

## Session 2

### The Prodigal God

### The Parable

#### Prayer

#### View Session 2 Video Clip

(1 min. 30 sec.)

#### Discussion Questions:

1. What did you hear in the dramatization that seems different than what you've heard or understood of this parable in the past?
2. In today's society, what would be an acceptable parental response to a child asking for their inheritance *now*?
3. If God's grace is absolutely free and we cannot earn it in any way, what motivation is there to live an obedient life?
4. As you seek to live your life for God, are there ways that you might be trying to *earn* God's favor?
5. What are things that you can do to help cultivate obedience as an expression of your love for God and love for others?
6. When Christianity first arose in the world, it was not called a religion. Timothy Keller writes, "Jesus' teaching consistently attracted the irreligious while offending the Bible-believing, religious people of his day. However, in the main, our churches today do not have this effect." (pg. 15).

How do you think we have come to this place? And how might we change it?

7. What type of person do you think we attract at West Side Church? Why?
  
8. When was the last time you invited a “non believer” to a social event (dinner, a movie, or coffee), just to get to know them? For those of you who have, share with your group how the experience went for you?
  
9. Do you think someone who is “far from God” would feel comfortable joining your Life Group? Why or why not?

**Reflect:**

My summary of the main point of this Session and how it impacts me personally:

## Taking it with you:

Read Chapter 3 in preparation for next week's meeting.  
Take notes or make comments below:

Take some time this week to quietly meditate on this Scripture passage.

Create in me a pure heart, O God,  
And renew a steadfast spirit within me,  
Do not cast me from your presence  
Or take your Holy Spirit from me.  
Restore to me the joy of your salvation  
And grant me a willing spirit, to sustain me.  
Psalm 51:10-12

If there are places in your heart that need healing? Ask for that in prayer.  
If there is something you need to confess? Confess it to your Lord, who loves you.  
Do you need to have the Lord restore to you the JOY of your salvation? Just ask, in faith!  
How great is our God!

As you go about your week, seek to notice God's blessings in your life. Take time to thank Him, for He is good. His love endures forever.