

Kingdom of God 15 – Leader's Guide

See Bible study at bottom of the page.

1. What 3 different types of love are mentioned in the video? (1.) Brotherly love- close friendship or family love 2.) romantic love, and 3.) God's "agape" love.)
2. Describe God's love in more detail. (God's love is unconditional, sacrificial, giving. It's not a feeling; it's a decision. God chooses to love us. He loves us even if we hate him, even if we mess up. He loves us on our worst day.)
3. The video quotes 1 Corinthians 13:4 which says that "Love is patient and kind." If God *is* love, what does this verse tell us about God? (God is very patient with us and he's kind. He's really nice!)
4. 1 Corinthians 13:5 says that love "is not rude." What does this tell us about God's attitude toward us? (God honors us. He is respectful of us.)
5. 1 Corinthians 13:7 says that love "believes all things" and "never gives up". According to this verse, how does God feel about us? (He looks for the best in us. He believes in us! He wants us to be the best version of ourselves. God gives second chances. He will never give up on us!)
6. In the parable of the Prodigal Son, what does the younger son do to insult his father? (He asks for his share of the inheritance. It's like saying he wishes his father were dead! He wants the father's money, but he doesn't want a relationship with him.)
7. What would most Middle Eastern father do if treated so disrespectfully? (They would beat the son with blows and even disown him. They might get revenge.)
8. Is God a control freak? Why or why not? (NO! He lets the kid go. He gives him freedom to fail and make lots of mistakes.)
9. What does the younger son do with the money? (He wastes it in wild living. Maybe he gives wild parties. He's immoral. Maybe he visits prostitutes, does drugs, gambles, drinks excessively.)
10. What happens when his money is gone and a famine hits? (He gets a job with a local farmer feeding pigs. He wants to eat the pig food, but no one gives him any. He's starving. He comes to his senses and decides to go back home. At least there he'll have food.)
11. What does the son plan to say when he goes home to his father? (He will tell his father he's sinned against him and God. He will say he has no right to be part of the family and will ask to become a hired worker. He will try to repay the debt.)

12. How does the father greet the son who returns? (The father has been watching for him. He runs to him, embraces and kisses him. He restores him giving him a robe of honor, sandals, and a ring. He throws a party for him and celebrates. He loves the kid!)
13. How are we like the son? (We want to do our own thing. We tell God we don't need him. We use him and want to get as far from him as possible. Sometimes we suffer, and we may start to wake up.)
14. How is God like the Father in the story? (God is waiting for us to repent and come back like the son did. He wants to restore us to his family. He rejoices over one sinner who repents. He's over-the-top kind. He loves bad people.)

Kingdom of God 15 – God’s Love: The Prodigal Son

1. Luke 15:1-3, 11-32 Who Is Jesus?

- **Attracts wicked people v.1**
- **Teacher v.1**
- **Accepts sinners, welcomes, eats with them v.1-2**

Who Is God? v. 11-32

- **Not controlling. He lets go of his money v.12**
- **Giving, generous, sacrificial v.12**
- **Amazingly kind. LOVES mean and disrespectful son. Doesn’t beat up son or try to get revenge. LOVES BAD PEOPLE!***
- **Willing to suffer pain. Doesn’t disown disrespectful son. Unusual!**
- **Gives people freedom to make mistakes**
- **Looks for lost son. Wants son to return v.20**
- **Waiting for us to come back when we sin**
- **Filled with love and compassion. Gives FREE LOVE v.20**
- **Eager to see rebel. Runs to see him. v.20**
- **Accepts son who hurt him, restores him to family v.22**
- **Gives gifts to undeserving son- robe of honor v.22**
- **Sandals – treats with respect. Slaves went barefoot v.22**
- **Ring- gives son ability to do business, authority. v. 22**
- **Throw a party for a brat! v. 23**
- **Happy. Joyous. Likes to celebrate v.23**
- **Loves older judgmental son v. 31**

Who Is Man?

- Sinners – listen to Jesus v.1
- Sinners- feel comfortable with Jesus. Come near to him v.1
- Pharisees – angry, complain that Jesus shows love to bad people v. 2
- Younger Son- rejects and insults God, wants to be far away from him. Wishes father was dead! v. 13
- Uses God- wants his money but not a relationship with him v. 12
- Wasteful. Lives for the moment. Doesn't think about the future. v.13
- Loose living. Rebellious. Selfish. Stupid. SINS against God. v.13
- Needy. Beggar. Hungry. v. 14
- Comes to his senses. We wake up when we suffer. v.17
- Repents. Returns to God through hard times, suffering. v.14-18
- Confesses sin to God v.21
- Unworthy. Tries to work off his debt to God v.19
- Spiritually dead, LOST v.24
- Can become alive spiritually, FOUND v.24
- OLDER SON- angry. Unloving to rebellious brother v.28
- Bitter. Refuses to celebrate. No joy! v.28-9

Stubborn. "Slave" for father v.29 Kingdom of God 15 – God's Love: The Prodigal Son

2. Luke 15:1-3, 11-32 Who Is Jesus?

- Attracts wicked people v.1
- Teacher v.1
- Accepts sinners, welcomes, eats with them v.1-2

Who Is God? v. 11-32

- Not controlling. He lets go of his money v.12
- Giving, generous, sacrificial v.12
- Amazingly kind. LOVES mean and disrespectful son. Doesn't beat up son or try to get revenge. LOVES BAD PEOPLE!*

- Willing to suffer pain. Doesn't disown disrespectful son. Unusual!
- Gives people freedom to make mistakes
- Looks for lost son. Wants son to return v.20
- Waiting for us to come back when we sin
- Filled with love and compassion. Gives FREE LOVE v.20
- Eager to see rebel. Runs to see him. v.20
- Accepts son who hurt him, restores him to family v.22
- Gives gifts to undeserving son- robe of honor v.22
- Sandals – treats with respect. Slaves went barefoot v.22
- Ring- gives son ability to do business, authority. v. 22
- Throw a party for a brat! v. 23
- Happy. Joyous. Likes to celebrate v.23
- Loves older judgmental son v. 31

Who Is Man?

- Sinners – listen to Jesus v.1
- Sinners- feel comfortable with Jesus. Come near to him v.1
- Pharisees – angry, complain that Jesus shows love to bad people v. 2
- Younger Son- rejects and insults God, wants to be far away from him. Wishes father was dead! v. 13
- Uses God- wants his money but not a relationship with him v. 12
- Wasteful. Lives for the moment. Doesn't think about the future. v.13
- Loose living. Rebellious. Selfish. Stupid. SINS against God. v.13
- Needy. Beggar. Hungry. v. 14
- Comes to his senses. We wake up when we suffer. v.17
- Repents. Returns to God through hard times, suffering. v.14-18
- Confesses sin to God v.21
- Unworthy. Tries to work off his debt to God v.19
- Spiritually dead, LOST v.24
- Can become alive spiritually, FOUND v.24
- OLDER SON- angry. Unloving to rebellious brother v.28

- Bitter. Refuses to celebrate. No joy! v.28-9
- Stubborn. “Slave” for father v.29
- Blind to true condition
- Judgmental, unforgiving
- Proud. Self-centered.

So What?

- God forgives my rebellion. He accepts bad people.
- When I run from God, I face hunger, brokenness, emptiness.
- God is waiting, longing for me to return to him.
-
- Blind to true condition
- Judgmental, unforgiving
- Proud. Self-centered.

So What?

- God forgives my rebellion. He accepts bad people.
- When I run from God, I face hunger, brokenness, emptiness.
- God is waiting, longing for me to return to him.

15. s over-the-top kind. He loves bad people.)