

CHANGE of HEART
(TEEN METANOIA EXPERIENCE)

LENGTH: 10-15 minutes

SPEAKER: Teen Team Member

TIME: Saturday evening after supper - @7:00 p.m.

PURPOSE: The parable of the prodigal son is a primary scriptural example of the Father's unconditional forgiveness and love available to us. This meditation brings the Prodigal story to life for the teens through the personal reflection and sharing of the story by a mature teen or young adult. The primary theme is that of "turning" away from sin and destruction back to the Loving Father. The recognition of sin, or falling from the Father's love, and the "change of heart" which one experiences are equally important. The Father's attitude in the story mirrors GOD's attitude of complete acceptance in forgiving love and joy and welcome home.

PREPARATION: Before writing this meditation please take time to read, reflect and pray with the suggested scripture passage. Then become familiar with the outline. Review the purpose often to be certain that everything in your meditation serves to fulfill the stated purpose. Remember that you are in our prayers.

OUTLINE:

1. Begin by reading the Prodigal story - Luke 15:11-24
2. Reflect on the story in light of your own life experience
 - a. **Luke 15:11-12:** The Father's generosity and love for his children. Give some early background on yourself ... family, faith history. Share a few good things about your life.
 - b. **Luke 15: 13-16:** What does it mean to be "prodigal"? How do you see the prodigal son in yourself?
 - c. **Luke 15: 17-20:** Share your recognition for your need for a change of heart - how you saw the need for forgiveness and asked for forgiveness.
 - d. **Luke 15: 21-24:** Share how you have experienced forgiveness in your life.
 - e. **Luke 15: 25-32:** Does any part of the story dealing with the older son relate to your experience in any way? The older son, though never having left the family, did not know his Father's love and tenderness. Any idea why not?
 - f. If TEC was a positive influence in your story, share about that, if you'd like.
 - g. What steps have you taken? Where are you now?
3. Reflect on the "conversion chart" on the next page if it's helpful.

***"I have sinned I will
return and go to my Father"***

PRODIGAL	»»»»»»»»»»	CHANGE OF HEART
Blockage of feelings	»»»»»»»»»»	Acceptance and ability to use feelings.
Knowledge of facts	»»»»»»»»»»	Knowledge of meaning
Satisfaction of Law as Criteria of choices	»»»»»»»»»»	Values are Criteria of Choices. Seeks out and does the good simply because it is good.
Life as a series of problems; "one thing after another"	»»»»»»»»»»	Life as mystery and gift
GOD as a "Force"	»»»»»»»»»»	Personal relationship with GOD
Historical Jesus	»»»»»»»»»»	GOD's Love for me in the Living, Risen Christ.
Church as "They", an Institution	»»»»»»»»»»	Church as "WE", a Community
Concern for my own personal salvation	»»»»»»»»»»	Commitment to the Kingdom of GOD.