QUEST 52 – Chapter 31

How Does Jesus Feel About Prodigals

Week of August 3, 2025

KEY POINTS:

- Rejoicing over the lost being found was so important to Jesus that He told a string of parables about it.
- Prodigals are often shocked when they return home. They are full-fledged sons, not house servants or second-class citizens.
- It's easy for sons or daughters lost at home to be scandalized when their brothers or sisters return.

QUESTIONS:

- (Eyes): After reading the essay, consider this question: Are you more like the older brother or the younger brother?
- (Ears): What can we learn from 2 Chronicles 7:11-22 about repentance and restoration?
- (Heart): Meditate on Acts 3:19; 2 Corinthians 7:9-10; 1 Peter 2:25.
- (Voice): Discussion:
 - Have you known someone who was a prodigal who returned to their community of faith? What was that person's experience like? If it was you, share your story.
 - O Why do you think it's difficult for "older brothers" to welcome prodigals home?
 - Come up with a list of three things your church could do to make prodigals feel more celebrated when they come home.
 - What could you do personally to make prodigals more open to attending church with you?
- (Hands): Ask a prodigal you know well, "If you ever did decide to return to church, what would make you feel welcome?"