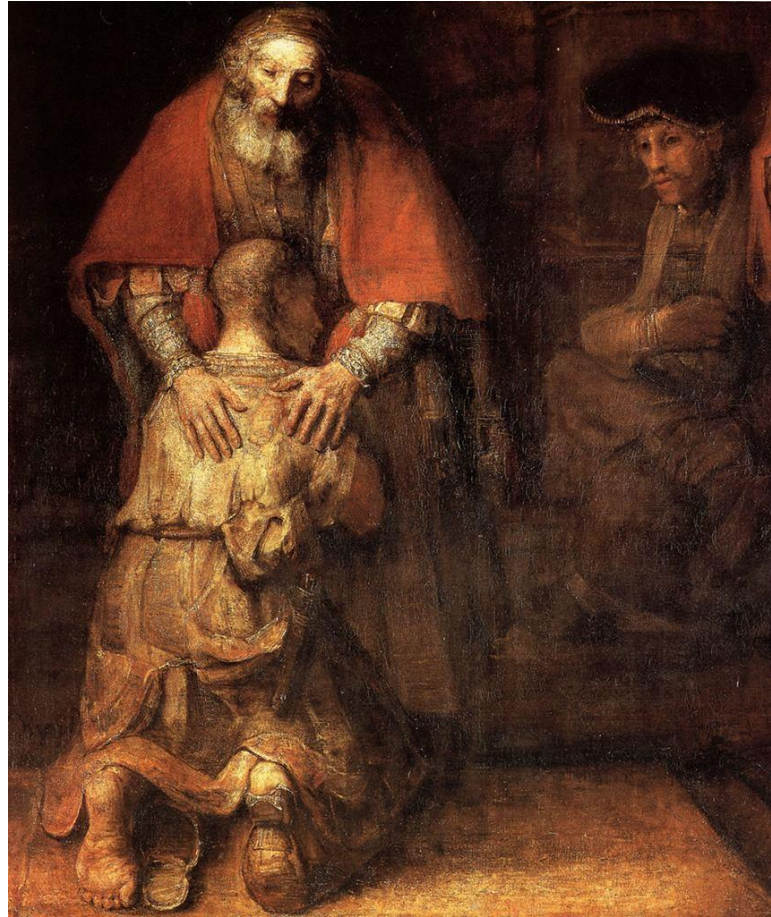




“It was right that we should make merry and be glad, for your brother was dead and is alive again, and was lost and is found.” (Lk. 15:32)

THE PATHS OF SIN AND REPENTANCE

Lessons from the Lost Son

Preliminary Questions

- Why did the young son leave?
- How could the father have responded?
- Why did he want his share now in his hands?



The Path of Sin

- **Departure from God**

- “And this is the condemnation, that the light has come into the world, and men loved darkness rather than light, because their deeds were evil. For everyone practicing evil hates the light and does not come to the light, lest his deeds should be exposed.” (Jn. 3:19-20)

The Path of Sin

- **Entered a spending state**
 - Waste/misused talents given to us by God
 - Abandonment
 - “Then Amnon hated her exceedingly, so that the hatred with which he hated her was greater than the love with which he had loved her. And Amnon said to her, “Arise, be gone.”
(2 Sam. 13:15)

The Path of Sin

- **Enslavement**
 - Humiliation



- **Constant Dissatisfaction**
- **Cannot be relieved by anyone**

Reasons for the Lost son's return

- Suffering
- Recalled the wealth and kindness of his father



Keys to an Effective Repentance

1. Confessed his sin and admitted guilt
 - “Father, I have sinned...” (Lk. 15:18)
2. He place the burden on himself, no one else
 - “...against heaven and before you...” (Lk. 15:18)
3. Accepted the consequences of his sin/wrong doing
 - “...and I am no longer worthy to be called your son.” (Lk. 15:19)
4. He hopefully sought readmission to his family
 - “Make me like one of your hired servants.” (Lk. 15:19)

Summary

- The Path of Sin
 - Departure from God
 - Enter a spending state
 - Enslavement
 - Constant Dissatisfaction
 - Cannot be relieved by anyone
- The Path of Repentance
 - Confessed his sin and admitted guilt
 - He place the burden on himself, no one else
 - Accepted the consequences of his sin/wrong doing
 - He hopefully sought readmission to his family