

I praise you, for I am fearfully and wonderfully made. Psalm 139: 14a

Found

Excerpt from "<u>Parable of the Loving Father</u>" for the Brooklyn Tabernacle devotional by Jim Cymbala

Everyone knows the parable of the prodigal son, who wasted his inheritance in wild living and when he hit rock bottom, returned to his father's house remorseful and ashamed. This story could very well have been called the parable of the loving father. The narrative indicates that, while the returning son was still a long way off, his father saw him. Why did he see him from far away? Because he was looking for him! That's what a loving, compassionate father does!

Another interesting point in our story is that the father wasn't judgmental with the son upon his return. He didn't say, "I told you so." Instead, he ran toward the boy. Imagine the prodigal's face when his father threw his arms around him and kissed him, weeping over him. The son had been prepared for some harsh discipline from his father. After all, his share of the inheritance was all gone – an inheritance, by the way, that the younger son had brazenly asked for before he was supposed to receive it, with no regard for the blood, sweat and tears the father had invested in order to provide for his family after he was gone...

Like the loving father in the story of the prodigal son, our heavenly Father is also watching and waiting for someone who has turned away to come back home. Contrary to the desires of the religious establishment of Jesus' day, and in many places even today, we see from our story that God doesn't want to punish; he wants to save! While there are people who put up a wall even after saying they forgive you, Jesus is not that way. When Jesus forgives, he also forgets the wrong we've done, because he died to pay for that wrong! If you or a loved one needs to come home today, don't hesitate and don't be afraid. The arms of a loving Father await you!

Are you looking for some more devotionals to read with your family that emphasize that we are found of God? Here is one for each week in November:

The Lost Coin by Angela Weir
The Lost Sheep by Jon Dyer
Two Lost Sons by Leslie Strader
Lost and Wandering Sheep by Dean
Deppe

JOINUS!

We welcome you to join us for our Remembrance Day chapel on Monday, November 4 at 10:30 am.

