

## OHANA STUDY GUIDE

June 13-19, 2010

Sermon: "A Father's Extraordinary Love"

June 20, 2010

Luke 15:1-2, 11-32

1. Read v.1-2, Every parable taught by Jesus was to address a specific problem of the human heart. What is it in this case according to v.1-2?

a. To which groups of men was this parable targeted?

b. In what way is this condition still present in the church today?

2. Read v.11-16. Was the father in this parable wise in giving his younger son his inheritance even before it was the proper time to do so?

a. Since the father represents God to us, what does this tell us about God's love for us?

3. Make a list of the foolish things the son did in this story. What did he do when he became desperate that he would not have done otherwise?

a. Explain how desperation can be used by God to bring us back to Him from our rebellious ways.

4. Read v.17-24. How do we know that the son had truly repented of his rebellion?

a. Did he receive from his father the greeting that he expected?

b. What do we learn from the father's greeting about how God receives sinners who come to Him in repentance?

5. Explain the significance of the following:

(a) the best robe

(b) the ring

(c) sandals for his feet

(d) the fattened calf

a. Why do you suppose the father arranged such an elaborate celebration?

b. In what way does God do the same for us as we repent of our sins and come back to Him?

6. Read v.25-32. What was the older son's reaction when he heard about his brother's celebration?

a. Do you think he had a good reason to feel this way?

b. What does this reveal about the older son's relationship with his father?

7. How did the father attempt to justify the celebration for his younger son?

a. Does it appear that the father loved one of his sons more than the other?

b. If so, which one?

c. What valuable lesson do we find here for earthly fathers?

