The Parable of the Prodigal pt. 3
The Reception By the Father

I. The Return to the Father
   A. Why returning to the father was odd – he was the one most o____________ and hurt by the boy’s choices.
   B. Why returning to the father was essential – he was the only one who could h____________.

II. The Reception by the Father
   A. He ran, laying aside his d______________, even as Christ laid aside His glory.
   B. The bestowal of sonship

III. The Refusal of the older brother
   A. He did not understand g______________.
   B. At story’s end the older son is missing the ________________.

IV. The Reasons of the Story-Teller
   A. So sinners would r______________.
   B. So the self-righteous would appreciate g______________.
   C. So all would _________________ God for loving sinners.
**Scripture References:**

*Luke 15:20a* So he got up and came to his father.

*Luke 15:18-19* I will get up and go to my father, and will say to him, “Father, I have sinned against heaven, and in your sight; I am no longer worthy to be called your son; make me as one of your hired men.”

*Luke 15:20* So he got up and came to his father. But while he was still a long way off, his father saw him and felt compassion for him, and ran and embraced him and kissed him.

*I John 3:1* See how great a love the Father has bestowed on us, that we would be called children of God.

*Psalm 34:8* O taste and see that the Lord is good; How blessed is the man who takes refuge in Him.

*Luke 15:21* “Father, I have sinned against heaven and in your sight; I am no longer worthy to be called your son.”

*Luke 15:22* But the father said to his slaves, “Quickly bring out the best robe and put it on him, and put a ring on his hand and sandals on his feet.”

*Luke 15:23-24* Bring the fattened calf, kill it, and let us eat and celebrate; for this son of mine was dead and has come to life again; he was lost and has been found. And they began to celebrate.

*Luke 15:25-32* Now his older son was in the field, and when he came and approached the house, he heard music and dancing. 26 And he summoned one of the servants and began inquiring what these things could be. 27 And he said to him, “Your brother has come, and your father has killed the fattened calf because he has received him back safe and sound.” 28 But he became angry and was not willing to go in; and his father came out and began pleading with him. 29 But he answered and said to his father,”

“Look! For so many years I have been serving you and I have never neglected a command of yours; and yet you have never given me a young goat, so that I might celebrate with my friends; 30 but when this son of yours came, who has devoured your wealth with prostitutes, you killed the fattened calf for him.” 31 And he said to him, “Son, you have always been with me, and all that is mine is yours. 32 But we had to celebrate and rejoice, for this brother of yours was dead and has begun to live, and was lost and has been found.”

*Luke 15:1-2* Now all the tax collectors and the sinners were coming near Him to listen to Him. 2 Both the Pharisees and the scribes began to grumble, saying, “This man receives sinners and eats with them.”

*John 1:12* As many as received Him, to them He gave the right to become children of God, even to those who believe in His name.