

SG

Your group matters.

DISCUSSION GUIDE

- Icebreaker -

You've been invited by an alien to a summer picnic complete with grilled hamburgers covered in firework hot sauce followed by "Sunshine Ice Cream" sundaes to cool your palate--all you have to do is "get to the chopper" and be whisked away for a day! Do you go—or not?

1. Read Luke 15:11-24. Pastor Chris showed that feeding pigs for a Jewish son would have been the "lowest of all lows." How does hitting rock bottom help us take steps?
2. The father was looking for his younger son, and went to him at once, running to get to him. When have you experienced God's love and pursuit in this way and what was your response?
3. Finish reading the story in Luke 15:25-32. Pastor Chris shared that the older son didn't look to be in relationship with his father but wanted to receive his blessing as a result of his good behavior. Have you struggled with this in life and how have you dealt with your anger and frustration?
4. Pastor Chris pointed out that the father came out for the older son, too, but Jesus doesn't tell us the rest of the story. How do you think you would respond if it were you?
5. Who do you sympathize with most in this story and why?
6. Pastor Chris prayed that God would give us the opportunity to share Jesus with lost people this week. How will you engage with people this week?

Day One: [Mark 3](#)

Day Two: [Genesis 31](#)

Day Three: [1 Corinthians 16](#)

Day Four: [1 Peter 4](#)

Day Five: [Job 31](#)

This Personal Guide has been adapted from Professor Grant Horner's Bible Reading System.

PERSONAL GUIDE



RIVERSIDE CHURCH



Your story matters.

PASTOR CHRIS BARRETT

AUGUST 14, 2022

THE PRODIGAL CLOWN



MYRC.CHURCH



"THE PRODIGAL CLOWN"

Pastor Chris Barrett

MESSAGE NOTES

The Younger Son

[Luke 15:16](#), [Luke 15:20a](#), [Luke 15:20b](#)

1. The father _____ his son.
2. The father was filled with _____.
3. The father _____ to his son.

The Older Son

[Luke 15:25-32](#)

4. The father also _____ to this son.

Our God is in the business of mercy, forgiveness, and making lost things found!

Tell someone about the next step you took today in your spiritual journey!

Let us know, too, and fill out our connect card (digital* or hard copy).

*[MyRC.link/connect](https://myrc.link/connect) or text **riverside** to **94000**



SMALL GROUP
guide on the back

MORE FOR YOU AT RC!

NEW SERIES - "HONESTLY..."

BEGINS AUG 21ST!

"Honestly..." The Bible is full of great lessons learned by people facing challenges not that different than those we find today; some made decisions to their benefit, while others facing the same dilemma ended up with results that weren't as positive. *What made the difference?* We're ending the summer with a 3-week Sunday message series that digs into common relational and interpersonal conflicts to try and answer that question.

[MYRC.CHURCH/HONESTLY](https://myrc.church/honestly)

JUST FOR KIDS!

AMPLIFY WORSHIP CHOIR

BEGINS SEPT 7TH!

Do you have a child that might like to be a part of something like "The Prodigal Clown"? Amplify Worship Choir will teach your child how to love and worship Jesus Christ through music. We want kids to experience God's grace, grow in His love, and serve others by sharing their faith and what they're learning about Jesus during their rehearsals and Sunday performances.

[MYRC.CHURCH/AMPLIFY](https://myrc.church/amplify)

NO LIMITS

BEGINS SEPT 24TH!

No Limits is for kids in 5th grade (2022-23 school year) who want to learn what being a Christian is really all about. Fun classes cover topics such as: *What does it mean to be a Christian? What do we believe about God? Where does the Bible come from? What is sin? Why do people get baptized?*

[MYRC.CHURCH/NOLIMITS](https://myrc.church/nolimits)



"THE PRODIGAL CLOWN"

Pastor Chris Barrett

MESSAGE NOTES

The Younger Son

[Luke 15:16](#), [Luke 15:20a](#), [Luke 15:20b](#)

1. The father saw his son.
2. The father was filled with compassion.
3. The father ran to his son.

The Older Son

[Luke 15:25-32](#)

4. The father also went out to this son.

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