

WHAT IF....

Read Luke 15:11-32

6th Sunday of Lent, March 25, 2018

The prodigal son returned to the open arms of his father. Even though the son had left his father's house, wasted half of his father's money, worried his mother and father to death but when he returned home he was invited back into the full membership of his family, no questions asked, with a party.

The prodigal son's older brother was not as pleased to see his brother. The older brother did not want his brother to be invited back into the family. The older brother had been loyal, the prodigal son had not, why should he get a second chance at being a family member?

If we are honest, really honest we understand the feelings of the older brother.

Today as you fast, pray, listen and respond ask God to help you really look at that part of your life that is like the older brother. Ask God to help you let go of those feelings so that you can rejoice when the lost are found, the blind see, the addicted are in recovery and the dead are once again alive!

Ask God to help you put judgements to the side and to see each person you meet as a child of God...maybe they know they are, maybe they don't. If we begin to treat each person as a brother and sister, who are loved by God just as much as we are, maybe they will experience the love of Christ we are supposed to be offering them.

It is not enough to open our church doors and hope the lost will come in (or as the older brother, hope they won't come in). We must leave our sanctuaries and find the lost, blind, recovering and dead.

Prayer: Oh God, help me put judgements to the side and to see **each** person I meet as a child of God. Help me let go of those feelings so that I can rejoice when the lost are found, the blind see and the addicted are in recovery. Thank you Lord for opening my eyes. Amen.

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