

# THE ONE

**talk it**  
*over*

## KEY SCRIPTURE

Luke 15.11-32

## PURSUE GOD

**Jesus continued: "There was a man who had two sons. The younger one said to his father, 'Father, give me my share of the estate.' So he divided his property between them. "Not long after that, the younger son got together all he had, set off for a distant country and there squandered his wealth in wild living. After he had spent everything, there was a severe famine in that whole country, and he began to be in need. So he went and hired himself out to a citizen of that country, who sent him to his fields to feed pigs. He longed to fill his stomach with the pods that the pigs were eating, but no one gave him anything. "When he came to his senses, he said, 'How many of my father's hired servants have food to spare, and here I am starving to death! I will set out and go back to my father and say to him: Father, I have sinned against heaven and against you. I am no longer worthy to be called your son; make me like one of your hired servants.' So he got up and went to his father. "But while he was still a long way off, his father saw him and was filled with compassion for him; he ran to his son, threw his arms around him and kissed him.**

In the ancient world demanding your inheritance before the proper time was the equivalent of saying, "I wish you were dead." Many hearing this parable would have expected the father to discipline his son for his disrespectful demand. Instead, the father delivers on the request, and divides the estate. The younger son dishonored his father, treated him disgracefully, and disavowed his family, his heritage, and his God. He stopped being who he was born as, and became someone he was never meant to be. He wasted his inheritance, and found himself broken, alone, desperate, and far from home. But... he came to his senses. He hit rock-bottom. He came to the end of his money, his arrogance and his attitude, and he remembered who his father is, then started his journey home. He realized his actions have lead him to his hardship, and the only way through is to go back and start again.

## LOVE LIFE

God's invitation for each of us, every day, is one that says, You can start again.

Do you need to start again? Where is your prodigal story leading you?

Who do you need to have a conversation with?