

From a Far Off Country to the Father's Arms

Luke 15:11-24 (page 874/large print 1039 or 1112)

Pastor Matt Kottman April 27, 2025

1. The Rebellious Son Lost in a Far Country (15:11-16)

2. The Ruined Son Comes to Himself (15:17-20a)

3. The Compassionate Father Runs to the Unworthy (15:20b-24)

Quick Review

1. Was there anything in the passage that challenged or encouraged you?

2. How did this passage of Scripture help you see Christ better?

Digging Deeper

1. What does the younger son's request for his inheritance (before his father's death) tell us about human nature and our desires for independence? How do we see this play out in our own lives today?

2. In Luke 15:17, it says, "he came to himself." What does this phrase mean in the context of repentance and coming back to God? How is this moment different from mere guilt or shame?	Taking It Home1. What are some ways you might be tempted to "run away" from God today (whether through independence, unhealthy choices, or distractions)?
	2. Is there anyone in your life to whom you need to extend forgiveness, or who needs reconciliation with you? How does the father's attitude in the parable challenge you in your relationships?
3. The father's love and mercy toward his son seem to defy logic and cultural expectations. What do you think this tells us about the nature of God's grace? How might this parable challenge our understanding of justice and fairness?	3. How does the truth of God's overwhelming grace change the way you view others who are far from God? Are there people in your life who need to experience the same grace and mercy that God offers to us?
	4. The father in the parable throws a celebration for the return of his son. How can we, as a church or community, celebrate those who are coming to faith or returning to God? What role do we play in welcoming the lost home?