

Please take the time to go over any devotions you may have missed and to brush up on the memory verse at the top of the devotions. Pray for the summer events, that they would reach out and provide a "home" for all attend. Please pray for our guest speaker this weekend, Craig Barnes. Pray that God will use him to teach you and encourage you this weekend. Thanks!

Prayer Updates

Hospitalized & Surgeries

Alicia Vierra (age 8, Ronald McDonald House, Palo Alto) — recovering from facial reconstruction surgery

Destiny File (16, Monte Vista student) — beginning treatment for leukemia, at Stanford

James Patterson — circulation problems

Marilee Henry — doing well

Millie Osenta — gall bladder surgery

Norma Moniodis — RCU, cancer complications

Ron Wardle — critically ill

Shirley VanGilder — RCU, diagnosis unknown

Recent hospitalizations/surgeries: Aleeta Zapata, Bob Gubser, Carolyn Quale, Cathie Stewart, Ellie Tefertiller, Gerry DiBenedetto, Helen Ellis, James Schaller, Ken Kostello, Marvin Lawrence, Robert Sanders

Home with the Lord

Heartfelt prayer is extended to Kathy Gingrich in the loss of her dear husband, **Art Gingrich**, a long-time member of Twin Lakes Church who loved to participate on missions trips. Also, remember their daughters, Kathy Hartman, Angel Brazil, and granddaughter, Vanessa Ilse in prayer. A celebration of Art's life will be held at Twin Lakes Church on Saturday, June 28 at 1pm with a reception following.

We want to provide pastoral support...

Please call 465-3395 when someone is hospitalized, scheduled for surgery, becomes a shut-in, or in special need. Prayer support is available through our pastors and numerous prayer groups — call 689-9400. Please pick up a Prayer Update at the Information Desk or Welcome Center. **Subscribe to the Prayer Update:** www.tlc.org/profiles

stories

4 PARABLES OF JESUS



Part 4: Lost: How to Come Home to God (Luke 15:11-32)

Jesus continued: "There was a man who had two sons. The younger one said... 'Father, give me my share of the estate.' ...He set off for a distant country and there squandered his wealth in wild living." *Luke 15:11-13 (NIV)*

Jesus' mission: To _____ and _____ the _____

1. Come _____

"When **he came to his senses**, he said, 'How many of my father's hired men have food to spare, and here I am starving to death...'" *Luke 15:17*

2. Come _____

"I will... say to him: 'Father, **I have sinned...**'" *Luke 15:18*

3. Come _____

"**I will** set out and **go back** to my father..." *Luke 15:18*

What Does This Tell Me About God?

- God is patient enough to _____
"...While he (the son) was still a long way off, his father saw him..." *Luke 15:20b*
- God is passionate enough to _____
"...he **ran** to his son... threw his arms around him and kissed him." *Luke 15:20c*
- God is forgiving enough to _____
"...I have sinned against heaven and against you. I am no longer worthy to be called your son." *Luke 15:21*

4. Come _____

"But the father said to his servants, 'Quick! Bring the **best** robe and put it on him. Put a **ring** on his finger and sandals on his feet. Bring the fattened calf and kill it. **Let's have a feast and celebrate.** For this son of mine was dead and is alive again; he was lost and is found.' So they began to celebrate..." **The older brother was angry and refused to go in.** *Luke 15:22-24,28a*

The lesson of the story for the older brother: _____

The lesson of the story for the younger brother: _____

Daily Meditations

Monday

What point of this weekend's message hit home for you?

Read Luke 15:11-24. How did the younger son live when he was out on his own? What happened to him there?

Why did the father call for a celebration?

How have you been like the prodigal son in this story?

What do the actions of the father represent?

Today, thank God for His amazing love for you! If you are a prodigal, now is the day to come home running into His arms! Also, please pray this summer's events will honor God and reach out the prodigal sons and daughters!

Tuesday

Read Luke 15:25-32. What complaints did the older brother bring to his father?

Why did the father want the older brother be happy?

When have you been like the older brother? How do "church people" act like the older brother at times?

Read Luke 14:15-24. How would it feel to plan a big event and have no one attend?

How did the master ensure that the banquet would be full?

How does your responsibility to God correspond to the actions of the servant?

Pray that your heart will be full of joy as you see prodigals bearing the message of God's love next weekend — and go to the "highways and byways" to invite them! Please pray this summer's event and church services will bring joy to the church and be effective in reaching our community.

continued 

Wednesday

Read Luke 15:1-7. Recall a time as a child when you were separated from your family or group of friends, or a time when you lost a child. What did that feel like?

In verse 2, what were the leaders grumbling about?

In this parable, how might the sheep have gotten lost? How do you sometimes go astray?

How does a shepherd bring a lost sheep home (vs. 5)?

What does he do when he brings the sheep home?

Thank God today that He will go looking for you! Ask God to show you what you can do this week to help bring lost sheep home. Ask God to give you the courage to invite someone to church this weekend.

Thursday

Please read Luke 15:8-10. What emotions do you feel when you find a valuable item that was lost?

What can you learn about God from this parable?

What can you learn about how God values people from this parable?

With what "lost coin" can you share God's love this week?

Thank God today for His patience and persistence with you. Thank Him for His amazing love. Please pray that God will be honored in the services this weekend and that we'll have many reasons to rejoice at "found coins."

Friday

In summary of all these passages we've seen this week, how do these three parables answer the Pharisees' objection in Luke 15:2? What do they explain about why Jesus came to earth?

Today I would like to ask you to spend some extra time in prayer dedicating the evangelistic mission of this summer to God in prayer. Pray that the church will grow through this summer. Pray that the people who attend, whether believers or seekers, will grow closer to Christ. Pray that God will lay on your heart the names of some people to invite.



Memory Verse

“Let's have a feast and celebrate. For this son of mine was dead and is alive again; he was lost and is found.' So they began to celebrate.” *Luke 15:23b,24*