

A Season of Transformation
TRANSFORMING OUR FINANCES
Sermon Outline
April 7, 2019

Text – **Luke 15: 11-13; 20; 22-24; 28-32**

Reading Schedule:

Sunday	3/7	<i>Proverbs Ch. 7; Luke 15: 11-24</i>
Monday	3/8	<i>Proverbs Ch. 8; Luke 15: 25-32</i>
Tuesday	3/9	<i>Proverbs Ch. 9; Luke 15: 1-10</i>
Wednesday	3/10	<i>Proverbs Ch. 10; Psalm 23: 1-6</i>
Thursday	3/11	<i>Proverbs Ch. 11; Deuteronomy 28: 1-14</i>
Friday	3/12	<i>Proverbs Ch. 12; Exodus 17: 8-16</i>
Saturday	3/13	<i>Proverbs Ch. 13; the names of God – https://www.blueletterbible.org/study/misc/name_god.cfm</i>

TEXT – Luke 15: 11-13; 20; 22-24; 28-32

¹¹ *Jesus continued: “There was a man who had two sons. ¹² The 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...*

²⁰ *So 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...*

²² *“But the father said to his servants, ‘Quick! Bring the best robe and put it on him. Put a ring on his finger and sandals on his feet. ²³ Bring the fattened calf and kill it. Let’s have a feast and celebrate. ²⁴ For this son of mine was dead and is alive again; he was lost and is found.’ So, they began to celebrate...*

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!'

³¹ "'My son,' the father said, 'you are always with me, and everything I have is yours. ³² But we had to celebrate and be glad, because this brother of yours was dead and is alive again; he was lost and is found.'"

PRAYER

"Amazing Creator, I thank you for making me and knowing me. Allow me to tap into all that you've placed in my heart so that I may do what you've called me to do in this life. In Jesus' name. Amen." (Bishop T.D. Jakes)

TRANSFORMATION – TRANSFORMING OUR FINANCES!

A Season of Transformation

TRANSFORMATION IS THE GRACE OF GOD, THAT MEETS ME WHERE I AM, TO GIVE ME WHAT I NEED, TO BE WHO GOD CREATED ME TO BE FINANCIALLY!

The story of the father who had two sons reflects the attitude and heart of God toward us in all aspects of our lives, including our finances. The goal of today's message is for you to live in the awareness that God's grace is meeting you where you are, no matter what your financial circumstances may currently be. It does not matter what I've done in the past with what I received. It does not matter how I have "blown it" when it comes to money. It does not matter how much I have now or in the past. Because:

TRANSFORMATION IS THE GRACE OF GOD, THAT MEETS ME WHERE I AM, TO GIVE ME WHAT I NEED, TO BE WHO GOD CREATED ME TO BE FINANCIALLY!

Give God praise!

God wants to transform you finances!

1. **PRINCIPLE #1** – Who God wants me to be financially is reflected in the GRACE God provides – not in my current circumstances or past behavior!
 - a. TRANSFORMATION IS THE GRACE OF GOD...TO BE WHO GOD CREATED ME TO BE FINANCIALLY!
 - b. Luke 15: 12b – *So, he divided his property between them.*
 - c. The story is about a father who does not give to his sons what they earned, worked for, or deserved.
 - i. He gives all that he has to the two of them because of his love for them!
 - ii. What they do with what they are given is a different matter.
 - d. One son is **broke, busted and disgusted**.
 - i. The prodigal son underestimated his father's love him because he was judging how the father would treat him based on how he handled what he was given.
 - ii. He said, "*Father, I have sinned against heaven and against you. I am no longer worthy to be called your son.*" (Luke 15: 21)
 - e. The other son is **sad, bad, and mad**, because he didn't know what he had been given by the father, because he didn't understand his father's love for him.
 - f. Some of us are walking around broke, busted, and disgusted because we don't understand God's love for us.
 - g. Others of us are walking around sad, bad, and mad because we don't understand God's love for us.

- h. This story reflects the heart of God toward us and our finances!
 - i. What God desires is our transformation.
 - ii. What God offers is GRACE!
 - 1. Not judgement – GRACE!
 - 2. Not punishment – GRACE!
 - 3. Not rules – GRACE!
 - 4. God gives us tools – GRACE!
 - 5. GRACE! GRACE! GRACE!
 - 6. Give God praise, in the house!
2. **PRINCIPLE # 2** – Grace meets us where we are financially to give us what we need for our finances!
- a. Luke 15: 20 – The father met the son “*while he was still a long way off,*” out on the road, not even back home.
 - b. *His father saw him and was filled with compassion for him; he ran to his son, threw his arms around him and kissed him.*
 - c. All the son had to do was turn to the father, the father did the rest.
 - i. (Illustration of someone lost and can’t find their way, now simply turning toward home and home runs to them and doesn’t wait for them to get back home; get back in line; get in order; or get it right! Home is waiting to come to you.)
 - 1. God is ready to meet somebody here today right where you are.
 - 2. All that’s required is that you turn toward God.
 - i. God didn’t wait for us to be “sinless and saved” to send God’s Son.
 - ii. God didn’t wait for us to get back home;
 - iii. God didn’t wait for us to get back in line;
 - iv. God didn’t wait for us to get in order;
 - v. God didn’t wait for us to get it right!
 - vi. God didn’t wait to come to us.

- vii. God sent God's only begotten Son, that whosoever just turns to him!!!! (act out making a turn)
- viii. When it comes to our finances, just turn toward God! Don't get it together. Don't get in line. Don't get in order. Don't get it right. Just turn toward God! (act out making a turn)
- ix. The grace of God meets us where we are to give us what we need to be who God created us to be financially. (act out making a turn)

GIVE GOD PRAISE!

3. PRINCIPLE #3 – The father offers provision, peace, and protection! (Luke 15: 20; 22-23)

- a. Provision –
 - i. best robe to cover his naked dirty body
 - ii. fattened calf to fill his empty stomach
- b. Peace –
 - i. Compassion on his son
 - ii. Open arms and a kiss expressing loving reception
 - iii. Celebration for his son's welcomed return
- c. Protection –
 - i. Ring of authority communicating to others, "This one belongs to me!"
 - ii. Sandals to come between his feet and the things that could harm him! Servants went bare-foot. The children of the father wore shoes!

d. PROVISION, PEACE, AND PROTECTION ARE MINE!

4. PRINCIPLE #4 – Who God created me to be financially is defined by who God is! Not by who I am!

- a. Jehovah Jireh, Provider – **Philippians 4: 14-19** – Supplied in all my needs
- b. Jehovah Shalom Peace – **Phil. 4: 4-9** – and the peace of God. No worrying, no stress.

- c. Jehovah Nissi Protector – **Exodus 17: 8-16** – God is my banner. God goes out to battlefield. God is in this fight with me.
5. **PRINCIPLE #5 – Luke 15: 22-24 & 28-30** – ²² “*But the father said to his servants, ‘Quick! Bring the best robe and put it on him. Put a ring on his finger and sandals on his feet. ²³ Bring the fattened calf and kill it. Let’s have a feast and celebrate. ²⁴ For this son of mine was dead and is alive again; he was lost and is found.’ So, they began to celebrate...*”
- 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!’*”
- a. The brother of the prodigal didn’t know what was his even though he was all the time with the father.
 - i. Luke 15: 12b – *So, he [the father] divided his property between [the two of] them*
 - b. **Principle #5** – The more you know what God will do for you, the more faith will arise in your heart. ***Because faith is a response to knowing what God says God will do for you!*** (Pastor Joseph Prince)
 - i. It’s foolish just to tell you, “Come on, have faith!” because I’m not giving you anything to build faith in you.
 - ii. But if I were to tell you all about what God says God will do for you and your finances, faith will arise in your heart.
 - c. Do you know God’s heart toward you and your finances?
 - d. Do you know God’s promises toward you and your finances?
6. (Close with series of God’s Promises)

- a. **Psalm 23** – Jehovah Raah – The Lord is my Shepherd – My Provider, My Peace, and My Protector
 - i. My Provider
 - 1. The Lord is my shepherd; I shall not want.
 - 2. ²He maketh me to lie down in green pastures:
 - ii. My Peace
 - 1. he leadeth me beside the still waters.
 - 2. ³He restoreth my soul:
 - 3. he leadeth me in the paths of righteousness for his name's sake.
 - iii. My Protector
 - 1. ⁴Yea, though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil: for thou art with me; thy rod and thy staff they comfort me.
 - 2. ⁵Thou preparest a table before me in the presence of mine enemies: thou anointest my head with oil; my cup runneth over.
 - iv. ⁶Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life: and I will dwell in the house of the Lord forever.
- b. **Deuteronomy 28: 1-14** (list)
 - i. Blessings shall come upon you and overtake you,
 - ii. You'll be blessed in the city, blessed in the field,
 - iii. Blessed when you come, blessed when you go,
 - iv. The fruit of you body will be blessed,
 - v. Your store room will be blessed,
 - vi. Your enemies will come out against you one way, and run before you in seven ways
 - vii. The Lord shall make you the head, and not the tail

INVITATION TO CHRISTIAN DISCIPLESHIP

1. Someone is wondering, “How do I take hold of the promises of God for me and my finances?”

2. The promises of God are paid for, packaged, and personally delivered into your life.
 - a. Paid for at the Cross of Jesus Christ
 - b. Packaged at Jesus' Resurrection
 - c. Personally, delivered by the Holy Spirit
3. If you're ready to turn to God in your finances, God is running toward you right now!

BENEDICTION

“The LORD bless you and keep you; the LORD make his face shine on you and be gracious to you; the LORD turn his face toward you and give you peace.”