

Your Life's Story
Luke 15:11-24

A story whose character had:

Selfish pursuits. (11-13)

Focal verse: 12-13
Selfish person
Self-centeredness

Freedom- his portion, leaving
Riches- his portion
Travels- journeyed to far off country
Partying/lavish lifestyle- wasted, prodigal living
Pleasures- harlots (30)
What are you pursuing?

A story whose character had a:

Surprise in reality. (14-19)

Focal verse: 17a
Helpless/hopeless
Need of the Father

Freedom- left him enslaved (anonymity)
Riches- left him wanting (prosperity)
Travels- left him far from home and help
Friendships- left him alone (popularity)
Partying/lavish lifestyle- left hung-over with a mess to clean up
Pleasures- left unsatisfied, always wanting more

A story whose character:

Surrendered pride. (20-21)

"I have sinned"
"not worthy to be your son"
"make me your servant"

A story which ended with a:

Celebrated return. (22-24)

Focal verse: 20b, 22-23
Great welcome (compassion/ran/fell on neck/kissed)
Great clothes- robe/ring/sandals
Great meal- fatted calf/music/dancing
GREAT GRACE!!!

This **is** your story!

How is your story going to end this morning?

Will you:

Continue to pursue selfish desires, only to be surprised at its unfulfilled reality?
Has the Heavenly Father spoke this morning of your need to humbly return to Him?
This morning will you come to the Father and give Him reason to celebrate this morning?

How?

You could stay right where you are and make a commitment to do better.
Yet you have probably done that before and nothing has changed.
Probably because it was based on pride:
Your prideful desire to you could make yourself do better.
Your prideful desire of not wanting to truly admit sin in your life.

OR

You could humbly come to the Father by physically and publically surrendering your desires to Him this morning at this altar.

Will you come and let the Father:

First, welcome you as His child.

Secondly, make you into the person He wants you to be.