



Going Deeper Questions
Coming Home - The Return of the Prodigal Son
Mollie Clark

Sermon Scripture Passage

Luke 15:11-32

Fun icebreaker question

If you could pick any fictional character to be your best friend, who would it be and why?

Discipleship Cycle: Debrief & Interpret

Did anyone do the "Respond Actively" exercise last week? What did you learn about God and yourself through that experience?

Quick Review: What stood out to you from this week's passage?

Looking back at your notes from this week's passage and sermon, was there anything you heard for the first time or that caught your attention, challenged, or confused you?

My Story

This Sunday's Sermon invited us to consider areas in our lives where we may feel "lost." We were also encouraged to consider what "coming home to God, who is like a father and mother" might look like for us. Where are you feeling lost right now? What could coming home to God look like for you? What barriers might be in place that prevent you from taking these steps "home."

Dive Deeper

The sermon also challenged us to become spiritual mothers/fathers to people around us. Who are some people in your life that you may be calling to show compassion, forgiveness, guidance, comfort, etc to? Who do you know that longs for joy in their lives and longing to find a spiritual home? What would it look like for you to be a spiritual father or mother who guides them home?

Discipleship Cycle: Respond Actively

"Come Home" to God in whatever way that looks like for us. Maybe it's opening up to a friend about a struggle, spending time in rest/reflection with Jesus. Practically consider ways that you might show compassion, love, and forgiveness to others in your life, like the Father did in our story. Consider how you might celebrate others in your life.

A special question for couples and families

The importance of forgiveness: forgiveness is vital in marriages and families to keep our relationships strong. When we forgive, we release any burden of anger or resentment we may be bottling up inside. The power of love: this story is one of grace and unconditional love. How can we love our spouses and kids in the way that the father does in this story? Rembrandt's painting showed both the fatherly and motherly qualities of God. How might the Holy Spirit strengthen us to be spiritual mothers and fathers not only to those in our homes, but those in our greater spheres of connection? How can we be "parents" who welcome others home, in a spiritual sense?
