

Weekly Action Plan 2/12/2017

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Weekly Action Plan

Our Weekly Action Plan is designed to help you *recapture and build on* what God is teaching from Sundays message.



If you missed last weeks message you can listen to it [here](#).

We have been studying Luke chapter 15. Focusing on the story often titled the Prodigal Son. In a story that is packed with amazing insights about God and life, one of the key features of the story is the fact that it doesn't have a conclusion! If you read it carefully you'll notice in the closing conversation the Father is having with the older son, it centers around an invitation. There is a huge party raging because of the return of the younger son. The older brother doesn't believe his younger brother **DESERVES** a party because he is focused on his brother's past. The Father on the other hand is ***not dwelling on the past but is focused on the repentance*** that has led to his son's return!

Jesus is using the story to ask his audience what their attitudes will be as they see God (the Father in the story), celebrating the return of repentant sinners (people with obvious wayward pasts who return to God)? ***Of course it's a question worth asking ourselves as well.***

Although Jesus doesn't finish the story, the invitation the Father extends to the older son to come celebrate what is valuable to Him, is extended to us as well. In fact, we all DO COMPLETE the story by how we treat others. ***When your life is marked by forgiveness and graciousness you'll always be excited to celebrate the work God is doing in the life of others!***

Talk it out: Sit down at your kitchen table or at a coffee shop and explore with someone these questions below:

1. Clearly the famine/hunger in Luke 15:14 is a big part of the younger brother's return home. When you are faced with challenging/painful circumstances in your life, are you more likely to move towards God or away from Him? Why?
2. Why was it so difficult for the older brother in the story to forgive his younger brother?
3. Read Luke 14:25-33, how does Jesus' teaching compliment or contrast the stories in Chapter 15?

Share your story: Sunday night we baptized 5 people. Each one of them has a special story to tell about how God has shaped their life. You have a story about how God has shaped your life. COMMIT to sharing that story with one person this week.



Pray it in: Make some time this week to pray. Make a list of the things that you can thank God for. Include as least two areas where you see that He has been growing you. Pray for the people who were Baptized this last week to (left to right): Jenna, Jonathan, Mike, Kyle and Tim.

Store it up: Committing verses to memory is a key way to hold on to the truths of God that we need to be reminded of regularly. Here is a great verse, “But I tell you: Love your enemies and pray for those who persecute you,” Matthew 5:44

A few of you have asked about the surfing clip I showed. Two different views of the same wave.



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