

More Than Hearing Worksheet

Episode: CLent4x2016

Text: Luke 15:1-3, 11b-32

Now all the tax collectors and sinners were coming near to listen to him. 2 And the Pharisees and the scribes were grumbling and saying, “**This fellow welcomes sinners and eats with them.**” 3 So he told them this parable:

“There was a man who had two sons. 12 The younger of them said to his father, ‘Father, give me the share of the property that will belong to me.’ So he divided his property between them. 13 A few days later the younger son gathered all he had and traveled to a distant country, and there he squandered his property in dissolute living. 14 When he had spent everything, a severe famine took place throughout that country, and he began to be in need. 15 So he went and hired himself out to one of the citizens of that country, who sent him to his fields to feed the pigs. 16 **He would gladly have filled himself with the pods that the pigs were eating; and no one gave him anything.** 17 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!** 18 I will get up and go to my father, and I will say to him, ‘Father, I have sinned against heaven and before you; 19 I am no longer worthy to be called your son; treat me like one of your hired hands.’”

20 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. 21 Then the son said to him, ‘Father, I have sinned against heaven and before you; I am no longer worthy to be called your son.’ 22 But the father said to his slaves, ‘Quickly, bring out a robe—the best one—and put it on him; put a ring on his finger and sandals on his feet. 23 And get the fatted calf and kill it, and let us eat and celebrate; 24 for this son of mine was dead and is alive again; he was lost and is found!’ And they began to celebrate.

25 “Now his elder son was in the field; and when he came and approached the house, he heard music and dancing. 26 He called one of the slaves and asked what was going on. 27 He replied, ‘Your brother has come, and your father has killed the fatted calf, because he has got him back safe and sound.’ 28 Then he became angry and refused to go in. His father came out and began to plead with him. 29 But he answered his father, ‘Listen! For all these years I have been working like a slave for you, and I have never disobeyed your command; yet you have never given me even a young goat so that I might celebrate with my friends. 30 But when this son of yours came back, who has devoured your property with prostitutes, you killed the fatted calf for him!’ 31 Then the father said to him, ‘**Son, you are always with me, and all that is mine is yours. 32 But we had to celebrate and rejoice, because this brother of yours was dead and has come to life; he was lost and has been found.**”

Word (I) Body (I) Music (I) People (I) Self (I/S)

Smarts	Images in the text	Illustrations	SFX
Word - Verbal/Linguistic	“This fellow welcomes	This criticism is the	

	sinners and eats with them.”	<p>launching point for one of the most enduring stories in Scripture.</p> <p>Why does Jesus respond to this particular criticism, and in story form?</p> <p>This is so very different from the way our culture responds to criticism.</p>	
Eye - Visual/Spatial			
Math - Logical/Mathematical			
Body - Kinesthetic		<p>Imagine the physical changes to the younger son, becoming emaciated during the famine -</p> <p>imagine the joy of the father who sees his “dead” son returning - even if his body (and culture) did not support breaking into a run, that is his response</p>	<p>Do you have any dieticians in your congregation? Ask them to speak to the physical and psychic changes that happen in a person who has not eaten - or eaten well - for a long time.</p>
Musical		Tell the story with an epic poem / rap	
Natural			
People - Interpersonal		<p>What would it be like to make a pastoral call on this family the next day?</p> <p>Compare the attitude of the older son to that of Bob Fletcher who took care of 3 farms for Japanese American families during the internment of WWII http://www.nytimes.com/2013/06/07/us/bob-fletcher-dies-at-101-saved-farms-of-interned-japanese-americans.html?smid=fb-share</p>	

<p>Self - Intrapersonal</p>	<p>‘Son, you are always with me, and all that is mine is yours. 32 But we had to celebrate and rejoice, because this brother of yours was dead and has come to life; he was lost and has been found.’”</p>	<p>The older son is perhaps just as guilty of wasting his life and his younger brother, because he never realizes the joy and opportunity of living in his father’s house, never makes use of the resources he has available</p>	<p>Can you remember a time when you “came to yourself” as the younger son did?</p> <p>Can you remember a time when you realized you had taken God’s provision for granted?</p> <p>Based on how the father responded to both sons in this parable, how has God responded to you?</p>
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