



PRODIGAL GOD: Overview

Pastor Derek

November 2, 2025

Life Group Discussion

CONNECT: *Make time for encouragement, relationship-building, and prayer.*

- What brought you here (to Grace, to this LifeGroup)? What motivates you to keep coming back?

GROW: *Engage with God's word, one another, and the Dream Disciple tools and practices.*

Scripture: [Luke 15:11-32](#)

Questions:

- As you read through the Prodigal Son story, identify the emotions that you might guess each character is experiencing. What might the younger brother have felt? What about the Father? How did the older brother feel throughout the story?
- When have you identified with the younger brother? When have you identified with the older brother?
- This story reminds us that God loves us. Take turns reading these verses about God's love for you: [Zephaniah 3:17](#), [Psalm 103:8](#), [Psalm 103:11](#), [Psalm 106:1](#), [Psalm 138:8](#), [Psalm 139:13-14](#), [John 3:16](#), [Ephesians 2:4-5](#), [1 John 4:16-19](#)
 - o How do they make you feel?
 - o What will you do with this feeling?
 - o **Pause to pray.** Read [Ephesians 3:17-19](#). Each person prays aloud or writes a prayer for the person to their left to experience the things mentioned in these verses.

Tool/Practice: Pastor Derek mentioned that this story is an overview of the big picture of God's Story. Review the [God's Story Tool](#). Walk through a recently watched or favorite movie and identify how you see the five movements of God's Story in it. How have you seen God's story intersect with your story recently?

GO: *Put your learning into practice and hold one another accountable.*

What is God saying to you? Who in your life needs to hear about God's incredible love for them during these six weeks?

What are you going to do about it?

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Nov. 2025



"I will..."

Text your person and tell them: "I've been thinking about you and wanted you to know you matter to me." Then invite them to come with you.

Feast of the Father: This series concludes with the Feast of the Father, a reminder of the future feast the Lord has prepared for us in heaven. Start coordinating with your LifeGroup to invite people in your community (neighbors, friends, etc) who need to feel welcomed and like they belong to a feast the week of December 7th. Each week, there will be a prompt to get ready for this feast!



PRODIGAL GOD: He Welcomes Sinners

Pastor Derek

November 9, 2025

Life Group Discussion

CONNECT: Share a time when you lost something very valuable to you. What made it so valuable, and how did you feel when it was lost? How did you feel when you found it or failed to find it?

GROW: Questions:

- Read [Luke 15:1-3](#). Which group do you more closely identify with—the tax collectors and sinners or the Pharisees and scribes? Why?
- How did Jesus demonstrate His love for both groups?
- Read [Luke 15:4-10](#). How does realizing Jesus is willing to seek out every person who is lost change the way I view the people I meet during my day?
- If Jesus wants all people to come to faith in Him and is willing to seek every lost person, why doesn't every person come to saving faith in Jesus?
- Why did Jesus say at the end of each Parable that there would be rejoicing over one sinner who repents?
- What does it mean to repent? What helps you understand the seriousness of your sin enough to make you want to turn away from it?

GO:

What is Jesus trying to rescue you from right now?

What are you going to do about it?

"I will surrender myself through repentance to allow Him to rescue me and carry me home."

Feast of the Father: This series concludes with the Feast of the Father, a reminder of the future feast the Lord has prepared for us in heaven. Design your invitations to the feast. It could be a simple email or use online tools like Canva!



PRODIGAL GOD: Give Me My Share!

Pastor Derek

November 16, 2025

Life Group Discussion

CONNECT: *Make time for encouragement, relationship-building, and prayer.*

- Ask the group if they know of any current prodigals and have a prayer time for them to return, so that God may get the Glory.

GROW: *Engage with God's word, one another, and the Dream Disciple tools and practices.*

Read [Luke 15:11-32](#).

Questions:

- Review how, in ancient culture, the son asking for his inheritance was offensive.
- What do you think about a son who wants his inheritance before his father has died?
- What is it in your life that you are putting before God?
- How should we respond to the Father's grace and mercy?
- What does His mercy tell you about the Father's character?

GO: *Put your learning into practice and hold one another accountable.*

What is God saying to you? Identify one area where you've been trying to control your life instead of trusting God. Take one concrete action this week to surrender that area to Him (stop checking, stop manipulating, stop managing).

What are you going to do about it?

"I will..."

Feast of the Father: This series concludes with the Feast of the Father, a reminder of the future feast the Lord has prepared for us in heaven. Check in on your invitations to your people for the feast: how is it going? Start preparing your "toasts" to the Lord. Write a short paragraph (3-5 sentences) about how God has changed your life, or about one of His qualities that you admire.



PRODIGAL GOD: He Refused to Go In

Pastor Derek

November 23, 2025

Life Group Discussion

CONNECT: *Make time for encouragement, relationship-building, and prayer.*

- Share a time when you were expecting to dislike someone, yet upon meeting them, you hit it off right away.
- What type of personality do you find yourself most easily getting along with? And most upset by?

GROW: *Engage with God's word, one another, and the Dream Disciple tools and practices.*

Scriptures: [1 Samuel 18:6-13](#), [Luke 15:25-32](#)

Questions:

- What are some characteristics of being treated fairly?
- Considering the story of Saul and David from [1 Samuel 18:6-13](#):
 - o Recall and share a time when someone treated you unjustly. How did it make you feel or react to them?
- Considering the story of the Prodigal Son from the gospel of [Luke 15:25-32](#):
 - o Share a story of a time when God treated you with mercy instead of judgment, and how did those around you respond?
 - o How was the older brother's view of the younger brother different from the father's treatment of his sons?
- When was the last time you allowed your past grievances to rob you of a joyous family gathering during a holiday? How did you miss out on what God had intended as a result of this?
- Like the father's view of both his sons, how could applying this God-type view to a current situation change the outcome for you and them?
- Why do you think you have struggled to show mercy to others?

GO: *Put your learning into practice and hold one another accountable.*

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JB, KS, MW, WW, DM
Nov. 2025



- Identify and discuss with a Christian friend one person you dread interacting with this Thanksgiving and Christmas.
- What are you going to do about it?
- "I will pray for the dreaded interaction in advance, and choose to look at him/her this Holiday season with a God type mercy view in mind."
- Afterwards, I will remember to thank Jesus for helping me achieve peace in this situation, regardless of the outcome.

Feast of the Father: This series concludes with the Feast of the Father, a reminder of the future feast the Lord has prepared for us in heaven. Bring your toasts from last week and have half the group practice sharing them.



PRODIGAL GOD: The True Elder Brother

Pastor Derek

November 30, 2025

Life Group Discussion

CONNECT: What is the next step in your relationship with Jesus? That is, what action or new habit could draw you closer to Him than you are right now? Take a moment to pray for one another.

GROW:

Questions:

- The concept of this week's sermon is that Jesus is the true older brother. In the Parable of the Lost Sons, the older brother should have been the one seeking after the younger brother, at all costs, to bring him home. What points or ideas from Pastor Derek's message stood out to you as encouraging or helpful?
- [Hebrews 2:11-18](#) - What are some words or concepts that you do not understand? (Try to find some clarity by reading other translations or using Bible commentaries.)
- [Hebrews 2:11-18](#) - From this passage, what does it mean that Jesus is our brother? (When did he become our brother? Why did he need to do this? What did he accomplish as our brother that he would not have achieved by staying on his throne?)
- [Luke 15:18-19, 21-25 and 31](#) - In the younger brother's mind, what would be the cost of his return home? But this is not what happened; what was the actual cost of the younger brother's return? Where did these possessions come from? Who did these possessions belong to?
- [Philippians 2:6-8](#) - Although salvation is free, it is not cheap. Based on the passage, what are some ways in which our salvation was costly to Jesus? You can also brainstorm other ways that are not in this passage.
- When did you first hear about what Jesus had done for you? How did you feel? How did you respond?
- How do you feel now when you hear about Jesus? How have your feelings changed?
- How can we maintain our awe over what Christ has done for us? How do we maintain our passion for Jesus as we did when we first met Him?

Tool/Practice: Practice God's story tool. What are the symbols in God's story, and what do they represent? (If you need help: Creation, Fall, Redemption, Mission, and Restoration.) In your own words, explain what each of these words means.

GO: *Put your learning into practice and hold one another accountable.*



What is God saying to you?

What are you going to do about it?

"I will..."

Feast of the Father: This series concludes with the Feast of the Father, a reminder of the future feast the Lord has prepared for us in heaven. Bring your toast from two weeks ago and have the other half of the group practice sharing them. Check in with everyone about who will be attending.



PRODIGAL GOD: The Feast of the Father

Pastor Derek

December 7, 2025

Life Group Discussion

CONNECT: *Make time for encouragement, relationship-building, and prayer.*

- During your meal together, ask each other about your favorites or things that give you hope.

GROW: *Engage with God's word, one another, and the Dream Disciple tools and practices.*

Share Isaiah 25:6-9 (AMP) with the group at the meal.

6On this mountain [Zion], the LORD of hosts will prepare a lavish banquet for all peoples [to welcome His reign on earth],

A banquet of aged wines--choice pieces [flavored] with marrow,
Of refined, aged wines.

7And on this mountain He will destroy the covering that is [cast] over all peoples,
And the veil [of death] that is woven *and* spread over all the nations.

8He will swallow up death [and abolish it] for all time.

And the Lord GOD will wipe away tears from all faces,
And He will take away the disgrace of His people from all the earth;
For the LORD has spoken.

9It will be said in that day,

"Indeed, this is our God for whom we have waited that He would save us.

This is the LORD for whom we have waited;

Let us shout for joy and rejoice in His salvation."

Share the toasts that you have prepared and invite your guests to share anything they would like to share.

GO: *Put your learning into practice and hold one another accountable.*

Set a reminder to follow up with anyone new you've invited to your feast. Ask them about their experience and if they are interested in learning more about Jesus.