

"When he came to his senses, he said, 'How many of my father's hired men have food to spare, and here I am starving to death! I will set out and go back to my father and say to him: Father, I have sinned against heaven and against you. I am no longer worthy to be called your son; make me like one of your hired men.' So he got up and went to his father. "But while he was still a long way off, his father saw him and was filled with compassion for him; he ran to his son, threw his arms around him and kissed him. Luke 15:17-20 (NIV)

My Senses

I've done that. **You've done what?** I have come to my senses. **How have you come to your senses?** I have seen what living a life without you looks and feels like. I have wandered away on a path that led away from you. I have lived according the values, principles and practices of the world. I have been bruised and battered and broken by living a worldly life. I have felt the weariness of living outside of an intimate relationship with you. It is probably a mistake to say that I came to my senses. That gives me too much credit. It would be far more accurate to say that you brought me to my senses. **That's true.** You turned my life around. You showed me the error of my ways. You rescued me from a life without you. **Yes, I did.**

What have you learned about me? I have learned that you are good and kind and loving. I have learned that you are gracious and forgiving. I have learned that you are merciful. I have learned that you are patient. **How have you learned all of these things about me?** You have showed all of these things about you to me. I have deserved none of these things from you. You drew me back to yourself. You ran to accept me into your fellowship. You threw your loving arms around me. You welcomed me back into an intimate relationship with you. **Yes, I did.** You have not stopped loving me. You have not stopped caring for me. I am your child. You are my Heavenly Father. **Yes, I am.** You will continue to lead my life. You will guard and guide me as I love, follow and serve you. You will continue to mold and shape me into the person you want me to become. You will help me to live the life you have called me to live. **Yes, I will.** It will be my joy to live in an intimate relationship with you. **That is very good.**

Heavenly Father, I have wondered away from you. I have walked on a path that led away from you. I have lived according to the values, patterns and practices of the world. Thank you for loving me and turning my life around and bringing me back to you. Amen

Becoming Like Christ *Came To His Senses*

"When he came to his senses, he said, 'How many of my father's hired men have food to spare, and here I am starving to death! I will set out and go back to my father and say to him: Father, I have sinned against heaven and against you. I am no longer worthy to be called your son; make me like one of your hired men.' So he got up and went to his father. "But while he was still a long way off, his father saw him and was filled with compassion for him; he ran to his son, threw his arms around him and kissed him.

NIV Luke 15:17-20

Becoming Like Christ *Came To His Senses*

"When he finally came to his senses, he said to himself, 'At home even the hired servants have food enough to spare, and here I am dying of hunger! I will get up and go to my father and say, "Father, I have sinned against both heaven and you, and I am no longer worthy of being called your son. Please take me on as a hired servant."' So he returned home to his father. And while he was still a long way off, his father saw him coming. Filled with love and compassion, he ran to his son, embraced him, and kissed him.

NLT Luke 15:17-20

Becoming Like Christ *Came To Himself*

But when he came to himself he said, 'How many of my father's hired hands have bread enough and to spare, but here I am dying of hunger! I will get up and go to my father, and I will say to him, "Father, I have sinned against heaven and before you; I am no longer worthy to be called your son; treat me like one of your hired hands."' So he set off and went to his father. But while he was still far off, his father saw him and was filled with compassion; he ran and put his arms around him and kissed him.

NRSV Luke 15:17-20

Becoming Like Christ *Came To Himself*

Then when he came to himself, he said, How many hired servants of my father have enough food, and [even food] to spare, but I am perishing (dying) here of hunger! I will get up and go to my father, and I will say to him, Father, I have sinned against heaven and in your sight. I am no longer worthy to be called your son; [just] make me like one of your hired servants. So he got up and came to his [own] father. But while he was still a long way off, his father saw him and was moved with pity and tenderness [for him]; and he ran and embraced him and kissed him [fervently].

AMP Luke 15:17-20

Becoming Like Christ *Came To His Senses*

"But when he came to his senses, he said, 'How many of my father's hired men have more than enough bread, but I am dying here with hunger! I will get up and go to my father, and will say to him, "Father, I have sinned against heaven, and in your sight; I am no longer worthy to be called your son; make me as one of your hired men."' "So he got up and came to his father. But while he was still a long way off, his father saw him and felt compassion for him, and ran and embraced him and kissed him.

NASB Luke 15:17-20

Becoming Like Christ *Came To Himself*

"But when he came to himself, he said, 'How many of my father's hired servants have more than enough bread, but I perish here with hunger! I will arise and go to my father, and I will say to him, "Father, I have sinned against heaven and before you. I am no longer worthy to be called your son. Treat me as one of your hired servants."' And he arose and came to his father. But while he was still a long way off, his father saw him and felt compassion, and ran and embraced him and kissed him.

ESV Luke 15:17-20

Becoming Like Christ *Came To Himself*

But when he came to himself, he said, 'How many of my father's hired servants have bread enough and to spare, and I perish with hunger! I will arise and go to my father, and will say to him, "Father, I have sinned against heaven and before you, and I am no longer worthy to be called your son. Make me like one of your hired servants." ' And he arose and came to his father. But when he was still a great way off, his father saw him and had compassion, and ran and fell on his neck and kissed him.

NKJV Luke 15:17-20

Becoming Like Christ *Brought Him To His Senses*

"That brought him to his senses. He said, 'All those farmhands working for my father sit down to three meals a day, and here I am starving to death. I'm going back to my father. I'll say to him, Father, I've sinned against God, I've sinned before you; I don't deserve to be called your son. Take me on as a hired hand.' He got right up and went home to his father. "When he was still a long way off, his father saw him. His heart pounding, he ran out, embraced him, and kissed him.

MSG Luke 15:17-20

Becoming Like Christ *Came To His Senses*

"When he finally came to his senses, he said to himself, 'At home even the hired men have food enough and to spare, and here I am, dying of hunger! I will go home to my father and say, "Father, I have sinned against both heaven and you, and am no longer worthy of being called your son. Please take me on as a hired man.' " "So he returned home to his father. And while he was still a long distance away, his father saw him coming, and was filled with loving pity and ran and embraced him and kissed him.

TLB Luke 15:17-20

Becoming Like Christ *Realized What He Was Doing*

When he realized what he was doing, he thought, 'All of my father's servants have plenty of food. But I am here, almost dying with hunger. I will leave and return to my father and say to him, "Father, I have sinned against God and have done wrong to you. I am no longer worthy to be called your son, but let me be like one of your servants." ' So the son left and went to his father. "While the son was still a long way off, his father saw him and felt sorry for his son. So the father ran to him and hugged and kissed him.

NCV Luke 15:17-20

Came To His Senses

Year _____ Week _____ Day _____ Date _____

Becoming Like Christ – Luke 15:17-20

In Context: *Read Luke 15*

Begin With Prayer:

Here I am Lord. I Am Listening.

Meditating On God's Word: ***(What is God speaking to your heart?)***

"When he came to his senses, he said, 'How many of my father's hired men have food to spare, and here I am starving to death! I will set out and go back to my father and say to him: Father, I have sinned against heaven and against you. I am no longer worthy to be called your son; make me like one of your hired men.' So he got up and went to his father. "But while he was still a long way off, his father saw him and was filled with compassion for him; he ran to his son, threw his arms around him and kissed him.

Luke 15:17-20 (NIV)

Considering The Words: ***(What words speak to your heart?)***

"When he | came to | his senses, | he said, | 'How many | of my father's hired men | have food | to spare, | and | here I am | starving to death! | I will set out | and | go back | to my father | and | say to him: | Father, | I have sinned | against heaven | and | against you. | I am | no longer worthy | to be called | your son; | make me like | one of | your hired men.' | So he got up | and | went to | his father. | "But while | he was | still | a long way off, | his father | saw him | and | was filled | with compassion | for him; | he ran | to his son, | threw his arms | around him | and | kissed him. Luke 15:17-20 (NIV)

Praying The Scripture: ***(What prayer from your heart will you write?)***

Heavenly Father, I have wandered away from you. I have walked on a path that led away from you. I have lived according to the values, patterns and practices of the world. Thank you for loving me and turning my life around and bringing me back to you. Amen

What It Means: ***(What questions speak to your heart?)*** *(Suggested questions for small group discussion are in bold)*

When have you wandered away from an intimate relationship with your Heavenly Father?

How has wandering into the values, patterns and practices of the world left you bruised, battered and broken?

When have you discovered the weariness of living outside of an intimate relationship with your Heavenly Father?

Why can the world offer nothing to compare to the life your Heavenly Father has given you to live?

What has your Heavenly Father used to bring you back into an intimate relationship with Him?

When have you realized that it is your desire to live in an intimate relationship with your Heavenly Father?

Why can you be certain that your Heavenly Father will wholeheartedly welcome you to Himself?

Living It Out: ***(What action step is God guiding your heart to take?)***

Live in an intimate relationship with your Heavenly Father so you will be able to love, follow and serve Him.

Seeing It Happen: ***(What are you trusting God for in your heart?)***

Have faith that your Heavenly Father will wholeheartedly welcome you to live in an intimate relationship with Him.

Get Ready To Share: ***(What can you share with others from your heart?)***

Share with another person or your small group how you are living in an intimate relationship with your Heavenly Father.

Close With Prayer: ***Quiet Yourself Before The Lord***

Pause And Offer Prayers Of...

With An Attitude Of Faith Listen To What The Lord Wants To Say To You

Adoration... _____

Thanksgiving... _____

Confession... _____

Intercession... _____

Petition... _____

Journal

As You Quiet Yourself Before The Lord

What Do You Want To Say To Me Lord?

What Prayers Are You Praying Today?

Prayer Of Blessing

(What Prayer Of Blessing Can You Pray For Another?)

May you come to your senses and return to love, follow and serve your Heavenly Father

Prayer To Carry

(What Prayer Would You Like To Carry Throughout Your Day?)

Heavenly Father, I will come to my senses and return to love, follow and serve you.

What Do You Want To Remember About Today?

A Question To Ask God

(What Would You Like To Ask God?)

Heavenly Father, how can I love, follow and serve you today?
