

Sunday Morning 2-17-19 Pastor Elshout

Pre-service Psalter 21:1, 4 (standing)

Silent Congregational Prayer

Votum and Salutation

Psalter 290:1, 6, 7

Reading of the Law: Exodus 20:1-20

Response to the Law: Psalter 1:1, 2

Scripture Reading: Luke 15:1-24

Congregational Prayer

Psalter 294:1-3 (offering)

Text: Luke 15:20-24

The Gracious Father of the Prodigal Son

1. A rejected father

2. A forgiving father

3. A restoring father

Prayer

Psalter 402:1, 6 (offering)

Doxology: Psalter 196

Benediction

Family Sermon Discussion Questions:

- 1*. Why did the Pharisees truly honor Jesus when they mockingly said, “This man receiveth sinners”?
2. Why would the prodigal son have been viewed as the vilest of all sinners by the Pharisees?
3. What was Jesus communicating when He described the life-style of the prodigal son as “riotous living”?
4. What was the starting point of the prodigal son’s repentance?
5. What is Jesus teaching us about God’s character by the fact that the father ran to meet his wayward son?
- 6*. What did the father do to show his son that he truly and fully forgiven him?
7. How did the father demonstrate his intense joy over the return of his prodigal son?
8. How does this parable illustrate the three essential components of redemption

Sunday Evening 2-17-19 Pastor Elshout

Pre-service Psalter 24:1, 3 (standing)

Silent Congregational Prayer

Votum and Salutation

Psalter 265:1, 3

Scripture Reading: Luke 15: 11-32

The Belgic Confession, question 8

Congregational Prayer

Psalter 222:1, 4, 6, 8 (offering)

Text: Luke 15:25-32

Theme: *The Parable of the Elder Son*

1. *His inquiry*

2. *His angry response*

3. *His father's loving rebuke*

Prayer

Psalter 138:1, 3, 4 (offering)

Doxology: Psalter 197

Benediction

1. Why did Jesus tell a parable that would have been so provocative to the Pharisees?
2. What did the joyous celebration about his brother's return reveal about the elder brother's heart?
3. How do we know that the father cared as deeply about his elder son as he cared about his younger and prodigal son?
4. What are the core elements of a man's self-righteous reaction to the wickedness of other men?
- 5*. What do the elder brother and the Rich Young Ruler have in common?
6. What do the elder brother and his younger brother have in common—that is, at the time when the younger brother left his father's house?
7. Why are “elder brothers” offended by the gospel of a crucified Christ?
- 8*. What can we learn about God's character from the fact that, in verse 32, Jesus repeats how happy the father was about his wayward son's return?

* Questions for younger children