



Essential Evangelization

The Prodigal

In today's Gospel we hear perhaps one of the most popular and recognizable parable stories of all time, The Prodigal Son. The story has been told and analyzed thousands of times and from all perspectives: the wayward son, the jealous brother, the loving father. But the crux of this parable is very simply the tremendous mercy and love of God for all of us.

Though we may not directly relate with the son who squandered all of his inheritance at an early age, the fact is, at some points in our lives we are all "prodigals". Even most of the saints have had their share of life out of God's will and sometimes even to the point of living in the "pig pen" of life and sin. But the most important thing is that one day they "came to their senses" and instead of walking down the road away from God, they turned around, and started their journey "back home."

What is your story? In the past, have you reached the point of absolute zero in life that the only way to look was up and surrender to God for help? Or perhaps you are currently "lost" and confused on the road of life and really do not know what direction to turn?

Finally, perhaps you have been baptized in the Church and even made your Confirmation at a young age, go to Mass on Sunday, but God now feels distant and out of touch with your life. Or it may very well be that you have never really acknowledged and confessed a serious sin or made a conscious decision to give up "control" of your life to Christ. If that is the case, it is time to come back home. Turn the reigns of control over to the One who controls all life and the intricate precision of our universe. Though sometimes hard to fathom, Jesus died on the cross especially for you! And your heavenly Father is waiting patiently for you. In fact, at this very moment He is looking down the road for that son or daughter that he loves so very much. Come back home!

"For I have come to call not the righteous, but sinners."

Matthew 9:13

*This is one of a series of articles
on Evangelization from the
Evangelization Committee*