

Prodigal

Luke 15:11-24

Earnestly, tenderly, Jesus is calling-Calling

"O sinner, come home"

Softly and Tenderly hymn #246 Great Hymns of the Faith

Into the Lesson:

In connection with Lane and Sam's excellent connection through the Servant Songs series, spend some time contemplating this statement from Lane's Introductory remarks:

"God had always been faithful..."

Contrast people's misconceptions of God of the:

OT - "demanding and vengeful"-

NT - "He is all about love"-

Into the Word:

Spend a brief time considering how far *off the rails* even the wisest among them had fallen:

1 Kings 11:1-8-

Respond to Lane's quote, "...*they would have to face discipline, for the purpose of eventually restoring their relationship to God*".

How was the "fast forward" to the Incarnation of Jesus handled by those we read of in:

Luke 13:23-

Luke 14:1-6-

How does Acts 4:1-3 & 17 feel like *deja vu* all over again?

How does Matthew 7:13-15 provide another picture of the "narrow door":

How does that fit with the notion, "***no one seems to think that anyone is lost***"

After rereading Luke 15:1-24, consider the response of:

The religious elite (vv.1-2):

How does this seem to be a continuation of the life of the Nation of Israel?

And the cause of "lostness" of:

The sheep-

The coin-

The son-

What is the son implying by demanding his share of his inheritance?

What does the "father's" response indicate of his character first in the:

Giving-

Then the returning-

Into Life:

How do we see evidence of the three types of "lostness" that Lane mentioned in his sermon?

Wandered off-

Can't find itself, no control over circumstances-

Lost willfully-

Returning or repentance is a recurring theme throughout the Bible, how do we facilitate these vital concepts to a culture that "***no one seems to think that anyone is lost***"?

Of the three groups listed above, which would you think would be the most likely to seek the "wide way"?

Does that lessen our responsibility to guide them to the truth of God's plan for their life?

This Week's Songs:

The Gathering (VCC Original)

King Of My Heart

Lead Us To Repentance

But For The Cross Of Christ (Hymn #169)

Anchor Of Hope

