

7 Words to Change Your Life // FOR Father's Day 2019 June 15-16, 2019 Jeremiah Ramer, CPC Minister of Outreach

INTRODUCTION

Jeremiah closed the 7 Words to Change Your Life series this Father's Day Weekend by highlighting 5 ways fathers show they are FOR us from Jesus' story of the Lost Son in Luke chapter 15. The key takeaway is that **A father who is FOR you reflects God the Father**. No matter what kind of relationship you have or did have with your earthly father, you have a Heavenly Father who steps in and fills the hole you have in your heart.

WARMING UP: Take 1-2 minutes to celebrate something about your father. If that is not possible, share about another person who has impacted you in a meaningful way.

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS:

- 1. Read Luke 15:11-32 reflectively. Try to place yourself as the younger son.
- 2. What strikes you about the relationship between the father and the youngest son in the first part of the story?
- 3. Have you experienced radical generosity in your life? What do your experience do to you? How did it impact you?
- 4. What is the Myth of Quality Time? Why do you think we have bought into this myth at times in our lives?
- 5. What is unconditional acceptance? Why is it so difficult to extend it to others?
- 6. What is the prayer Jeremiah and Tessa pray for their daughters? Why?
- 7. What is extravagant grace and how did the father show it to his son?
- 8. What is the significance of sacrificial love? Outside of Jesus' sacrifice, how have you witnessed and/or experienced sacrificial love?
- 9. Which of the 3 Ways You Can Be a Cycle-Breaker jumped out to you and why?
- 10. Which of the 3 Ways to Honor Your Father Today got your attention and why?

PRAY ABOUT IT: No matter what kind of parents we had, we get to decide what kind of people or parents we are. If God is Father to the fatherless then even those of us without the example of good fathers or parents can look to the example of God our Father as the Good Father. Pray that we will exemplify the characteristics of the father in this story to not only our children and grandchildren, but to all those God places in our path.