

Seeing "It" From His Perspective

Luke 15:11-20

Malcolm Marshall

What we've done in our culture is that we've replaced _____ with words like "mistakes, issues, challenges".

When you call _____ something other than it really is, you minimize the weight of it.

In order to fix a mistake, an issue or a challenge, it would _____ we know there's something to be fixed.

A working definition of _____: Anything you think, say, do or don't do that does not please God.

Luke 15:11-12 *He also said: "A man had two sons. The younger of them said to his father, 'Father, give me the share of the estate I have coming to me.' So he distributed the assets to them."*

(Sin _____ us to our own selfishness.)

"One great power of sin is that it blinds men so that they do not recognize its true character." - Andrew Murray

Luke 15:13-16 *"Not many days later, the younger son gathered together all he had and traveled to a distant country, where he squandered his estate in foolish living. After he had spent everything, a severe famine struck that country, and he had nothing. Then he went to work for one of the citizens of that country, who sent him into his fields to feed pigs. He longed to eat his fill from the carob pods the pigs were eating, but no one would give him any."*

(Sin takes us _____ than we want to go & causes us to _____ questionable behaviors.)

Luke 15:17-19 *“When he came to his senses, he said, ‘How many of my father’s hired hands have more than enough food, and here I am dying of hunger! I’ll get up, go to my father, and say to him, Father, I have sinned against heaven and in your sight. I’m no longer worthy to be called your son. Make me like one of your hired hands.’”*

(Sin _____ relationships.)

(The only way for a broken relationship to be _____ is for the offender to acknowledge there was an offense.)

Luke 15:20 *“So he got up and went to his father. But while the son was still a long way off, his father saw him and was filled with compassion. He ran, threw his arms around his neck, and kissed him.”*

(Walking in _____ looks like being willing to say, “I don’t care what everybody else thinks!”.)

The way to be restored is to seek forgiveness. Mistakes do not necessarily require forgiveness. _____ does. Recognition of sin paves the way back to restoration.

Only those who realize the depth of their _____ can truly appreciate the complete forgiveness God offers.

Some of you here today might be thinking, *“Well, I’m a good person. I haven’t killed anyone. I pay my taxes. I mind my business. I’m good.”* My response to you would be two-fold:

- 1) Who’s the one defining good, you or God?
- 2) *“I’m a good person”* has never been God’s standard.

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