



SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 19TH - PART 3 OF 3

Series Title: Be Grateful: Having an Attitude of Gratitude

Lesson Title: The Ungrateful Prodigal Son – What Gratefulness Leads To (continued)

Key Scripture: Luke 15:11-24

Homework Instructions: This series will cover three weeks of lessons for the month of November (November 5th, 12th and 19th) and includes homework for each week.

You should complete the homework assignment for each week before class. However, you are welcome to go ahead and complete all homework assignments in advance if you would like to.

Lesson Overview

In this lesson, we'll continue learning about the power of being grateful through the parable of The Prodigal Son. If you have not done so already, read Luke 15: 11-24 so that you can have the context and perspective to best understand the Sunday School Lesson.

This week we will cover:

1. **Gratefulness Leads to Patience**
2. **Gratefulness Leads to Humility**
3. **Gratefulness Leads to Repentance**
4. **Gratefulness Leads to Forgiveness and Restoration**

The Ungrateful Prodigal Son - What Gratefulness Leads To (Continued)

1. Gratefulness Leads to Patience

The Prodigal Son did not appreciate the fact that his father was a wise businessman who could teach and train him to be successful. His flesh was running the show. First of all, by demanding his inheritance, he was essentially telling his father, “Hey, I don’t want to wait until you actually pass away. I want my inheritance now.”

The Bible says in **James 1:4** “*But let patience have her perfect work, that ye may be perfect and entire, wanting nothing.*”

See, when you are grateful, you honor the process that God has set for your life. It is the process that gets you ready for your much needed growth and for your Kingdom assignment.

2. Gratefulness Leads to Humility

The Prodigal Son was arrogant, prideful, entitled and just wanted his way. There was no humility evident in his life. Because of his lack of gratefulness, he could not honor his father’s plan for his life or receive his instruction.

Had the Prodigal Son humbled himself beforehand, he could have avoided a lot pain, misery and negativity. He brought all that on himself because of his pride. Just know that it was humility that brought him back when he was at his lowest state in the pig pen.

Gratefulness is a main key to bringing proper perspective to who we are and who God is and therefore makes us look to Him, instead of ourselves.

Side Note: How hungry do you have to be to eat this?

See video of pig eating slop: <https://youtu.be/3faj0iMAros?si=qUDx9aMfDTeMAUU5>

3. Gratefulness Leads to Repentance

The Bible says in verse 17, ***“And when he came to himself, he said, How many hired servants of my father's have bread enough and to spare, and I perish with hunger!”***

He came to himself and realized he was wrong! The Prodigal Son owned up to his wrongdoing and blatant disrespect concerning his father. And, as a result, he turned from his wicked ways.

Real gratefulness says “I’m sorry”, leads to repentance and true relationship with the Father.

Luke 15: 18-19 says *“I will arise and go to my father, and will say unto him, Father, I have sinned against heaven, and before thee, And am no more worthy to be called thy son: make me as one of thy hired servants.”*

Gratefulness and repentance puts you in right standing with the Heavenly Father.

4. Gratefulness Leads to Forgiveness and Restoration

Because the Prodigal Son finally became grateful and repented, it gave him an open door for the father to forgive him and restore him. Look what happened when the father restored him.

- a. The father gave him a gold ring, representing the restoration of the relationship
- b. He put a robe on him, representing royalty and protection
- c. He put sandals on his feet, representing sonship (servants did not wear sandals)
- d. He killed a fatted calf – representing sacrifice for the remission of sin
- e. He held a feast – celebrating his son’s return from being lost

Conclusion

Our gratefulness is so powerful. Having an attitude of gratitude helps us to be content and helps position us to receive and appreciate God’s blessings. Be grateful!

SUNDAY SCHOOL HOMEWORK ASSIGNMENT

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 19TH – PART 3 OF 3

The Ungrateful Prodigal Son – What Gratefulness Leads To (continued)

1. **Gratefulness Leads to Patience:** The Prodigal Son was not grateful and did not embrace the process God had for him to receive his inheritance. When we are impatient and receive things before we are ready for them, how can it negatively impact our lives?

2. **Gratefulness Leads to Humility.** The Prodigal Son exalted his understanding about life above his father who basically had everything. What can happen when we exalt our will and understanding above God's Will and His Word and do what we want to do instead of what we're supposed to do?

3. **Gratefulness Leads to Repentance.** What actions take place when you truly repent for your wrongdoing/sin?

- 4. Circle the correct answer: Gratefulness Leads to Forgiveness and Restoration. When you are grateful, repent and turn from your wicked ways, you open the door:**
- a. For God to forgive and restore you
 - b. For blessings to come in your life
 - c. To fulfill your Kingdom assignment
 - d. All of the above