

The Stories That Remain

Luke 15

Pastor Tim Layfield | January 7, 2024

Thread: Truth and Grace are essential for a faith-filled life.

“Tax collectors and other notorious sinners often came to listen to Jesus teach. This made the Pharisees and teachers of religious law complain that he was associating with such sinful people – even eating with them!”

Luke 15:1-2

The “one” that is lost is worthy of a rescue. (Luke 15:3-10)

Parables of The Lost Sheep & The Lost Coin

- Those who are far from God.
- Those who have wandered away.
- Those who have fallen away.

Live out a life of Truth and Grace. (Luke 15:1)

*“Tax collectors and other notorious sinners **often** came to listen to Jesus teach.”* **Luke 15:1 (NLT)**

- Everyone has a story. Take time to listen. (Compassion)
- Having a conversation doesn't compromise your convictions. (Grace)
- Showing Compassion and Grace opens up opportunities to speak truth.

Offering Truth and Grace can cause others to misunderstand you.

(Luke 15:2)

*“This made the Pharisees and teachers of religious law **complain that he was associating with such sinful people** – even eating with them!”*

Luke 15:2 (NLT)

Have the Father's perspective. (Luke 15:11-32)

- The Younger Son – those far from God. Squandered all that was given.
- The Older Brother – the self-righteous believer. Faithful but entitled.
- **The Father** – compassionate, offering grace, truth, acceptance, and love.

Challenge:

- How can you demonstrate grace to others?
- In what areas of my life do I reflect the older son?
- What can I do today to reflect the Father's heart?

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