



Growth Group Questions
July 27, 2025
“Stuck at Home”

SCRIPTURE

Luke 15:25-30

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!’

Matthew 20:1-15

¹ “For the kingdom of heaven is like a landowner who went out early in the morning to hire workers for his vineyard. ² He agreed to pay them a denarius^[a] for the day and sent them into his vineyard. ³ “About nine in the morning he went out and saw others standing in the marketplace doing nothing. ⁴ He told them, ‘You also go and work in my vineyard, and I will pay you whatever is right.’ ⁵ So they went. “He went out again about noon and about three in the afternoon and did the same thing. ⁶ About five in the afternoon he went out and found still others standing around. He asked them, ‘Why have you been standing here all day long doing nothing?’ ⁷ “‘Because no one has hired us,’ they answered. “He said to them, ‘You also go and work in my vineyard.’

⁸ “When evening came, the owner of the vineyard said to his foreman, ‘Call the workers and pay them their wages, beginning with the last ones hired and going on to the first.’ ⁹ “The workers who were hired about five in the afternoon came and each received a denarius. ¹⁰ So when those came who were hired first, they expected to receive more. But each one of them also received a denarius. ¹¹ When they received it, they began to grumble against the landowner. ¹² ‘These who were hired last worked only one hour,’ they said, ‘and you have made them equal to us who have borne the burden of the work and the heat of the day.’

¹³ “But he answered one of them, ‘I am not being unfair to you, friend. Didn’t you agree to work for a denarius? ¹⁴ Take your pay and go. I want to give the one who was hired last the same as I gave you. ¹⁵ Don’t I have the right to do what I want with my own money? Or are you envious because I am generous?’

Proverbs 17:22

²² A cheerful heart is good medicine, but a crushed spirit dries up the bones.

John 3:35

³⁵ The Father loves the Son and has placed everything in his hands.

John 5:20

²⁰ For the Father loves the Son and shows him all he does. Yes, and he will show him even greater works than these, so that you will be amazed.

John 10:27-30

²⁷ My sheep listen to my voice; I know them, and they follow me. ²⁸ I give them eternal life, and they shall never perish; no one will snatch them out of my hand. ²⁹ My Father, who has given them to me, is greater than all^[a]; no one can snatch them out of my Father’s hand. ³⁰ I and the Father are one.”

QUESTIONS

1. What do the older brother’s words in Luke 15:25-30 reveal about him?
2. How did the older brother’s words and actions reflect those of the Pharisees and teachers of the law to whom Jesus was speaking in Luke 15:25-30?
3. What is at the root of the older brother’s anger towards his father?
4. What is resentment and what can cause resentment in our lives?
5. Pastor Paul said that joy and resentment cannot coexist. Why not?
6. Carefully read Proverbs 17:22. Restate this verse in your own words.
7. What lessons can we learn from the story of the older brother?
8. How do the lessons we can learn from the Parable of the Workers in the Vineyard compare with the lessons we can learn from the Parable of the Prodigal Son?
9. How can we apply the lessons of these two parables to our own lives and relationships?
10. Pastor Paul said that Jesus is the “ultimate older brother we all want.” How is Jesus the ultimate older brother?

PASTOR PAUL'S SERMON QUESTIONS

1. When was the last time you “checked/”monitored” your motives when it comes to your relationship with God?
2. Is there resentment in your life you need to let go of so you can experience the joy God wants you to have?