### Luke

## Chapter 15

1Well, tax collectors and sinners kept coming to [Jesus] to listen to the things that he was saying. 2And because of this, the Pharisees and Scribes started murmuring:  
  
 ‘This man accepts sinners… And look, he even eats with them!’  
  
3So he then told them this parable:  
  
 4‘Which of you who owns 100 sheep,  
 And then should lose just one,  
 Wouldn’t leave the 99 out in the fields,  
 To search for the lost until it is found?  
  
 5‘Then when you find it, you will rejoice,  
 And [carry it home] on your shoulders.  
 6And when you get home,  
 You’ll call your friends and neighbors and say:  
  
 ‘Come and with me, rejoice,  
 For I’ve found my sheep that was lost!’  
  
 7‘So in the same way, I tell you this:  
  
 ‘There is more rejoicing in heaven  
 Over just one sinner that turns from bad ways,  
 Than over 99 of the righteous  
 Who have no need of repentance.  
  
 8‘Or when a woman with 10 silver coins  
 Finds that she has lost one,  
 She’ll light [all her] lamps and sweep her whole house  
 To search until she has found it.  
 9And when she finds it, she’ll call her neighbors and friends, and say:  
  
 ‘Come and with me rejoice,  
 For I’ve found the silver coin that I lost!’  
  
 10‘So I tell you:  
  
 ‘There is joy among the angels of God  
 Over each sinner that repents.’  
  
11Then he said:  
  
 ‘There once was a man who had two sons.  
 12And the youngest went to his father and said:  
  
 ‘Please give me my share of what I’ll inherit!’  
  
 ‘So he gave him the portion that was his.  
  
 13‘Well just a few days after that,  
 This younger son gathered his things  
 And traveled to a far-away land,  
 Where he quickly squandered all that he had.  
  
 14‘Then after he’d spent [all his money],  
 A famine came to that land,  
 Which left him in a very bad spot.  
  
 15‘So he went to work for a man in that place  
 That sent him to watch over his pigs.  
 16And soon he even started longing  
 For the carob pods he was feeding the pigs,  
 For the man gave him nothing [to eat].  
  
 17‘Then when he came to his senses,  
 He thereafter asked of himself:  
  
 ‘Since my father’s hired-hands have plenty of bread,  
 Why am I here, dying from hunger?  
  
 18‘So I’ll get up and return to my father!  
 And since I’ve sinned against heaven and him,  
 19I’ll admit that I am unworthy  
 To be called his son anymore,  
 And I’ll tell him that I just want to work  
 As one of his hired hands.’  
  
 20‘So then he got up and returned to his father.  
  
 ‘However, while he was still far way,  
 His father recognized him in the distance,  
 And in pity, he ran and fell on his neck  
 And then he tenderly kissed him.  
  
 21‘But the son said:  
  
 ‘Father, I’ve sinned against heaven and you,  
 So I’m unworthy to be called your son anymore…  
 Just let me be one of your hired hands.’  
  
 22‘But the father said this to his slaves:  
  
 ‘Quickly bring him a robe…  
 Bring the very best one,  
 Then put a ring on his finger  
 And put some shoes on his feet.  
  
 23‘Also, slaughter the calf that we’ve fattened with wheat,  
 Then let’s hold [a feast] and have a good time!  
 24For my son who was dead is alive…  
 He was lost, but now he’s been found!’  
  
 ‘So thereafter, they held a banquet for him.  
  
 25‘Meanwhile, the older son had been out in the fields.  
 And as he returned and got close to his home,  
 He could hear [the sounds] of music and dancing.  
 26So he called to one of the servants and asked,  
  
 ‘What is happening here?’  
  
 27‘And in reply, [the servant] said this:  
  
 ‘Your brother has just returned,  
 So your father had us slaughter the calf that was fattened,  
 Because [your brother] returned in good health!’  
  
 28‘Well at that, [the son] became very angry  
 And he refused go back inside.  
 So his father came and begged him to come on in.  
 29But this is what he said to his father:  
  
 ‘Even though I’ve slaved for you all these years  
 And I’ve never broken your rules,  
 You’ve not given me even a single kid goat  
 That I could enjoy with my friends.  
  
 30‘Yet, when this son returns home  
 Who spent all his money on whores,  
 For him, you slaughtered the wheat-fattened calf!’  
  
 31‘But this is what his father then said:  
  
 ‘Child, you’ve always been with me,  
 And everything I have is yours also.  
 32However, we had to celebrate and rejoice,  
 Because your brother, who was as one of the dead,  
 Has now been brought back to life…  
 The one who was lost, has been found!’