



# Group Discussion Guide: The Prodigal Son

## Ice Breaker

- **Question:** What is the most memorable trip or journey you have ever taken? What made it so special or challenging?

## Short Summary of the Sermon

The sermon focused on the parable of the Prodigal Son from Luke 15:11-32. It highlighted the journey of the younger son who demanded his inheritance, squandered it in reckless living, and ended up in a pigsty. When he came to his senses, he returned to his father, who welcomed him with open arms. The sermon emphasized that God allows us to experience the consequences of our actions but is always ready to welcome us back when we repent. It also touched on the reactions of the older brother and the importance of genuine repentance and returning to God not just for His blessings but for a relationship with Him.

## Group Questions

### 1. Understanding the Parable:

- What stood out to you the most in the story of the Prodigal Son?
- How do you interpret the father's reaction to his son's return?

### 2. Personal Reflection:

- Have you ever experienced a "pigsty" moment in your life where you felt you hit rock bottom? How did you come to your senses?
- What are some "distant countries" in your life where you feel you have walked away from God?

### 3. **God's Character:**

- How does this parable shape your understanding of God's nature and His relationship with us?
- Why do you think God allows us to experience the full consequences of our actions?

### 4. **Relational Break:**

- How can we move from valuing what God can give us to valuing God Himself?
- What steps can we take to restore our relationship with God if we have walked away?

### 5. **Community and Accountability:**

- How can we support each other in our journeys back to God?
- What role does the church community play in helping prodigals return home?

## Life Application

- **Reflection:** Spend some time this week reflecting on areas of your life where you may have walked away from God. Write down your thoughts and feelings about these areas.
- **Prayer:** Pray for God to help you come to your senses and to give you the strength to return to Him. Ask for His guidance in valuing your relationship with Him above all else.

## Challenge

- **Action Step:** Identify one specific area of your life where you have been hitting the spiritual snooze button. Commit to taking a concrete step towards change this week. Share your commitment with a trusted friend or group member for accountability.
- **Consistency:** If you have recently returned to God, focus on living out your faith consistently over time. Avoid making grandiose promises; instead, let your actions speak louder than words.