**Ten Money Lessons from the runaway son who was found!**

**Sermon Outline from** Luke 15:11-32

And he said, “There was a man who had two sons.

12 And the younger of them said to his father, ‘Father, give me the share of property that is coming to me.’ And he divided his property between them.

13 Not many days later, the younger son gathered all he had and took a journey into a far country, and there he squandered his property in reckless living. 14 And when he had spent everything, a severe famine arose in 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 into his fields to feed pigs. 16 And he was longing to be fed with the pods that the pigs ate, and no one gave him anything.

Money lessons

17 “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!

18 I will arise 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 as one of your hired servants.”’

20 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. 21 And the son said to him, ‘Father, I have sinned against heaven and before you. I am no longer worthy to be called your son.’

Money lessons

22 But the father said to his servants, ‘Bring quickly the best robe, and put it on him, and put a ring on his hand, and shoes on his feet. 23 And bring the fattened calf and kill it, and let us eat and celebrate. 24 For this my son was dead, and is alive again; he was lost, and is found.’ And they began to celebrate.

25 “Now his older son was in the field, and as he came and drew near to the house, he heard music and dancing. 26 And he called one of the servants and asked what these things meant.

Money lessons

27 And he said to him, ‘Your brother has come, and your father has killed the fattened calf, because he has received him back safe and sound.’

28 But he was angry and refused to go in. His father came out and entreated him, 29 but he answered his father, ‘Look, these many years I have served you, and I never disobeyed your command, yet you never gave me a young goat, that I might celebrate with my friends. 30 But when this son of yours came, who has devoured your property with prostitutes, you killed the fattened calf for him!’

31 And he said to him, ‘Son, you are always with me, and all that is mine is yours. 32 It was fitting to celebrate and be glad, for this your brother was dead, and is alive; he was lost, and is found.’”

**1. He wanted independence**

“Father, give me the share of property that is coming to me.”

“I am the master of my own life”

“If I will not say to God, “Your will be done.” Then God says to me … ‘ok your will be done … but take the consequences.’

There are no independent financial decisions

Each decision has an impact on some other area of life

Independence is pride … and that comes before a fall

Independence does not give the Father a chance to show grace

* Realise God owns everything
* Make yourself dependent on the Father

**2. He was selfish**

“I want all I can get!”

Selfishness eats you from the inside, and can lead to all kinds of sinful thoughts and behaviours

Selfishness destroys relationships

Selfishness kills joy

Selfishness is short-sighted  
Typically, a son would receive his inheritance at the time of his father's death.

The fact that the younger brother instigated the early division of the family estate showed a rebellious and proud disregard for his father's authority, not to mention a selfish and immature attitude.

* Learn to give
* Seek the best interests of others

**3. He wasted his capital**

“the younger son gathered all he had and took a journey into a far country, and there he squandered his property in reckless living.”

“I want it now!”

Immediate gratification is not satisfying

Immediate gratification wastes future opportunities

Immediate gratification leads to unrest

Immediate gratification is based on a lack of trust

* Make a plan for your expenses
* Learn to wait before spending

**4. He had no reserves for tough times**

V 14 And when he had spent everything, a severe famine arose in that country, and he began to be in need.

“I’ve spent everything and have nothing left for tough times.”

No reserves leaves you vulnerable in tough times

No reserves leaves you unable to bless others with what you have

No reserves leaves you dependent on others

* Spend less than you earn
* Build savings

**5. He ended up working for nothing**

15 So he went and hired himself out to one of the citizens of that country, who sent him into his fields to feed pigs. 16 And he was longing to be fed with the pods that the pigs ate, and no one gave him anything.

“What’s the point?”

Your work is futile when it has no meaning

Your work is futile when it leads to need

Your work is futile when you are being oppressed

* Commit to serving the Father @ work
* Choose work in which you can grow

**6. He began to realise the sufficiency of Father’s provision**

17 “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 see now that working for the Father is good.”

The Father’s provision meets your needs

The Father’s provision is enough in any circumstance

The Father’s provision turns the waste products of life into something useful

The Father’s provision brings peace

* Give thanks in all circumstances
* Trust the Father for His provision

**7. He realized that his financial problems reveal ed who Ie is inside**

18 I will arise 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 as one of your hired servants.”

“I must return to the Father and confess my sins.”

Financial problems lead to un-usefulness

Financial problems reveal your heart’s priorities

Financial problems reveal opportunities to grow and learn

Money will never solve financial problems

* Pray for the Father’s intervention
* Return to God’s ways

**8. He saw a different way**

V 20 And he arose and came to his father.

his father saw him and felt compassion, and ran and embraced him and kissed him.

“I must choose to live and work the Father’s way

Gods’ ways are different from the world’s ways

To choose the different way means to surrender

Following the Father’s ways is a daily choice to deny yourself

Following the Father’s ways means learning from Him

* Repent, turn and follow
* Read, mark and obey the Father’s words

**9. His brother was jealous**

V 28 But he was angry and refused to go in. His father came out and entreated him, 29 but he answered his father, ‘Look, these many years I have served you, and I never disobeyed your command, yet you never gave me a young goat, that I might celebrate with my friends. 30 But when this son of yours came, who has devoured your property with prostitutes, you killed the fattened calf for him!’

“I’m jealous of what the Father gives someone else …”

Jealousy always looks to someone else

Jealousy produces anger and destroys joy

Jealousy is insecurity in the Father’s provision

Jealousy shows you your deepest desires

* Trust in the Father’s provision for you
* Thank the Father for what He is doing for the other

**10. It was time to party!**

24 For this my son was dead, and is alive again; he was lost, and is found.’ And they began to celebrate.

V 32 It was fitting to celebrate and be glad, for this your brother was dead, and is alive; he was lost, and is found.’”

“I must start to enjoy the Father’s provision.”

It’s party time when a sinner repents and turns!

It’s party time when we celebrate the Father’s grace and love

It’s party time when I enjoy the life of Christ working through me

It’s party time when I share Gods provision

* Experience the blessedness of giving
* Lose yourself in praise and worship