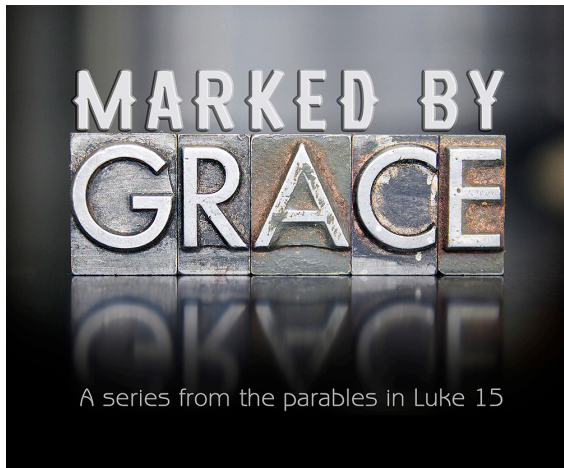




Weekly Action Plan

Sierra's Weekly Action Plan

Our Weekly Action Plan is designed to help you **recapture and build** on what God is teaching from Sundays message.



[Video](#)

If you missed this last Sunday you can hear the message [here](#).

A story without a conclusion? This last Sunday we looked at the story Jesus tells in Luke 15 that is often called the "Prodigal Son". Primarily we looked at the story from the perspective of the original audience.

We know from Luke 15:1-2, that there were two groups of people present. The religious leaders who felt like they were accepted by God because of their adherence to God's standards and the "sinners", those that had been taught and certainly felt alienated from God because of their poor choices. Woven into the story is a question for the "religious" leaders. Will they celebrate when people who have strayed from God and taken advantage of Him come back home?

Although the conclusion of the story at the time was up in the air, history does show us that the religious leaders in the audience largely rejected the picture that Jesus showed them of their Father. They responded by rejecting the messenger (Jesus) and by rejecting the opportunity to graciously celebrate the homecoming of those who have strayed.

It was difficult for both the religious leaders and the sinners in the story to accept the radical forgiveness the Father demonstrates. I have met many people who have a hard time believing that God could forgive them for what they have done. Reading the Bible we can fall into the trap of believing that the truth in it is for other people in other places and other times. BUT NEVER FORGET the truth that God's rich love and forgiveness was made available for them and everyone else - including you!

Talk it out: Sit down at your kitchen table or at a coffee shop and explore these questions with someone:

1. What about you? What is your attitude towards people that have hurt or taken advantage of you?
2. Do you identify more with the younger brother or the older one in the story? Why? How does that shape your understanding of God's grace?
3. Looking back over the three stories that Jesus tells in Luke chapter 15 can you find three things that connect them together?

Pray it in: Make some time this week to pray, asking God to help you grow in your ability to value relationships as he does. You may find that you need to confess anger that you have harbored against someone who has hurt or taken advantage of you.

Store it up: Committing verses to memory is a key way to hold on to the truths of God that we need to be reminded of regularly. Here is a great one from this chapter, "In the same way, I tell you, there is rejoicing in the presence of the angels of God over one sinner who repents." Luke 15:10



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