

The father – from beginning to ending – is _____ to forgive.

1. IT WAS _____.

2. IT WAS _____.

3. IT WAS _____.

Illustration: Clara Barton, founder of the American Red Cross.

4. IT WAS _____.

The father _____ the son's wrongs.

5. IT WAS _____.

6. IT WAS _____ FORGIVENESS, NOT PASSIVE.

Active forgiveness adds _____ to forgiveness.

Illustration: *No Wonder They Call Him Savior*, Max Lucado

Articles you might find helpful:

Jeanette Gardner. "Loving Your Prodigal." *Focus on the Family*

John Piper. "12 Ways to Love Your Wayward Child." *Desiring God*

H. Norman Wright with Carla Barnhill. "Loving Your Prodigal." *Christianity Today*



Illustration: SC 1st prayer team...

Some have called this the parable of the _____
_____.

This sermon is going to have _____ *application* than just
the parent/child relationship.

H. Norman Wright defines the 'prodigal' as someone who is ex-
tremely _____.

Read Luke 15:11 – 32.

How should you, as a Christian parent respond toward a rebel-child?

The basic principle: As _____ *relates to me as His child,*
so _____ *must relate to my children.*

The _____ of the situation...

Your child's rebellion has led to _____.

This '*rejection*' is _____.

'I want my share of the estate before you die.' (Luke 15:12)

This is a dismissal of the family _____.

The prodigal turned-away from everything he'd been taught
regarding _____.

"He wasted all his money in wild...loose...living." (Luke 15:13)

Often, the parent has a deep sense of _____.

There may be some _____ *guilt* – *What parent doesn't*
have some 'regrets'?

"Young people leave family and faith because _____
_____." (James Dobson)

Illustration: A '*bad reading*' of Proverbs 22:6...

And added to REJECTION and GUILT...is public _____.

*"Parents have to be willing to be honest, to say, "This is where we're
walking, folks. This is what we're going through. If your family is
struggling, don't hide it. Don't get hung up by feelings of shame.
Just realize that you have a problem you can't fix; there's no shame
in that."* (Wright)

But more important than the circumstance, *What was the father's*
_____?

He _____ to reciprocate rejection!

We must seek God's direction for wisdom in determining the
difference between '_____' and '_____':

Your child will mess up... *What can they count-on receiving from*
you when they do?

He remained _____.

His father saw him coming (Luke 15:20).

He was unconcerned about public _____.

He showed _____.

He demonstrated physical _____.

The father ran toward him, *"embraced him, and kissed him"*
(Luke 15:20).

He is amazingly _____ – again!

This was *pure* _____!

"Are you as gracious with your kids as God is with you?"

Illustration: *Between Noon and Three*, Capon

He fully _____ his son.

The _____ was *forgiveness and reconciliation...*