

At Home With the Father

Luke 15:11-32

The Story:

Younger Brother: Life begins by leaving home.

The Father: The Source, Seeker, and Celebrator.

Older Brother: Life begins when I've earned my home.

Application:

- 1. Ultimately, <u>sin</u> is leaving the Father.
- 2. Ultimately, <u>salvation</u> is God's gracious act of bringing us home to Him.

Download "<u>At Home With the Father"</u> (12/5/10 #11 in *Your Kingdom Come* series) free, or share it via email, Facebook or Twitter at hcbc.com/media. You may also purchase a CD at the Resource Center in the East Lobby.

REALife Application

Use the following questions this week to reflect on what it would mean to align yourself with the truths taught in Scripture. Each question is meant for both personal reflection and as a catalyst for discussion with your family, friends, or REALife Group.

- 1) Do you ever feel (or have you ever felt) that your life would be more fulfilling if God (and His righteous ways) would just leave you alone and let you do what you want to do? Have you ever identified with the "younger brother" in this story?
- 2) What are some of the things the younger brother fails to take into consideration as he makes his demands on the father and leaves to pursue his new freedom?
- 3) Are you surprised by the father's response to either of his sons? How is the father in this story like God? What is God's work in our salvation?
- 4) Do you relate to the "older brother"? What was his flaw in thinking about the father? How can we avoid this "older brother syndrome"?

Memory Verse

Luke 15:32

"But we had to celebrate and be glad, because this brother of yours was dead and is alive again; he was lost and is found."