

Strong Tower Bible Study

Agenda

Lesson #10

Time 6:00pm -7:30pm

Topic: The Power of Love

Welcome

Opening Prayer

Scripture text: Luke 15:11-32

The Parable of the Lost Son

11 Jesus continued: “There was a man who had two sons. 12 The younger one said to his father, ‘Father, give me my share of the estate.’ So he divided his property between them.

13 “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. 14 After he had spent everything, there was a severe famine in that whole country, and he began to be in need. 15 So he went and hired himself out to a citizen of that country, who sent him to his fields to feed pigs. 16 He longed to fill his stomach with the pods that the pigs were eating, but no one gave him anything.

17 “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! 18 I will set out and go back to my father and say to him: Father, I have sinned against heaven and against you. 19

I am no longer worthy to be called your son; make me like one of your hired servants.’ 20 So he got up and went to his father.

“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.

21 “The son said to him, ‘Father, I have sinned against heaven and against you. I am no longer worthy to be called your son.’

22 “But the father said to his servants, ‘Quick! Bring the best robe and put it on him. Put a ring on his finger and sandals on his feet. 23 Bring the fattened calf and kill it. Let’s have a feast and celebrate. 24 For this son of mine was dead and is alive again; he was lost and is found.’ So they began to celebrate.

25 “Meanwhile, the older son was in the field. When he came near the house, he heard music and dancing. 26 So he called one of the servants and asked him what was going on. 27 ‘Your brother has come,’ he replied, ‘and your father has killed the fattened calf because he has him back safe and sound.’

28 “The older brother became angry and refused to go in. So his father went out and pleaded with him. 29 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. 30 But when this son of yours who has squandered your property with prostitutes comes home, you kill the fattened calf for him!’

31 “‘My son,’ the father said, ‘you are always with me, and everything I have is yours. 32 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.’”

Things to know:

-There are four Greek words for love:

Eros (romantic love)

Philia (friendship love)

Storge (familial love)

Agape (unconditional, selfless love)

God loves us with Agape love

Discussion Questions

1. How would you respond if these were your sons/daughters? Vs 13
2. How long did it take for the younger son to leave home? Vs 13
3. What can we tell from the younger son? Vs14-15
4. Can you recognize a change? Vs 16
5. What caused this change on the inside? Vs 17-21
6. Was the father's response appropriate? What type of love was provided? Vs 22-24
7. Why do you believe the older brother responded the way he did? Vs 25-30
8. Do you believe the older brother's response was justified?
9. Is it possible to miss the richness of your Father's love? Vs 31
10. Why is Vs 32 significant?

Faith in Action

- Set your alarm to 12 noon for a 5-minute prayer each day
- Share and invite someone to Worship with you in Bible Study
- Use your Fasting Calendar
- Give someone a hug this week

Challenge of the Week: Pray for yourself all week, ask God to show you how to Love Him, Yourself, and others unconditionally.

New Food to Try: Ezekiel Bread (located in the freezer section) with peanut butter/Almond butter & honey Or with Extra Virgin Olive oil with sliced tomato

Scripture Application:

1 John 4:7-8-How are we to Love

Ephesians 4:2-Can you give this type of love?

Romans 5:8-How did God show His love for you?

Closing Prayer