

LIVING *a better* STORY

A SERIES *on* THE PARABLES



THE PARABLE *of* THE PRODIGAL SON

PART 2 *of* 2



*“that’s just **not** fair!”*



the **ELDER BROTHER**
SYNDROME



E.B.S.



the **ELDER BROTHER**
SYNDROME

CORE *of* E.B.S.
Resistance *to*
God's grace



the **ELDER BROTHER**
SYNDROME

Grace offends
our innate desire
for justice

mercy
He doesn't give us what we deserve



INSTEAD, He give us what we don't deserve...

grace

LUKE 15:1-2

Now the tax collectors and sinners were all gathering around to hear Jesus. But the Pharisees and the teachers of the law muttered,

“This man welcomes sinners and eats with them.”

J E S U S

*“Why don’t **you** eat
with them?”*

LUKE 15:25-32

Meanwhile, the older son was in the field. When he came near the house, he heard music and dancing. So he called one of the servants and asked him what was going on. “Your brother has come,” he replied, “and your father has killed the fattened calf because he has him back safe and sound.” The older brother became angry and refused to go in. So his father went out and pleaded with him.

LUKE 15:25-32

But he answered his father,
“Look! All these years I’ve
been slaving for you and never
disobeyed your orders. Yet
you never gave me even a
young goat so I could
celebrate with my friends.
But when this son of yours
who has squandered your
property with prostitutes
comes home, you kill the
fattened calf for him!”

THE PARABLE *of*
THE PRODIGAL SON

LUKE 15:25-32

“My son,” the father said,
“you are always with me, and
everything I have is yours.
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.”



the THREE
PARTY KILLERS

#1 Chronic
Resentment

*“Look! All these years I have been slaving for you and **never** disobeyed your orders.”*



the THREE
PARTY KILLERS

#2 Chronic
Complaint

*“You never even gave me a young goat so
I could celebrate with my friends.”*



the THREE
PARTY KILLERS

#3 Chronic
Judgmentalism

“But when this son of yours who has squandered your property with prostitutes comes home, you kill the fattened calf for him.”

the FATHER
offers the son
SIGNIFICANCE

LUKE 15:28

The older brother became
angry and refused to go in.
So his father went out and
pleaded with him.

the FATHER
offers the son
RESPECT

LUKE 15:28

The older brother became
angry and refused to go in.
So his father went out and
pleaded with him.

A woman in a white dress with a patterned shawl is standing on a beach, her hand reaching out towards the ocean. In the foreground, an open book is visible, displaying a Bible verse. The background shows a sandy beach and the ocean under a bright sky.

the FATHER
offers the son
RELATIONSHIP

LUKE 15:31

“My son,’ the father said,
‘you are always with me, and
everything I have is yours.’



the FATHER
offers the son
GRACE

LUKE 15:31

“My son,’ the father said,
‘you are always with me, and
everything I have is yours.”

Lost people *matter* to God

God longs *for* SINNERS to return home
A N D
for the SAINTS to join the party.

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