke 15 were addressed to the religious leaders who complained that Jesus was hanging around with sinners. The first two had a happy ending but this one is unresolved. If the younger son represents those who walk away from God, could the older one represent those doing all the right things? In different ways, both sons were lost. Which do you most relate to? What's your biggest takeaway from this story...and how will you apply it personally?

