

Coming Home
Lk 15:11-17
By Russell Earl

Thesis: I want to show the importance of making a right relationship with God your home.

- Intro:
1. We often say things like “there is no place like home”.
 2. In a spiritual sense home is a right relationship with God.
 - a. Indeed, there is no place like home.

I. Those in the Old Testament had to come home...

A. The Israelites

1. A plea to come home by repentance and obedience (**Ezk 18:26-30**)
2. They were to be told to get a “new heart” and a “new spirit” in order to come home (**Ezk 18:31-32**)

B. Jehoshaphat (**2 Chronicles 17:3-6**)

1. Restores proper fear of the Lord (**19:9**)
2. He wanted the people to “come home” to God.
3. The Lord does not sin, shows no favoritism, and cannot be bought (**19:7**)

II. Those in the New Testament had to come home...

A. Saul

1. It is made clear to Saul that he is not on the path home, the path that is pleasing to God (**Acts 9:1-6**)
2. Saul is told what he must do and he obeys (**Acts 9:17-18**), then he showed that he was now home, in obedience to God, by preaching Jesus as the Christ and continuing to do so (**Acts 9:20-22**)

B. The Prodigal Son

1. The path far from home (**Lk 15:11-13**)
2. The humbling path home (**Lk 15:14-24**)

III. Lessons for Us Today

A. Safety is only found when you are home, with God.

1. Home, a right relationship with God, is what you must have.
2. Many have strayed or never come to God.
 - a. Why? The answers are endless.

B. God wants you home.

1. God wants you to be with Him (**Ezk 33:11**)
2. But, do you want to come home to Him? (**Ps 14:2**)

Application & Conclusion:

1. Many want to believe they have plenty of time to obey (Jason Lee, Illustration)
2. **Acts 24:25** – today is the day of salvation.
 - a. The “convenient time” is now.
3. Full Invitation

Non-Christians must:

Hear – James 1:22, Romans 10:15,17

Believe – Jn 12:44, Jn 8:24, Mt 16:16

Repent – Luke 13:2-3

Confess – John 12:42, Romans 10:9

Be Baptized – 1 Pt 3:21, Acts 22:16, Col 2:11-12, Mk 16:16, Rom 6:3-4

Live faithfully – John 14:15, Rev 2:10

Christians must:

Repent & Pray: James 5:16, 1 John 1:9