



Jesus' own words tell us why He taught in parables: "Because the secrets of the kingdom of heaven have been given for you to know, but it has not been given to them." (Matthew 13:11) "Them" are those with hard-hearts who rejected Jesus; those who wanted to see more signs and miracles but refused Jesus' message. To you who have eyes to see, the parables are beautiful stories that teach powerful lessons about Jesus being the ONE way to God's Kingdom!

If we put ourselves in the place of the prodigal son, we love this story. But if we imagine being the older son who "did all the right things" and never had a party thrown it can feel harder to love this story.

But the beauty of the parable is that the gentleness and faithfulness of the father is the same toward both sons.

What a gift of grace and mercy that we see that same gentleness and faithfulness from God the Father no matter if we behave like the younger son, the older son, or a combination of both throughout our lives!

## READ

Matthew 15:11-32

What is Jesus trying to teach in verses 31-32?

## DISCUSS

Being a prodigal is about our heart more than our location.  
In what ways can we each be a prodigal?

## CREATE

An art piece showing God's gentle and faithful love! Share it with your family!!

## RETELL

As a family, retell this story with a modern spin. What connections can you make between the parable and everyday life.

Perhaps the younger son realizes how many toys his father's employees have; or how many video games they get to play. Have fun with it!

For each AKM Series, we select a memory verse we work on each Sunday.  
If you'd like to join us in working on it as a family,  
display this page to practice during the week.

# Summer Adventure

Take my **YOKE** upon  
you and **LEARN** from  
me, because I am  
**LOWLY** and **HUMBLE**  
in heart, and you will  
find **REST** for your  
souls.

**MATTHEW 11:29**



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