

FORGIVENESS

I NEED...FORGIVENESS (PART I)

LUKE 15:11-32

Introduction:

Two Life-Changing Discoveries

1. _____
2. _____

One of the most important foundational blocks of our spiritual house... is that we _____.

Why?

1. Because of _____.

For all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God (Romans 3:23).

If we claim to be without sin, we deceive ourselves and the truth is not in us (1 John 1:8).

For I have the desire to do what is good, but I cannot carry it out. For I do not do the good I want to do, but the evil I do not want to do – this I keep on doing (Romans 7:18-19).

Luke 15:12

“The younger of them said to his father, ‘Father, give me the share of the estate that falls to me.’”

1. The father grants the request. Look at verse 12.
“So he divided his wealth between them.”
2. And eventually he leaves. Look at verse 13.
“And not many days later, the younger son gathered everything together and went on a journey into a distant country...”

3. Why? Why did he choose to deliberately walk away from his father?

a. One reason may be because he was _____

_____.

- _____ is Satan’s greatest weapon.

b. Another possible reason: _____

_____.

And look at what happens next:

1. Verse 13... _____.
2. Verse 14... _____.
3. Verse 16... _____.
4. **BUT** Verse 17... _____. In other words, “he came to a better mind”.
5. Verse 18... _____.
6. Verse 20a... _____.

But something amazing happens...

1. Verse 20b... _____.
2. Although you don’t see the word in this brief passage, the concept happens nonetheless... The father _____ his son.
3. The Greek word for **forgiveness** means: to be released from bondage; to receive a pardon – letting things go as if they had never happened.
4. That’s forgiveness... Isn’t that incredible?!

But as incredible as that is, the thought that comes next is even more awesome. Here it is – are you ready? There’s a Father waiting for YOU to come home!

1. What about you today? **DO YOU NEED FORGIVENESS?**
2. And once we experience forgiveness from God, we can then respond like forgiven people...and forgive others.
BUT THAT’S NEXT WEEK.