

# HOW TO AVOID A PITY PARTY

## LUKE 15

Text: Luke 15:25-32

### **Luke 15:25-32**

<sup>25</sup> Now his elder son was in the field: and as he came and drew nigh to the house, he heard musick and dancing. <sup>26</sup> And he called one of the servants, and asked what these things meant. <sup>27</sup> And he said unto him, Thy brother is come; and thy father hath killed the fatted calf, because he hath received him safe and sound. <sup>28</sup> And he was angry, and would not go in: therefore came his father out, and intreated him. <sup>29</sup> And he answering said to *his* father, Lo, these many years do I serve thee, neither transgressed I at any time thy commandment: and yet thou never gavest me a kid, that I might make merry with my friends: <sup>30</sup> But as soon as this thy son was come, which hath devoured thy living with harlots, thou hast killed for him the fatted calf. <sup>31</sup> And he said unto him, Son, thou art ever with me, and all that I have is thine. <sup>32</sup> It was meet that we should make merry, and be glad: for this thy brother was dead, and is alive again; and was lost, and is found.

### Introduction:

This chapter of the Bible has been referred to as “The lost and found department of the Bible”; “Lost sheep”, “Lost Coin”, and the “Lost Son.

This young man in the story that we have just read was angry, bitter, upset, sulking and stubborn. What he did have was much more than what he did not have, but

by dwelling on the negatives he spoiled what he did have because of what he did not have.

Like a head ache I had when I visited the lady in the hospital with a brain tumor. My head ache was great in comparison.

## **1. THE CURSE OF SELF PITY**

A. Destroys our Happiness (vs 28) Angry and would not go in.

B. Destroys our Usefulness

C. Destroys our Oneness (vs 30) "thy son" was also his brother.

## **2. THE CAUSE OF SELF PITY**

A. Restricted Vision (vs 29) "I, I, Me"

B. Distorted Values (vs 29) "Never killed a kid for me"

C. Outraged Virtue (vs 29) "These many years have served Thee"

### **3. THE CURE OF SELF PITY**

A. Abiding presence (vs 31)

B. Abundant Provision (vs 31) "all that I have is thine"

C. Achieved Purpose (vs 32) main goal- to get the sinners saved.