

Title: How to Make Heaven Rejoice!

Text: (Lk 15:1-32)

(Vs 1-2) Completely oblivious of the Father's Love!

(Vs 3-6) Illus: You ever lose a sheep?

(Vs 7) Completely oblivious of Heaven's Joy!

(Vs 8-9) Loss of Something Precious!

(Vs 10) Completely oblivious of Heaven's Joy!

(Vs 11-12) Presumptuous to ask, Dad isn't dead Yet

This was not the will of the Father.

(Prov 15:5) *A fool despiseth his father's instruction:*

A Fool cannot be reasoned with! (Prov 12:15)

The Smartest thing the father did, was let him go!

(Vs 13-14a) *"And when he had spent all" You will spend All*

(Vs 14b) Life never goes the way you think.

(Prov 5:8-11; Prov 6:26)

(Vs 15) Sin will lead you to do things you wouldn't normally find yourself doing. (Swine=Abomination)

(Vs 16) Hunger brings our Pride down. (James 4:6)

(Vs 17) Jr. Finally Hits Bottom & was fortunate to be alive!

(Vs 18-19) Jr. Realized his BETRAYAL! (Prov 11:2) *shame:*

(Vs 20a & 21) ***Repentance!*** - (1 John 1:9)

(Vs 20b) Oblivious to how much the Father loved him

(Vs 22-24) We See Heaven's Joy! - (Luke 15:7,10)

(Vs 25-28) The Elder Brother is a picture of the Pharisees

I. Attitude of Unforgiveness: Lk 15:28-30

A. Self Righteous: VS 29 *Look at me, I serve, I Obey,*

B. Self Deceived: (Matt 7:3-4)

1. We Compare ourselves to others: (2 Cor 10:12)

Avoid human comparisons: Vs 29a *"I served"*

(1 Pet 2:21) *We are not the standard, Jesus is!*

Resist exaggerations to make ourself look good: Vs 29b

That's a Lie—Don't think too highly of yourself! Rom 3:23!

(2 Cor 10:12) *We Are Un Wise!* (James 4:10)

C. Self Centered: He felt Cheated. Vs 29c *yet thou never*

1. He had a Pity Party: (Gal 6:7-9) What, More, Later.

D. Selfish: Greedy Vs 29d *"Never gavest me a kid"*

(Vs 12) *And he divided unto them his living*

(Vs 31) *All that I have is thine!*

(Matt 20:10-15) Working for a penny a day.

1. The World Owes Me:

2. I have rights: (Pro 6:27-28) You cannot Sin & Win

II. No Joy for his brothers B/c he had no forgiveness:

A. Don't forget where you came from: (Ps 40:2)

(Lk 15:17-19) *Didn't just think about it,*

1. Recognize our own sin: (Is 64:6; Rom 3:10, 3:23)

2. Accept Forgiveness: (Eph 1:7) He will forgive you

3. Forgive and be forgiven: (Matt 6:14-15; 18:32-35)

B. Maybe you cannot forgive others:

(Ps 103:14) (Mic 7:19)

III. He could not forgive, because He didn't realize how precious his brother is to the Father!

(Vs 30) *"Thy Son"* he blamed the Father for this.

A. Maybe you don't think you can be forgiven:

You have forgotten how precious you are to the Savior!

1. You have never met my Jesus! (Heb 7:25)
2. God's Love is not dependent upon your behavior:
(Jer 31:3; Deut 7:7-8)

3. **Lk 23:34** The Roman Soldiers could be forgiven,
SO CAN YOU! (1Tim1:15) *Chief of Sinners*

You are Precious to Jesus!

You are the reason He came! LK 19:10!

Rom 5:8 Jesus was motivated to action & sacrifice!

Let us be like the FATHER rather than the OLDER
BROTHER!

Are you Completely oblivious to how much the Father loves
You?

Are you Completely oblivious to how much the Father loves
others?

Are you Completely oblivious to how to bring Joy in
Heaven?