The Prodigal Son: Discovering the Father's Heart



Explore God's heart for the lost through the story of the Prodigal Son and experience the Father's welcoming love in this 21-day journey.





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Introduction

Welcome to this 21-day Bible study journey focused on the story of the Prodigal Son, one of Jesus' most profound parables revealing the heart of God for the lost. In Luke 15:11-32, Jesus paints a vivid picture of a father who eagerly waits and warmly welcomes his wandering son back home, illustrating the relentless love and grace God extends to each of us.

The Prodigal Son challenges us to reflect on our own relationship with God — whether we're like the younger son who strays and returns, the older son who wrestles with grace, or the loving Father who freely offers forgiveness. Throughout these 21 days, we'll dive deeply into Scripture to explore themes of repentance, forgiveness, grace, restoration, and the joy found in reconciliation.

This study is not just about understanding a story but encountering the Father's heart personally. You will be invited to examine your own journey, experience God's welcoming embrace, and learn how to extend that grace to others who may be lost or wandering.

Each day includes a primary Scripture passage, supporting verses, devotional reflections, thoughtful questions, journaling prompts, and prayers. As you commit time daily, allow the Spirit to minister to you through this incredible story that shows God's immeasurable love for lost souls and His desire for us to come home.







Let this journey renew your hope and deepen your understanding of God's character — especially His patience, mercy, and delight in restoration. Whether you identify with the prodigal, the elder son, or the Father, may you encounter God's heart afresh and be transformed by His grace. Let's begin this life-changing adventure together!

















Your Verse

Luke 15:11-12 NIV "Jesus continued: 'There was a man who had two sons...'"

Supporting Scriptures

- Luke 15:1–2 'Now the tax collectors and sinners were all gathering around to hear Jesus.'
- Matthew 18:11 'For the Son of Man came to save the lost.'







Devotional: Setting the Stage for Grace and Redemption

The story of the Prodigal Son begins with a simple yet powerful statement:

There was a man who had two sons. This sets the foundation for a deep exploration of human choices, brokenness, and divine love.

Tax collectors and sinners were drawn to Jesus' teaching because His message radiated hope for the hopeless and restoration for the lost. The parable is a vivid illustration of Jesus' mission: to seek and save those who are far from God.

As we open this study, consider how God sees you. Whether you feel close or distant, His heart is for you — a heart that longs to restore, heal, and bring you into wholeness. The stage is set for a journey that reveals God's grace through the story of a son who dared to wander yet was welcomed home.

Reflect on your place in this story and prepare to experience the Father's love like never before.







Reflect and Apply

	What emotions do the opening words stir in you about the family dynamic?
2.	Have you ever felt like one of the sons in this story? Why?
3.	What do you think draws the lost to Jesus' teaching?







Journaling Prompts

1.	Write about a time you felt far from God and what led you there.
2.	Describe your expectations of God's love before starting this study.
3.	List any questions you hope this study will answer about God's grace.







Prayer for Today

Father, thank You for inviting me into Your story of grace and restoration.

Help me open my heart wide to receive Your love and understand Your desire to bring me home. Teach me through this study to see myself through Your eyes and to embrace the hope You offer. I long to know You more deeply and experience Your unending mercy. Guide me gently each day as I walk closer to Your heart. *In Jesus' name, Amen.*















Your Verse

Luke 15:12 NIV "The younger one said to his father, 'Father, give me my share of the estate.' So he divided his property between them."

Supporting Scriptures

- Genesis 13:8-9 'Let's part company... If you go to the left, I'll go to the right.'
- Proverbs 3:5-6 'Trust in the Lord with all your heart... He will make your paths straight.'







Devotional: The Consequences of Choosing Our Own Path

The younger son's bold request to his father is a pivotal moment: he wants his inheritance now—a controversial and disrespectful demand in that culture. It represents a desire to control his own life, separate from his father's guidance.

This moment reflects a spiritual reality: choosing independence from God often leads us down uncertain and difficult paths. The younger son is essentially saying, 'I want to go my way,' without fully comprehending the consequences.

Many of us have made similar choices—trusting ourselves over God's plan. Yet this parable reassures us that even when we stray, the Father's love remains steadfast and ready to restore.

As we reflect today, consider the ways you've sought independence and how that journey unfolded. What does it mean to truly trust God with your life's path instead of relying solely on your own understanding?







Reflect and Apply

	Have you ever asked God for something that seemed urgent but was not best for you?
2.	What fears or desires drive you to want control over your circumstances?
3.	How does trusting God transform the way you make decisions?







Journaling Prompts

1.	Write about a time you decided to go your own way instead of following God's guidance.
2.	List areas in your life where you need to surrender control to God.
3.	Pray and journal about trusting God's timing and plan for your future.







Prayer for Today

God, I confess my desire to control my life and my journey. Teach me to trust You fully and surrender my plans to Your wisdom. Help me see that Your ways lead to life and hope, even when I don't understand. Thank You for being patient and ready to welcome me back when I stray. Guide me to walk in Your path today. *In Jesus' name, Amen.*

















Your Verse

Luke 15:13 NIV "Not long after that, the younger son got together all he had, set off for a distant country and there squandered his wealth in wild living."

Supporting Scriptures

- Proverbs 21:20 'The wise store up choice food and olive oil, but fools gulp theirs down.'
- James 1:14–15 'Each person is tempted when they are dragged away by their own evil desire... ends in death.'







Devotional: The Cost of Squandering Blessings

The younger son's journey into a distant country represents a physical and spiritual separation from his father's protection. His reckless living and rapid depletion of resources illustrate how quickly things can fall apart when we chase after selfish desires.

This part of the story challenges us to consider how we might be squandering God's blessings through poor choices or distractions. The lure of freedom and indulgence is often appealing but can lead to emptiness and despair.

Yet even in the wasteland of wasted wealth and broken dreams, God's heart never turns away. The story has only just begun, and the Father is watching for the moment of return.

Reflect today on what it means to let go of what truly matters and follow after fleeting pleasures. What does God desire to restore in your life?







Reflect and Apply

1.	What are some ways you've 'squandered' gifts or opportunities God gave you?
2.	How do you respond when faced with the consequences of poor choices?
3.	What can help you resist temptation and walk in wisdom?







Journaling Prompts

1.	Describe areas where you feel your life is out of alignment with God's plan.
2.	Write about lessons learned from past mistakes or times of brokenness.
3.	Commit specific actions to preserve and steward what God has given you.







Prayer for Today

Lord, forgive me when I waste the blessings You have entrusted to me. Help me redirect my heart toward what is lasting and good in Your eyes. Give me strength to resist temptation and return to Your embrace when I fall. Thank You for never giving up on me, even when I stray far away. Teach me wisdom and gratitude. *In Jesus' name, Amen.*









Day 4: \tag{Hunger and Humility}









Day 4: N Hunger and Humility

Your Verse

Luke 15:14-16 NIV "After he had spent everything, there was a severe famine in that whole country, and he began to be in need... He longed to fill his stomach with the pods that the pigs were eating..."

Supporting Scriptures

- Psalm 107:9 'For he satisfies the thirsty and fills the hungry with good things.'
- Philippians 2:3-4 'Do nothing out of selfish ambition... Rather, value others above yourselves.'







Day 4: \(\square\) Hunger and Humility

Devotional: Hit Rock Bottom to Look Upward

From wealth to starvation, the prodigal son encounters the crushing reality of his choices. His hunger is physical but also spiritual—symbolizing a deep emptiness only God can fill.

Interestingly, the lowest point prompts the beginning of change because humility often opens the heart to God's intervention. When we recognize our need, we are ready to seek Him with sincere repentance.

Like the prodigal, you may be facing your own moments of brokenness or desperation. This story encourages us that it's OK to hit 'rock bottom' if it leads us to look upward and inward, toward true restoration.

Ask yourself: How does humility position us for God's healing and new life?







Day 4: \ Hunger and Humility

Reflect and Apply

1.	Can you relate to moments when your need made you turn back to God?
2.	What does humility look like in your daily life?
3.	How can facing difficulties deepen your trust in God?







Day 4: \ Hunger and Humility

Journaling Prompts

1.	Write about a time when hardship opened your heart to God.
2.	List ways to cultivate humility and dependence on God daily.
3.	Reflect on what God might want to teach you through current challenges.







Day 4: N Hunger and Humility

Prayer for Today

Father, in my weakness and need, I turn to You. Teach me humility and help me recognize my dependence on Your grace. Fill the emptiness within me and restore my soul. Thank You for never abandoning me during my lowest moments. Mold my heart to trust You more deeply each day. *In Jesus' precious name, Amen.*















Your Verse

Luke 15:17–19 NIV "When he came to his senses, he said, 'How many of my father's hired servants have food to spare, and here I am starving to death!"

Supporting Scriptures

- Psalm 34:18 'The Lord is close to the brokenhearted and saves those who are crushed in spirit.'
- Isaiah 55:7 'Let the wicked forsake their ways and the unrighteous their thoughts... and return to the Lord.'







Devotional: Sober Reflection Awakens Return

A powerful moment happens when the younger son 'comes to his senses.'

Awareness brings clarity—he recognizes not only his dire situation but also the abundant provision and love waiting for him at home.

This realization ignites hope. It reminds us that no matter how far we wander, the Father's house remains ready, full of grace and acceptance.

Coming to our senses means acknowledging our need to return to God, no longer hiding behind excuses or pride. It's a courageous step toward healing and reconciliation.

Reflect today on what it means to remember God's provision and mercy even in your darkest moments. What keeps you anchored in hope?







Reflect and Apply

1.	What does it mean to 'come to your senses' spiritually?
2.	How has hope motivated you to turn back to God in the past?
3.	In what ways can you remind yourself of God's faithfulness daily?







Journaling Prompts

	Write a prayer of confession and hope reflecting your desire to return to God.
2.	List memories or Scriptures that remind you of God's unfailing love.
3.	Detail practical steps you can take to reconnect with God this week.







Prayer for Today

Lord, thank You for never giving up on me and always welcoming me back. Help me remember Your faithfulness and provision even when I feel lost. Give me courage to return with a humble heart and trust in Your forgiveness. May hope rise within me each day anew. *In Jesus' name, Amen.*

















Day 6: 1 The Journey Home Begins

Your Verse

Luke 15:20 NIV "But while he was still a long way off, his father saw him and was filled with compassion for him; he ran to his son, threw his arms around him and kissed him."

Supporting Scriptures

- 2 Corinthians 5:17 'If anyone is in Christ, the new creation has come.'
- Psalm 103:13 'As a father has compassion on his children, so the Lord has compassion on those who fear him.'







Day 6: 1 The Journey Home Begins

Devotional: The Father's Unwavering Compassion

The hallmark of this parable is the father's spontaneous, joyous compassion even before his son arrives. This radical grace defies cultural expectations by showing the father running—an act of vulnerability and love—to welcome the son.

God's compassion never waits for perfect repentance but reaches out first. This love conveys acceptance, removes shame, and restores identity.

Imagine the father's heart: overflowing with mercy and readiness to embrace the lost. This invites us into a transformative understanding of God's grace always abundant, always initiating reconciliation.

Reflect on how God's compassion might be touching your life right now and how you might extend similar grace to others.







Day 6: 🏠 The Journey Home Begins

Reflect and Apply

1.	What does it mean that the father ran to meet his son?
2.	How does God's compassion differ from human expectations of fairness?
3.	In what areas of your life do you need to accept God's grace more fully?







Day 6: 🏠 The Journey Home Begins

Journaling Prompts

	Write about moments when you felt God's compassion before you asked for it.
2.	List ways to extend grace and compassion to people around you.
3.	Pray about how God might use your story to encourage others.







Day 6: 1 The Journey Home Begins

Prayer for Today

Gracious Father, thank You for Your overwhelming compassion and love.

Help me receive Your embrace without hesitation and accept Your forgiveness freely. Teach me to show mercy and kindness to those in need, reflecting Your heart. May my life be a testimony of Your grace. *In Jesus' name, Amen.*



















Day 7: 🕭 Restoration and Celebration

Your Verse

Luke 15:22–24 NIV "But the father said to his servants... 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."

Supporting Scriptures

- Isaiah 61:10 'He has clothed me with garments of salvation and arrayed me in a robe of his righteousness.'
- Romans 5:8 'But God demonstrates his own love for us in this: While we were still sinners, Christ died for us.'







Day 7: 🤌 Restoration and Celebration

Devotional: Joy in Restoration and New Life

The father's command to celebrate reveals that restoration is not just personal but communal and joyful. The prodigal son's return is marked with honor, dignity, and rejoicing—a complete reversal from shame and rejection.

God delights in our return and restores us fully, clothing us with righteousness and welcoming us back into His family with celebration.

As you meditate today, embrace the joy God has prepared for you upon your restoration. You are renewed, forgiven, and infinitely loved.

How can this joy influence your identity and purpose moving forward?







Day 7: 🏂 Restoration and Celebration

Reflect and Apply

How does celebrating restoration impact your view of God's forgiveness?
What does 'being alive again' mean in your spiritual walk?
How can you share the joy of restoration with others who feel lost?







Day 7: 🏂 Restoration and Celebration

Journaling Prompts

1.	Write about ways you have experienced restoration by God.
2.	List celebrations or gratitudes to praise God for His mercy.
3.	Consider how to encourage others with the message of hope and joy.







Day 7: 🥕 Restoration and Celebration

Prayer for Today

Thank You, Father, for the joy of restoration and new life. Fill me with gladness as I live in Your grace each day. Help me to celebrate not only my own salvation but also the salvation of others. May my life reflect Your joyous welcome and love. *In Jesus' victorious name, Amen.*









Day 8: The Older Son's Struggle









Your Verse

Luke 15:25–28 NIV "Meanwhile, the older son was in the field... When he came near the house, he heard music and dancing."

Supporting Scriptures

- Ecclesiastes 4:4 'Envy is the torment of the soul.'
- Psalm 73:3-4 'For I envied the arrogant when I saw the prosperity of the wicked.'







Devotional: The Battle with Bitterness and Self-Righteousness

The older son's reaction illustrates a painful struggle: he feels overlooked and resentful. Despite his faithfulness and obedience, he wrestles with jealousy and anger toward his brother's celebration.

This part of the parable reveals a common spiritual pitfall—pride and self-righteousness can blind us to God's mercy toward others and hinder our own joy.

Are there areas in your heart where bitterness keeps you from rejoicing in God's grace for others? God's invitation reaches all His children, and He desires unity and compassion between us.

Consider how humility and grace can transform your perspective today.







Reflect and Apply

1.	Have you ever felt like the older son? Why?
2.	How does envy affect your relationship with God and others?
3.	What steps can you take to cultivate a heart of genuine grace?







Journaling Prompts

1.	Write honestly about feelings of bitterness or comparison in your life.
2.	List blessings you have often taken for granted.
3.	Pray for God to heal any resentment and fill you with love.







Prayer for Today

Lord, I confess when my heart has been hard and resentful. Forgive me for moments of pride that separate me from Your love and others. Teach me to celebrate Your mercy toward all your children and to love as You love. Heal my wounds and soften my heart. *In Jesus' name, Amen.*

















Your Verse

Luke 15:29–32 NIV "My son,' the father said, 'you are always with me, and everything I have is yours..."

Supporting Scriptures

- Ephesians 4:2 'Be completely humble and gentle; be patient, bearing with one another in love.'
- Colossians 3:13 'Bear with each other and forgive one another if any of you has a grievance.'







Devotional: Grace That Challenges and Restores

The father speaks with mercy and clarity to the older son, inviting him to embrace grace rather than resentment. His words remind us that God's blessings are abundant and available to all His children, not just a select few.

God's correction is gentle but firm—calling us from judgment toward compassion and unity.

We are invited to celebrate others' restoration as part of the family, understanding that grace is never limited but freely shared.

Reflect on how God's loving correction shapes your relationships and your heart toward the lost.







Reflect and Apply

1.	How does God gently correct you through Scripture or prayer?
2.	What might you need to release to accept full grace for others?
	How can you foster unity instead of division within your faith community?







Journaling Prompts

	Write a letter to God expressing your struggles with grace and forgiveness.
2.	Journal about ways You can practice humility and patience with others.
3.	Make a commitment to celebrate God's work in others' lives regularly.







Prayer for Today

Father, thank You for Your gentle correction and immeasurable grace. Help me to accept Your loving words and extend that same grace to others. Remove any jealousy or division in my heart. Teach me to walk in humility and celebrate Your work in every life. *In Jesus' name, Amen.* \heartsuit \clubsuit \clubsuit

















Your Verse

Luke 15:7 NIV "I tell you that in the same way there will be more rejoicing in heaven over one sinner who repents than over ninety-nine righteous persons who do not need to repent."

Supporting Scriptures

- John 3:16 'For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son.'
- Ezekiel 34:16 'I will search for the lost and bring back the strays.'







Devotional: Heaven's Joy Over Return

Jesus highlights heaven's joy over a repentant sinner to reveal the depth of God's passion for the lost. It's not about condemnation but celebration when we turn back to God.

This truth emphasizes that repentance is never the end but the glorious beginning of renewed life and relationship with the Father.

God delights in each person who returns home. Our response to lost souls should mirror that joy—with patience, hope, and unwavering love.

Consider how this heavenly perspective changes the way you view people far from God and your role in welcoming them.







Reflect and Apply

1.	How does knowing heaven rejoices impact your view of repentance?
	In what ways can you celebrate and encourage those who are returning to God?
	How can you cultivate a heart that seeks the lost with joy and compassion?







Day 10: \triangle God's Heart for the Lost

Journaling Prompts

1.	Write about someone you hope will experience God's welcoming love.
2.	Reflect on how you can share the Gospel in a way that invites hope.
3.	List practical ways you can celebrate others' spiritual milestones.







Prayer for Today

Loving Father, thank You for Your passionate heart for the lost. Help me to share Your joy when people return to You. Stir in me a desire to pray and reach out with patience and love. Use me as a vessel of hope and welcome. *In Jesus' name, Amen.*







Day 11: W Freedom Through Forgiveness









Day 11: 🐯 Freedom Through Forgiveness

Your Verse

Ephesians 4:32 NIV "Be kind and compassionate to one another, forgiving each other, just as in Christ God forgave you."

Supporting Scriptures

- Matthew 6:14 'For if you forgive other people when they sin against you, your heavenly Father will also forgive you.'
- Colossians 3:12–13 'Clothe yourselves with compassion, kindness, humility... forgiving each other.'







Day 11: 🐯 Freedom Through Forgiveness

Devotional: The Power and Peace of Forgiving

Forgiveness is central to the Prodigal Son's story and to Christian living. The father's act of forgiveness demonstrates the freedom and peace that come when grace overcomes resentment.

God's forgiveness in Christ is our model and motivation to forgive others, releasing burdens and restoring relationships.

Forgiving is not always easy, but it is liberating, reflecting God's heart and inviting us into His peace.

Reflect on any unforgiveness you may be holding and how choosing to forgive may bring healing to your soul and others.







Day 11: 🖏 Freedom Through Forgiveness

Reflect and Apply

1.	Who do you need to forgive in order to experience freedom?
2.	How has God's forgiveness impacted your life personally?
	What barriers prevent you from forgiving others, and how can you overcome them?







Day 11: 🖏 Freedom Through Forgiveness

Journaling Prompts







Day 11: 🐯 Freedom Through Forgiveness

Prayer for Today

Merciful God, thank You for forgiving me through Christ. Empower me to forgive others as You have forgiven me. Heal any bitterness or hurt I carry and fill me with Your peace. Help me to live in freedom and grace each day. *In Jesus' name, Amen.* 🖏 🙏 👀









Day 12: 🥬 New Life in Christ









Day 12: 🥦 New Life in Christ

Your Verse

2 Corinthians 5:17 NIV "Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, the new creation has come: The old has gone, the new is here!"

Supporting Scriptures

- Romans 6:4 'We were therefore buried with him through baptism into death in order that, just as Christ was raised from the dead... we too may live a new life.'
- Galatians 2:20 'I have been crucified with Christ and I no longer live, but Christ lives in me.'







Day 12: // New Life in Christ

Devotional: Embracing a Fresh Start

Returning to the Father ushers in new life—a fresh beginning marked by transformation. Our identity is no longer defined by past failures but by the new creation we become in Christ.

This new life brings freedom from old mistakes, hope for the future, and empowerment through the Holy Spirit to live according to God's purpose.

Today, embrace the new you God has made, leaving behind guilt and stepping into His plans with confidence and joy.

Reflect on what it means to start anew and how this truth can shape your daily living.







Day 12: 🥬 New Life in Christ

Reflect and Apply

1.	What old habits or identities do you need to release to live fully in Christ?
2.	How does knowing you are a new creation affect your self-worth?
3.	What practical steps can help you walk daily in your new identity?







Day 12: 🥬 New Life in Christ

Journaling Prompts

1.	Write about areas where you sense new life blossoming in you.
2.	List affirmations from Scripture that support your new identity.
3.	Journal how you want to grow spiritually in the coming weeks.







Day 12: // New Life in Christ

Prayer for Today

Lord Jesus, thank You for making me a new creation. Help me to let go of the past and live fully in the freedom You provide. Strengthen me to walk in Your Spirit and reflect Your love in every area of my life. *In Your mighty name, Amen.* \$\mathcal{P} \times \mathcal{L}\$









Day 13: ** Restored Relationships









Day 13: 🎔 Restored Relationships

Your Verse

Romans 12:18 NIV "If it is possible, as far as it depends on you, live at peace with everyone."

Supporting Scriptures

- Matthew 5:23-24 'If you are offering your gift at the altar and there remember that your brother or sister has something against you, leave your gift... go and be reconciled.'
- Colossians 3:13 'Forgive as the Lord forgave you.'







Day 13: 🌣 Restored Relationships

Devotional: Walking in Peace and Unity

Restoration, like that in the Prodigal Son's story, includes reconciliation with others. God calls us to pursue peace and unity, actively resolving conflicts and offering forgiveness.

Relationships are vulnerable spots where grace can heal wounds, restore trust, and build stronger bonds.

Seek God's guidance on any relationships that need mending and be willing to take steps toward peace, even when it's difficult.

Consider how you can be an agent of restoration within your family, church, and community.







Day 13: 💛 Restored Relationships

Reflect and Apply

1.	Are there relationships you need to reconcile or forgive?
2.	What fears or barriers keep you from pursuing peace?
3.	How can God empower you to be a peacemaker in difficult situations?







Day 13: 💛 Restored Relationships

Journaling Prompts

1.	Write about a relational conflict you want to address with God's help.
2.	List actions you can take to promote peace and healing.
3.	Journal prayers for those you hope to restore relationships with.







Day 13: 🎔 Restored Relationships

Prayer for Today

Peaceful God, make me a vessel of reconciliation and love. Help me forgive and seek forgiveness, fostering harmony where there is division. Guide my words and actions to reflect Your peace. Transform broken relationships by Your grace. *In Jesus' name, Amen.* \heartsuit \diamondsuit \clubsuit

















Your Verse

Ephesians 2:8-9 NIV "For it is by grace you have been saved, through faith—and this is not from yourselves, it is the gift of God—not by works, so that no one can boast."

Supporting Scriptures

- Titus 3:5 'He saved us, not because of righteous things we had done, but because of His mercy.'
- Romans 11:6 'If it is by grace, it is no longer by works; if it were, grace would no longer be grace.'







Devotional: Receiving God's Gift Freely

The older son struggled with works-based thinking, but God's grace transcends human effort. Salvation and restoration come as a free, unearned gift, inviting humility and gratitude.

Holding tightly to works can limit our understanding of God's abounding mercy and create barriers between us and Him.

Today, receive God's grace without reservation, knowing you are accepted fully through faith, not by performance.

Reflect on how grace motivates your daily walk with God and others.







Reflect and Apply

1.	Do you tend toward earning God's favor or resting in His grace?
2.	How does understanding grace affect your view of others and yourself?
3.	What practices can help you grow in grace-centered faith?







Journaling Prompts

1.	Write about ways you have tried to 'earn' God's love and how that feels.
2.	List blessings received by grace alone and thank God for them.
3.	Journal how you can lean more fully on God's grace daily.







Prayer for Today

Thank You, Lord, for the gift of grace that saves and sustains me. Help me rest in Your mercy and reject striving for approval. Teach me to live in gratitude and share Your grace generously. May my life reflect Your unmerited favor. *In Jesus' name, Amen.*

















Day 15: C Repentance: Turning to God

Your Verse

Acts 3:19 NIV "Repent, then, and turn to God, so that your sins may be wiped out..."

Supporting Scriptures

- 2 Chronicles 7:14 'If my people, who are called by my name, will humble themselves and pray and seek my face...'
- Isaiah 1:18 'Come now, let us reason together,' says the Lord.







Day 15: Carrent Repentance: Turning to God

Devotional: The Pathway Back to Wholeness

Repentance is more than feeling sorry—it's a deliberate turning away from sin toward God's loving embrace. It's the gateway to cleansing, healing, and renewal.

Throughout the Prodigal Son parable, repentance sets off the chain of restoration.

God patiently waits for our return, eager to forgive and renew. Our willingness to turn back to Him restores our broken relationship and fills us with new hope.

Take time to assess your heart's posture and embrace repentance as a joyful, life-giving step.







Day 15: 🖸 Repentance: Turning to God

Reflect and Apply

1.	What does repentance mean for you personally?
2.	Are there areas in your life needing a turning toward God?
3.	How can repentance impact your relationship with God and others?







Day 15: 🖸 Repentance: Turning to God

Journaling Prompts

1.	Write a prayer of repentance acknowledging areas of struggle.
2.	List sins or habits you want to turn away from with God's help.
3.	Journal your hopes for how repentance will change your life.







Day 15: C Repentance: Turning to God

Prayer for Today

Father, I come to You with a repentant heart. Cleanse me of all my sins and guide me on the path of righteousness. Help me turn fully to You daily and live in Your freedom. Thank You for welcoming me back time and again. *In Jesus'* name, Amen.









Day 16: 🥎 Walking in Obedience









Your Verse

John 14:15 NIV "If you love me, keep my commands."

Supporting Scriptures

- Deuteronomy 5:33 'Walk in obedience to all that the Lord your God has commanded you.'
- Psalm 119:105 'Your word is a lamp to my feet and a light to my path.'







Devotional: Demonstrating Love Through Action

Obedience flows out of love, trust, and relationship with God. The Prodigal Son's return ultimately means living in accordance with the Father's will, not out of obligation but affection.

God's commands provide guidance and protection as we journey through life. Obedience brings freedom and blessing, aligning us with His purpose.

Consider today how love motivates your obedience and how you can more intentionally walk in God's ways.

Seek His Word and Spirit to empower your steps forward.







Reflect and Apply

How does obedience express your love for God?
Are there commands from God you find challenging to follow? Why?
What helps you remain faithful in obedience during difficult times?







Journaling Prompts

1.	Write about a time when obeying God brought unexpected blessings.
2.	List commands or biblical principles you want to apply more faithfully.
3.	Journal your desire and plan to grow in obedience this season.







Prayer for Today

Jesus, help me love You enough to obey Your commands. Give me strength and joy to walk in Your ways daily. Illuminate my path with Your Word and Spirit. May my obedience be a fragrant offering to You. In Your name, Amen.























Day 17: V Living as the Father's Child

Your Verse

1 John 3:1 NIV "See what great love the Father has lavished on us, that we should be called children of God!"

Supporting Scriptures

- Romans 8:15 'You received the Spirit of sonship.'
- Galatians 4:6 'Because you are his sons, God sent the Spirit of his Son into our hearts.'







Day 17: Q Living as the Father's Child

Devotional: Identity and Inheritance in God's Family

Being a child of God fundamentally changes who we are and how we live. The Father's lavish love not only welcomes us home but also transforms our identity and inheritance.

We live with dignity, purpose, and authority as beloved sons and daughters, empowered by the Spirit.

Reflect today on your identity as God's child. How does embracing this truth shape your confidence, purpose, and daily living?

Cherish your place in God's family and walk with that assurance.







Day 17: 🖓 Living as the Father's Child

Reflect and Apply

1.	What does being a child of God mean to you personally?
2.	How does this identity affect your view of yourself and others?
3.	In what ways can you live more fully as God's child today?







Day 17: 🖓 Living as the Father's Child

Journaling Prompts

1.	Write a letter to yourself affirming your identity in Christ.
2.	List blessings and promises given to God's children.
	Journal about areas where you struggle to believe or embrace this identity.







Day 17: Q Living as the Father's Child

Prayer for Today

Heavenly Father, thank You for calling me Your child. Help me live confidently and faithfully in this identity. Fill me with Your Spirit so I may walk in Your ways and share Your love. Teach me to reflect Your character daily. *In Jesus'* name, Amen. \heartsuit

















Your Verse

Matthew 28:19-20 NIV "Therefore go and make disciples of all nations..."

Supporting Scriptures

- Psalm 96:3 'Declare his glory among the nations.'
- Mark 16:15 'Go into all the world and preach the gospel to all creation.'







Devotional: Invited to Participate in God's Mission

The Prodigal Son's story is not just personal but communal and missional. Having received grace, we become ambassadors of God's love and reconciliation to the lost.

Sharing this story, our testimony, and the Gospel message is an act of faith and compassion, inviting others into the Father's welcoming embrace.

Consider how God might be calling you to share His story with those around you who are far from home.

Your role in this mission is crucial and full of promise.







Reflect and Apply

1.	Are you actively sharing your faith story with others?
2.	What fears or barriers hold you back from witnessing?
3.	How can you rely more on God's Spirit to guide your witness?







Journaling Prompts

1.	Write down your personal testimony focusing on God's forgiveness.
2.	List people you would like to pray for and share God's love with.
3.	Journal practical ways to engage with your community for outreach.







Prayer for Today

Lord, send me to those who need to hear Your story of grace. Give me boldness, wisdom, and love to share Your truth. Use my words and life as a beacon of hope. Help me partner with You in seeking the lost. *In Jesus' name, Amen.*









Day 19: V Standing Firm in Trials









Day 19: V Standing Firm in Trials

Your Verse

James 1:12 NIV "Blessed is the one who perseveres under trial..."

Supporting Scriptures

- Romans 5:3-4 'Suffering produces perseverance; perseverance, character; and character, hope.'
- 2 Timothy 2:3 'Endure hardship with us like a good soldier of Christ Jesus.'







Day 19: V Standing Firm in Trials

Devotional: Strength and Hope in Difficult Times

Following God's heart and living as His child includes facing trials and challenges. Perseverance is a mark of faith, building character and hope.

Like the prodigal son who endured hardship before restoration, we too can find strength in God to endure and grow through difficulties.

Trust that God uses trials to draw you closer, refine your faith, and prepare you for greater things.

Hold on to hope and lean on His promises.







Day 19: **(**) Standing Firm in Trials

Reflect and Apply

1.	How do you typically respond to trials in your life?
2	What role does hope play when facing hardship?
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3.	How can your faith grow through perseverance?







Day 19: **(**) Standing Firm in Trials

Journaling Prompts

1.	Write about a trial where God strengthened you.
2.	List Scripture verses that encourage you during difficult times.
3.	Journal your prayer for endurance and faith in current challenges.







Day 19: **()** Standing Firm in Trials

Prayer for Today

Loving God, grant me strength to persevere through trials. Help me to trust Your plan and hold tight to hope. Refine my character and deepen my faith through challenges. I rest in Your sustaining power. *In Jesus' name, Amen.* •

















Day 20: C Living Out God's Promise

Your Verse

Joshua 21:45 NIV "Not one of all the good promises the Lord had made to the house of Israel had failed; all came to pass."

Supporting Scriptures

- 2 Corinthians 1:20 'For no matter how many promises God has made, they are "Yes" in Christ.'
- Hebrews 10:23 'Let us hold unswervingly to the hope we profess, for he who promised is faithful.'







Day 20: C Living Out God's Promise

Devotional: Hope Anchored in God's Faithfulness

God's promises are sure and true—He never fails to keep His word. The journey of the prodigal son is evidence of His faithfulness to restore, redeem, and rejoice.

We can live boldly, grounded in hope, and assured by God's unchanging nature.

Reflect on the promises God has made in Scripture and how they encourage you to move forward with confidence and joy.

Let this security be your foundation and your motivation.







Day 20: 6 Living Out God's Promise

Reflect and Apply

1.	Which of God's promises encourage you most right now?
2.	How can you remind yourself of God's faithfulness daily?
3.	What hope do you want to claim more fully in your life?







Day 20: 6 Living Out God's Promise

Journaling Prompts

1.	List God's promises that have been personally relevant to you.
2.	Write about how God's faithfulness impacts your trust.
3.	Journal ways to share hope with others based on God's promises.







Day 20: C Living Out God's Promise

Prayer for Today

Faithful God, thank You for keeping every promise You make. Help me to live anchored in Your hope and to trust Your faithfulness in every circumstance. Strengthen my confidence and share Your hope through me. *In Jesus' name, Amen.*

















Day 21: W Embracing the Father's Heart

Your Verse

1 John 4:16 NIV "God is love. Whoever lives in love lives in God, and God in them."

Supporting Scriptures

- Romans 8:38–39 'Nothing will separate us from the love of God...'
- Zephaniah 3:17 'The Lord your God is with you, the Mighty Warrior who saves.'







Day 21: SP Embracing the Father's Heart

Devotional: Living in the Freedom of God's Love

As we conclude this study, return to the core truth revealed in the Prodigal Son—the Father's heart is love. God's love is unconditional, endless, and transformative.

Living in that love means freedom from fear, shame, and separation. It means walking confidently as His beloved child and extending that love to others.

Carry this truth daily, knowing that no matter where you have been, God's heart welcomes you, forgives you, and delights in you endlessly.

May your life be rooted in this grace and overflow from a heart transformed by love.







Day 21: WE Embracing the Father's Heart

Reflect and Apply

1.	How has your understanding of God's love deepened in this study?
2.	In what ways can you live out the Father's heart of love to others?
3.	What steps will you take to continue growing in God's love?







Day 21: WE Embracing the Father's Heart

Journaling Prompts

1.	Write a love letter to God expressing your gratitude and commitment.
2.	List ways you can share God's love with your family and community.
3.	Journal your personal vision for living fully embraced by God's heart.







Day 21: W Embracing the Father's Heart

Prayer for Today

Dear Father, thank You for Your unfathomable love and welcome. Help me live each day rooted in Your grace, confident of Your embrace. Fill me with Your love so I can share it freely with others. May my life be a mirror of Your heart and mercy. *In Jesus' name, Amen.*







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