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Train & Multiply™

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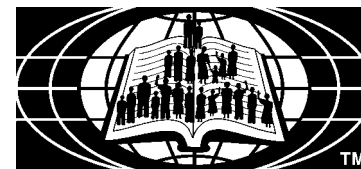
Best News - Study 3



Pastoral Leader Training Booklet

2

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ALL HAVE SINNED AND NEED TO REPENT

One time many tax collectors and outcasts came to listen to Jesus. The Pharisees and the teachers of the Law started grumbling, “This man welcomes outcasts and even eats with them!”

So Jesus told them this parable, “Suppose one of you has a hundred sheep and loses one of them - what does he do? He leaves the other ninety-nine sheep in the pasture and goes looking for the one that got lost until he finds it.”

“In the same way, I tell you, there will be more joy in heaven over one sinner who repents than over ninety-nine respectable people who do not need to repent.”

Jesus went on to say, “There was a man who had two sons. The younger one said to him, ‘Father, give me now my share of the property.’ So the man divided the property between his two sons.”

LEARN BY HEART

“Turn away from your sins, each one of you, and be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ, so that your sins will be forgiven; and you will receive God’s gift, the Holy Spirit.”

(Acts 2:38)

PRACTICAL WORK

- In prayer, ask God to fill you with his Spirit, changing your life and renewing your mind.
- Tell your family the story of the prodigal son.

Study and Practical Work Done

(Date)

(Signature of the teacher)

The elder son represents religious people who look down on the newly converted. They think that they are the only ones who merit God's favor. But Jesus said that there is joy in heaven when a sinner is converted.

When will God rejoice about you?

What did the Lord Jesus do to save us?

Jesus died and rose again to save us. When we receive Him by faith, the Holy Spirit of God enters our hearts. He helps us to repent. Do you need this permanent change in your life?

☐ Yes.

☐ No.

According to the Bible, faith is worth nothing unless it produces good works. Who helps us in this great change?

The Spirit of _____.

After a few days the younger son sold his part of the property and left home with the money. He went to a country far away, where he wasted his money in reckless living. He spent everything he had. Then a severe famine spread over that country, and he was left without a thing. So he went to work for one of the citizens of that country, who sent him out to his farm to take care of the pigs. He wished he could fill himself with the bean pods the pigs ate, but no one gave him anything to eat.

At last he came to his senses and said, "All my father's hired workers have more than they can eat, and here I am, about to starve! I will get up and go to my father and say, "Father, I have sinned against God and against you. I am no longer fit to be called your son; treat me as one of your hired workers." So he got up and started back to his father.

He was still a long way from home when his father saw him; his heart was filled with pity and he ran, threw his arms around his son, and kissed him. "Father," the son said, "I have sinned against God and against you. I am no longer fit to be called your son."

But the father called his servants. “Hurry!” he said. “Bring the best robe and put it on him. Put a ring on his finger and shoes on his feet. Then go get the prize calf and kill it, and let us celebrate with a *feast*! Because this son of mine was dead, but now he is alive; he was lost, but now he has been found.” And so the feasting began.

The older son was so angry that he would not go into the house; so his father came out and begged him to come in. “Look” he answered back to his father, “all these years I have worked like a slave for you, and I have never disobeyed your orders. What have you given me? Not even a goat for me to have a feast with my friends! But this son of yours wasted all your property on prostitutes, and when he comes back home you kill the prize calf for him!”

“My son” the father answered, “you are always here with me and everything that I have is yours. But we had to have a feast and be happy, because your brother was dead, but now he is alive; he was lost, but now he is found.”

(Luke 15:1-4, Luke 15:7, Luke 15:11-24, Luke 15:28-32)

What did the younger son do wrong?

Did he then acknowledge his sins?

☐ Yes.

☐ No.

The son sincerely repented of his sins. Do you acknowledge that all mankind are sinners (that is, that everyone has failed or offended God in some way)?

☐ Yes.

☐ No.

The younger son represents the sinful man who repents. Whom does his father represent?

The father represents God. Did his father forgive him?

☐ Yes.

☐ No.

If you are truly repentant, will your Heavenly Father forgive you?

☐ Yes.

☐ No.