

SERMON APPLICATION GUIDE

Luke 15

Ice Breaker: What's an evidence of God's grace you've seen this week?

Ice Breaker: What's your favorite thing to do or to eat at the State Fair?

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS:

1. Before you read the passage, what are the common ways you've heard this parable taught? What main points did you have in your mind coming into a sermon on this parable?
2. **Read Luke 15** as a group.
3. What is the setting we find Jesus in as he teaches these parables?
4. What are your observations of these parables? Are there any repeated words or themes throughout each parable?
5. What surprises do we see in each of these parables? What would shock Jesus' original hearers?
6. How do these parables tell us about the value of the thing that is found? Where does value come from?
7. Each thing/person that is found comes at a cost. What is the cost each has to pay?
8. What does the cost of our redemption tell us about our value to God? What makes us doubt our value to God?
9. In the parable of the two sons, do you identify with either son? Or do you identify with the father in the story? Explain your answer. Compare and contrast Jesus' life and ministry to the two sons. How is Jesus the true and better son?
10. How does or how would grace change the story for each of the sons? How has grace shaped your life and relationship with God?
11. In each of the parables there is rejoicing at the end. Is it easy for you to rejoice with friends? Why or why not? What prevents you from having a heart of rejoicing?
12. Do you believe heaven rejoices over you when you repent, or do you see God as a disapproving, stingy father?
13. How does this passage shape your understanding of God and his heart for sinners? How has this passage challenged the way you live and see your obedience to God the Father?
14. How can your Small Group apply this text together as a group?