



**Luke 15** Now the tax collectors and sinners were all gathering around to hear Jesus. 2 But the Pharisees and the teachers of the law muttered, “This man welcomes sinners and eats with them.”

**Luke 15:11-24** 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.

“The son said to him, ‘Father, I have sinned against heaven and against you. I am no longer worthy to be called your son.’

“But the father said to his servants, ‘Quick! Bring the best robe and put it on him. Put a ring on his finger and sandals on his feet. **23** Bring the fattened calf and kill it. Let’s have a feast and celebrate. For this son of mine was dead and is alive again; he was lost and is found.’ So they began to celebrate.

## Icebreaker

What is your favorite coming of age movie? Ie. Sixteen Candles, 10 Things I hate about you, Superbad.

## Conversation Starters

1. Think about your school lunchroom. What table did you sit at when you were a kid and why?
2. Did you ever feel like an outsider? Do you have a story of being left out or not fitting in?
3. When in your life was your desire to be an insider the strongest?
4. Describe a time you were keenly aware there were insiders and outsiders?
5. How did your family describe insiders and outsiders when you were growing up, either with words or actions?
6. What table in the lunchroom do you sit at today? Why?

7. Have you ever struggled with feeling worthy of God's attention, love and grace? Why?
8. Who are the outsiders in your life? What people do you grumble and mutter about? How challenging is it for you to see them through God's compassionate eyes?
9. How has your definition of outsiders changed throughout your life?
10. What can you do to move toward the margins, toward the outsiders, with God's love and grace?