



## *The Farther Country: Resentment in the Father's House*

Luke 15:25-32  
(page 875/large print 1040 or 1112)

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May 4, 2025

1. The Scandal of Grace

### **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?

2. In the House But Far from Home

### **Digging Deeper**

1. How does the older son's response mirror the attitudes of the Pharisees and religious leaders, as indicated in the context of the parable (Luke 15:1-2)? In what ways might we, today, struggle with a similar mindset?

3. The Father Goes Out Again

2. How does the father's response to the older son contrast with the way the older son views his own actions? What does this teach us about the dangers of self-righteousness?

3. The father tells the older son, "Everything I have is yours." What does this statement say about the abundance of God's grace and blessings for His children? How might we misunderstand or underappreciate this generosity at times?

4. How does the older son's identity seem to be based on what he has done, rather than his relationship with the father? How can we, like the older son, fall into the trap of defining our worth by our own works or by comparison to others?

### **Taking It Home**

1. Is there someone in your life whom you may be struggling to forgive or accept, like the older son struggled with his younger brother's return? How can you extend grace to them, even if you feel they don't "deserve" it?

2. The older son's identity seems to be based on his works and his faithfulness. Have you ever based your identity on your own "goodness" or accomplishments rather than the grace of God? What would it look like to define your identity as a beloved child of God, regardless of what you've done? How can you embrace the Father's love, not because of your actions, but because of who you are in Christ?

3. What does it mean for you to truly embrace the idea that God's grace is lavish and unearned? How can this shape your relationships with others, especially those you may be tempted to judge?