

# The Heart of the Matter

## Freedom

Luke 15 • April 7, 2013

Now the tax collectors and “sinners” were all gathering around to hear Him. But the Pharisees and the teachers of the law muttered, “This man welcomes sinners and eats with them.”

Luke 15:1-2 (NIV)

Jesus is presenting a trilogy about God’s love for us by telling about a lost \_\_\_\_\_, a lost \_\_\_\_\_ and a lost \_\_\_\_\_.

“I tell you that in the same way there will be more rejoicing in Heaven over one sinner who repents than over ninety-nine righteous persons who do not need to repent.”

Luke 15:7 (NIV)

“In the same way, I tell you, there is rejoicing in the presence of the angels of God over one sinner who repents.”

Luke 15:10 (NIV)

“The son said to him, ‘Father, I have sinned against Heaven and against you. I am no longer worthy to be called your son.’”

Luke 15:21 (NIV)

## God Celebrates Our \_\_\_\_\_

“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.”

Luke 15:22-24 (NIV)

- Best Robe =
- Ring =
- Sandals =
- Fattened calf =

## God Cares For Our \_\_\_\_\_

“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.”

Luke 15:25-28 (NIV)

## God Is Unlimited In His \_\_\_\_\_

“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!’

Luke 15:29-30 (NIV)

## God Is Always \_\_\_\_\_

“‘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.’”

Luke 15:31-32 (NIV)