

**EXTREME LOVE – PART II**  
**“Unexpected Rejection”**  
**Luke 15:11-32**

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How do you feel when someone gives their heart to Jesus, especially if it's someone in your family—your baby brother. You'd feel pretty good about that, wouldn't you! That was not the case with the older brother in the parable of the “Lost Sons.” When his baby brother repented of his immoral, irresponsible lifestyle and returned home after squandering his inheritance, his father was elated! He, however, was livid! Why would he feel this way? Why didn't he share his father's sentiments? Today's teaching will answer these questions.

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**1. THE YOUNGER BROTHER CAME TO THE FATHER IN A STATE OF \_\_\_\_\_ & REPENTANCE, vv. 11-24**

- A. He came to his senses
- B. He confessed his sin to God & his father
- C. He wasn't in denial, no blaming, no excuses
- D. He felt threw himself at his father's mercy
- E. He felt unworthy before his father
- F. He received love, acceptance & forgiveness from the Father

**HIS PERSONALITY PROFILE**

He's selfish, not trustworthy, very manipulative, irresponsible, incredibly immature, lacks self-control, disrespectful, has a big problem with authority

♠ **HE'S EVERY PARENT'S** \_\_\_\_\_

♠ **LET'S NAME HIM** – \_\_\_\_\_

**2. THE PROFILE OF THE OLDER BROTHER, vv. 25-32**

He's responsible, a hard worker, grounded spiritually, helped raise his little brother, he is loyal to his father, he is dependable.

♠ **HE'S THE SON ANY PARENT WOULD BE** \_\_\_\_\_

♠ **LET'S NAME HIM** – \_\_\_\_\_

**3. MR. CLEAN IS \_\_\_\_\_ WHEN HIS FATHER FORGAVE & RESTORED HIS BROTHER, vv. 25-28**

- A. He has put in a hard day's work
- B. He has an axe to grind with his brother
- C. He doesn't agree with his father's call
- D. His father pleaded with him to join the party

**4. MR. CLEAN FEELS \_\_\_\_\_ BY HIS FATHER, vv. 29-30**

- A. I've been “slaving” for you
- B. I never disobeyed you
- C. You never gave me a celebration like this
- D. Your son squandered your property
- E. Your son visited prostitutes
- F. In spite of this you kill the fattened calf for him

**APPLICATION POINTS – MR. CLEAN REPRESENTS:**

- The life-long church goer who is a modern-day \_\_\_\_\_ (Mark 2:15-17)
- The life-long church goer who wants to see God \_\_\_\_\_ the repentant individual or backslider.
- The life-long church goer who thinks God's \_\_\_\_\_ isn't fair.
- The life-long church goer whose relationship with God is \_\_\_\_\_

**ANSWERS:** Brokenness, Nightmare, Mr. Me, Proud Of, Mr. Clean, Angry, Unappreciated, Pharisee, Punish, Grace, Messed Up, Privileged, Lost.

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**5. MR. CLEAN'S INABILITY TO GRASP HIS \_\_\_\_\_ POSITION  
WITH HIS FATHER REVEALS THAT HE IS \_\_\_\_\_, vv. 31-32**

- A. Reminder: You're my Son (not a slave), v. 31
- B. Reminder: You're always with me, v. 31
- C. Reminder: You have unrestricted access to all that is mine, v. 31
- D. Reminder: We have to celebrate!, v. 32
- E. Reminder: Your brother was dead & is alive, v. 32
- F. Reminder: Your brother was lost & is found, v. 32
- G. Result: Mr. Clean is estranged from his father and brother

**NOTES:**

*Welcome*

*to*

*Hillcrest Church*

*Love, Acceptance &  
Forgiveness!*

*For as high as the heavens are above the earth,  
so great is his love for those who fear him;*

*Psalm 103:11*

*May 21, 2023*

*Pastor Bruce Guckelberg, PhD*

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

### TODAY

Pastor Bruce is continuing his series titled “Extreme Love” based on the parable of the prodigal son. This teaching gives us insights into the depth of God’s love.

### NEW ELDERS

The Ministry Stewards Team of Hillcrest church is pleased to announce the appointment of Paul Milton and Jeff McAuliffe to the office of elder. Paul is the outreach director and Jeff is an elder at large assisting in pastoral care.

### ONLINE GATHERINGS

The Prayer Meeting: Tuesday at 7pm with Pastor Tim Brooks  
The Bible study: Wednesday at 6:30 – 7:45pm. Go to the online meeting room on our website ([hillcrestRoseville.com](http://hillcrestRoseville.com)) to access either gathering.

### PROJECT “ROOF 23”

Hillcrest church needs a new roof! The cost is about 45K depending on how much dry rot is discovered once the shingles are removed. We need everyone’s help in paying for this project. Prayerfully consider making your donations to the “building fund.”

### THANK YOU FOR YOUR FINANCIAL SUPPORT

Our offering box is in the back of the sanctuary. You can place your tithes and offerings there, or you can visit our website and give online ([hillcrestroseville.com](http://hillcrestroseville.com)).

### CHURCH AT GARBOLINO PARK – JUNE 4, 10:30

Bring a chair, blanket, and a dish to share. If you bring beverages please bring cans. The church will provide hamburgers, hot dogs, condiments and utensils.

### EAST INDIAN DINNER TOTALS

- ♣ 2022 East Indian Dinner raised over \$10,000
- ♣ 2023 East Indian Dinner raised over \$11,00 and counting

### CHURCH PICNIC – AUGUST 13, 2023

## DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. Discuss the differences in the personalities of the two sons.
2. Why was the older brother angry when he discovered his brother returned home and they killed the fattened calf to celebrate?
3. If you were the older son how would you feel about your brother’s return?
4. How did he feel about the father restoring him to the family and the celebration?
5. The older son said, “I’ve been slaving for you and never disobeyed you.” What does that reveal about his relationship to his father? (v. 29)
6. Discuss each of the application points.
7. What did the father mean in v. 31?
8. The younger brother was lost and found, but was the older brother lost? If so in what way(s)?
9. What is your takeaway from this teaching?