

Berean Christian Church
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Bible Study

February 19, 2019

Improving Family Relationships

Luke 15:17-24

Genesis 27:41 reads, "From that time on, Esau hated Jacob because their father had given Jacob the blessing. And Esau begin to scheme: "I will soon be mourning my father's death. Then I will kill my brother Jacob." (NLT) This verse records the animosity that one individual had for his sibling. There are countless families in the Bible that had their share of drama and conflict. Every believer should strive for harmony with all people, especially with those to whom they are related. This lesson is designed to share practical principles for improving family relationships.

Breakdown of Luke 15:11-24

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| 1. The Younger Son's <u>Desires</u> | Verses 11-16 |
| 2. The Younger Son's <u>Deliverance</u> | Verses 17-19 |
| 3. The Younger Son's <u>Delight</u> | Verses 20-24 |

1. Admission of problems can help improve family relationships.
Verses 17-19

"When he finally came to his senses, he said to himself, 'At home even the hired servants have food enough to spare, and here I am dying of hunger! 18) I will go home to my father and say, "Father, I have sinned against both heaven and you, 19) and I am no longer worthy of being called your son. Please take me on as a hired servant." (NLT)

2. Compassion towards problems can help improve family relationships.
Verse 20

"So he returned home to his father. And while he was still a long way off, his father saw him coming. Filled with love and compassion, he ran to his son, embraced him, and kissed him." (NLT)

3. Confession regarding problems can help improve family relationships.
Verse 21

"His son said to him, 'Father, I have sinned against both heaven and you, and I am no longer worthy of being called your son.'" (NLT)

(Over)

