

Cell Groups – “The Lost Son”

Week beginning 3rd February 2013.

Luke 15 : 11-24.

A well known story, which follows the stories of the lost sheep and the lost coin.

1. Have you any reflections about or points to raise about the sermon.
2. The son said “give me” (v12). Was his request reasonable? What do you think his motives were? What effect could this have had on the father?
3. In prayer can we emulate the son and say “give me” too readily? It has been said “be careful what you ask for in prayer, as God might just give it to you”. Discuss. You may want to consider Hezekiah’s prayer in 2 Kings 20.
4. Why do you think the son went to a distant land? (v13). It is interesting that we have just finished a series on Jonah, who also wished to go to a distant land. Compare and contrast the son and Jonah.
5. The son appears to have had no problems spending his inheritance! (v14). How would the son feel about his work feeding pigs? (v15,16)
6. “Coming to his senses” is a lovely phrase (v17). What was the son’s thought process before making the decision to return to the father? (v17-20).
7. What process is a person likely to go through in coming to faith in Christ?
8. Does God use misfortune to challenge people spiritually?
9. v20 suggests that the father was looking out for the son, who was welcomed with love, grace and mercy and a feast. What different reception could the son have experienced? (Deut. 21 : 18-21)
10. The father used the phrase “was dead and is now alive” – this could be applied to all believers. Praise God for our salvation, our new life in Jesus and all our blessings in Christ. Read Isaiah 61 : 10-11.