



### **Life Group Study Questions Luke 15:11-32**

1. Read Luke 15:11-32 together. As you think about this weekend's sermon, what stood out to you? What questions come to mind? Was there anything unclear or confusing?
2. Pastor Andrew began his sermon by saying there were 2 ways to reject the gospel: first, by rejecting God's law and living any way you see fit. Second, by embracing and obeying God's law to earn your salvation. Have you considered this before?
3. Have you ever known a prodigal? (Or perhaps you were one?) Did they ever come back to God? What was the process?
4. Look at each son in the story Jesus tells, beginning with the younger one. Why is attempting to find fulfillment in the world such an enticing thing? Have you ever had a moment when you "came to yourself"?
5. Think about the Father's response to his youngest son. Do you view God like this? Waiting, longing, running down the road. Accepting and welcoming lost sinners back. If your view of God is not like this, why not?
6. How do you see the older brother's lostness in his response to the father? Have you struggled with religious moralism before? Do you resonate with the older brother?
7. Respond to the quote below by Richard Lovelace. Is someone asked you how to be accepted by God, how would you answer?  
"Only a fraction of the present body of professing Christians are solidly appropriating the justifying work of Christ in their lives. Many have a theoretical commitment to this doctrine, but in their day-to-day existence they rely on their sanctification for justification...drawing their assurance of acceptance with God from their sincerity, their past experience of conversion, their recent religious performance or the relative infrequency of their conscious, willful disobedience. Few know enough to start each day with a thoroughgoing stand upon Luther's platform: you are accepted, looking outward in faith and claiming the wholly alien righteousness of Christ as the only ground for acceptance, relaxing in that quality of trust which will produce increasing sanctification as faith is active in love and gratitude. Christians who are no longer sure that God loves and accepts them in Jesus, apart from their present spiritual achievements, are subconsciously radically insecure persons. Their insecurity shows itself in pride, a fierce defensive assertion of their own righteousness and defensive criticism of others." - Richard Lovelace