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## **MESSAGE NOTES - FEBRUARY 8th, 2026**

### **The Prodigal (pt. 2)**

“This son of mine was dead and has now returned to life. He was lost, but now he is found.” - **Luke 15:24**

**Luke 15:25-32** - “Meanwhile, the older son was in the fields working. When he returned home, he heard music and dancing in the house, 26 and he asked one of the servants what was going on. 27 ‘Your brother is back,’ he was told, ‘and your father has killed the fattened calf. We are celebrating because of his safe return.’ 28 “The older brother was angry and wouldn’t go in. His father came out and begged him, 29 but he replied, ‘All these years I’ve slaved for you and never once refused to do a single thing you told me to. And in all that time you never gave me even one young goat for a feast with my friends.

30 Yet when this son of yours comes back after squandering your money on prostitutes, you celebrate by killing the fattened calf! 31 “His father said to him, ‘Look, dear son, you have always stayed by me, and everything I have is yours. 32 We had to celebrate this happy day. For your brother was dead and has come back to life! He was lost, but now he is found!’”

**Luke 15:28-30** - “The older brother was angry and wouldn’t go in. His father came out and begged him, 29 but he replied, ‘All these years I’ve slaved for you and never once refused to do a single thing you told me to. And in all that time you never gave me even one young goat for a feast with my friends. 30 Yet when this son of yours comes back after squandering your money on prostitutes, you celebrate by killing the fattened calf!’

**Identifying with the eldest son is difficult for us to face.**

**“Returning from a lustful escapade seems so much easier than returning home from a cold anger that has rooted itself in the deepest corners of my being.”**

**How have we compared ourselves to another person, church, or business and asked why we cannot be more successful?**

**How have we lived w/a frog on our head keeping it fed so it doesn’t consume us?**

**Luke 15:31-32** - “His father said to him, ‘Look, dear son, you have always stayed by me, and everything I have is yours. 32 We had to celebrate this happy day. For your brother was dead and has come back to life! He was lost, but now he is found!’”

**Do we have the capacity to not only love the ones who have come back from the lost country but also the ones who resent it?**

**Do we have the capability to admit and confess when that resentment is ours?**

**Matthew 23:25** “What sorrow awaits you teachers of religious law and you Pharisees. Hypocrites! For you are so careful to clean the outside of the cup and the dish, but inside you are filthy—full of greed and self-indulgence! 26 You blind Pharisee! First wash the inside of the cup and the dish, and then the outside will become clean, too.”