



Notes | March 10, 2024

Who's your one: Burden for the Lost

We each have a person or group of people that we care immensely for! Whether they're close to us or far from us. Our investment is deeper when we can be closer in proximity to the person. It's the same with discipleship. As Christians we struggle to "get close" to unbelievers, but it's actually a commission from Christ for us to walk with those who have lost their way and help bring them back into the flock.

Key Scripture | Luke 15: 11-31

Jesus continued: "There was a man who had two sons. The younger one said to his father, 'Father, give me my share of the estate.' So he divided his property between them. "Not long after that, the younger son got together all he had, set off for a distant country and there squandered his wealth in wild living. After he had spent everything, there was a severe famine in that whole country, and he began to be in need. So he went and hired himself out to a citizen of that country, who sent him to his fields to feed pigs. He longed to fill his stomach with the pods that the pigs were eating, but no one gave him anything. "When he came to his senses, he said, 'How many of my father's hired servants 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 servants.' 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. "The son said to him, 'Father, I have sinned against heaven and against you. I am no longer worthy to be called your son.' "But the father said to his servants, 'Quick! Bring the best robe and put it on him. Put a ring on his finger and sandals on his feet. Bring the fattened calf and kill it. Let's have a feast and celebrate. For this son of mine was dead and is alive again; he was lost and is found.' So they began to celebrate. "Meanwhile, the older son was in the field. When he came near the house, he heard music and dancing. So he called one of the servants and asked him what was going on. 'Your brother has come,' he replied, 'and your father has killed the fattened calf because he has him back safe and sound.' "The older brother became angry and refused to go in. So his father went out and pleaded with him. But he answered his father, 'Look! All these years I've been slaving for you and never disobeyed your orders. Yet you never gave me even a young goat so I could celebrate with my friends. But when this son of yours who has squandered your property with prostitutes comes home, you kill the fattened calf for him!' " "My son," the father said, "you are always with me, and everything I have is yours. But we had to celebrate and be glad, because this brother of yours was dead and is alive again; he was lost and is found."



Icebreakers:

Q: What was your first job?

Key Thoughts and Reflections:

I. The closer you are to your one, the more you love them.

Q: Has anyone ever invested in you personally or professionally? Who was it? How'd it go?

Q: Has anyone in your life ever showed you unearned grace? How did they do it?

Q: Who is someone you believe in even though everyone else on the outside says they don't deserve it?

II. God does not disown you because of your mistakes.

Q: Do you see God as an intimidating judge or a loving Father? Why?

Q: In the story of the Prodigal son, the brother was angry about the dad's reaction to the prodigal son's return. He was too far removed and no longer cared. Do you find yourself judging people more than caring about how you could be Jesus to them?

Q: Do you get so wrapped up in what you do for God that you forget who you are to God?

III. You have to choose to care for your one.

Q: God has someone in your life that you could walk in discipleship with. How can you relationally move closer to your one?

Q: Is there anything holding you back from investing in your one?

Q: Your one isn't a project. Your one is a person your choosing to do life with. You will grieve and you will have joy. Have you ever walked with someone like that before or seen someone do that?

Get Practical

Your "ONE" is the person that is near to you but far from God that you intentionally and prayerfully invest in and pursue. Make a phone call or text this week to your one to start a relationship. It doesn't have to be anything formal. Just asking them about their day is a great start!

Continue to pray for wisdom on how you can show Jesus to your one!