



Growth Group Questions
July 20, 2025
“Get Me Out of Here”

SCRIPTURE

Luke 15:1-2

¹Now the tax collectors and sinners were all gathering around to hear Jesus. ²But the Pharisees and the teachers of the law muttered, “This man welcomes sinners and eats with them.”

Luke 15:11-20

¹¹Jesus continued: “There was a man who had two sons. ¹²The younger one said to his father, ‘Father, give me my share of the estate.’ So he divided his property between them. ¹³“Not long after that, the younger son got together all he had, set off for a distant country and there squandered his wealth in wild living. ¹⁴After he had spent everything, there was a severe famine in that whole country, and he began to be in need. ¹⁵So he went and hired himself out to a citizen of that country, who sent him to his fields to feed pigs. ¹⁶He longed to fill his stomach with the pods that the pigs were eating, but no one gave him anything.

¹⁷“When he came to his senses, he said, ‘How many of my father’s hired servants have food to spare, and here I am starving to death! ¹⁸I will set out and go back to my father and say to him: Father, I have sinned against heaven and against you. ¹⁹I am no longer worthy to be called your son; make me like one of your hired servants.’ ²⁰So he got up and went to his father. “But while he was still a long way off, his father saw him and was filled with compassion for him; he ran to his son, threw his arms around him and kissed him.

St. Augustine, *St. Augustine’s Confessions* - “You have made us for yourself, O Lord, and our heart is restless until it rests in you.”

Psalms 116:5-7

⁵The LORD is gracious and righteous; our God is full of compassion. ⁶The LORD protects the unwary; when I was brought low, he saved me. ⁷Return to your rest, my soul, for the LORD has been good to you.

2 Corinthians 5:17-21

¹⁷ Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, the new creation has come: The old has gone, the new is here! ¹⁸ All this is from God, who reconciled us to himself through Christ and gave us the ministry of reconciliation: ¹⁹ that God was reconciling the world to himself in Christ, not counting people's sins against them. And he has committed to us the message of reconciliation. ²⁰ We are therefore Christ's ambassadors, as though God were making his appeal through us. We implore you on Christ's behalf: Be reconciled to God. ²¹ God made him who had no sin to be sin^[b] for us, so that in him we might become the righteousness of God.

QUESTIONS

1. What do you think motivated the younger son in Luke 15:11-20 to demand his inheritance early from his father?
2. What can we learn from the younger son's behavior in this story?
3. It appears that the father made no objections but immediately gave his younger son his inheritance. What does this say about the heart of God for us?
4. What can we learn about God from the way the father in Luke 15:11-20 reacted upon his son's return?
5. What truths are revealed to you in the story of the younger son?
6. How can we apply the lessons of the younger son to our lives, particularly in how we approach our relationship with God and others?
7. Pastor Paul spoke about the concept of "disordered love" from *St. Augustine's Confessions*. In this work, St. Augustine speaks about disordered love, meaning that we either love things in the wrong order or to the wrong degree. How does this disordered love in our lives lead to restlessness and discontent?
8. How does Psalm 116:5-7 encourage you in your faith journey?
9. In 2 Corinthians 5:18-19, the Apostle Paul says, "Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, the new creation has come: The old has gone, the new is here!" What does it mean that the old has gone and the new is here?
10. What does it mean to be "reconciled with God" (2 Corinthians 5:19) and why is this reconciliation with God so important?

SERMON QUESTIONS:

1. Ask someone about their story this week.
2. Is there a place in your life where things feel "disordered" and need to be reordered?