

Shepherd Notes

Thank you to both Pastor Joseph and Jose Castaneda for filling in the pulpit while I ministered in Nayarit, Mexico. A big “thank you” to all of you who volunteer throughout the week to help make Christ’s name known. Whenever I minister in another place I always seem to experience a great sense of gratitude and joy to what I have here with you at NLCC. Now that I’m back I’ll be sharing with you what may be the most touching and best remembered parable of all, the parable of the Prodigal Son. It is described by Expositor’s Bible Commentary as “perhaps the crown and flower of all the parables”. Let’s discover together what costly love looks like as we examine the story of a father’s love for his wayward son.

Always pulling for you,

Pastor Luis

Based on today’s message how would you answer the following questions?

1. Why do you think the younger son was so eager to leave? Why do you think he moved so far from home?
2. When does the son realize his need for his father? Is there a time you walked away from the Lord? What brought you back?
3. What did the father do as soon as he saw his son returning? What about this moment horrified the Jewish listeners? How is this a picture of when we return to God?
4. Read Philippians 2:5-11 and compare to Luke 15:20-24. What things are similar in what God has done and what the Father did?
5. Compare the response of the father to each son. What does this story teach us about us and what does it teach us about God? What about this story makes you most grateful?

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