

MisQuoted “God is Giving Up On You”

August 7, 2016 / Dan Solofra

² But the Pharisees and the teachers of the law muttered, "This man welcomes sinners and eats with them." Luke 15:2, NIV

We _____ on people who mess up beyond a certain limit.

¹¹ Jesus continued: "There was a man who had two sons. ¹² The younger one said to his father, 'Father, give me my share of the estate.' So he divided his property between them. ¹³"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. Luke 15:11-13, NIV

With his actions the younger son was saying to his dad:

- I wish you were _____.
- All I care about is your _____.
- I _____ you and everything you stand for.

¹⁴ After he had spent everything, there was a severe famine in that whole country, and he began to be in need. ¹⁵ So he went and hired himself out to a citizen of that country, who sent him to his fields to feed pigs. ¹⁶ He longed to fill his stomach with the pods that the pigs were eating, but no one gave him anything. John 15:14-16, NIV

When younger brothers get what they deserve, we _____.

¹⁷ "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! ¹⁸ I will set out and go back to my father and say to him: Father, I have sinned against heaven and against you. ¹⁹ I am no longer worthy to be called your son; make me like one of your hired servants.' Luke 15:17-19, NIV

When younger brother thinks of himself _____ and about his father _____, his life begins to _____.

²⁰ 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. Luke 15:20, NIV

When a child _____ a father's prayers are answered.

²² "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 fatted calf and kill it. Let's have a feast and celebrate. ²⁴ For this son of mine was dead and is alive again; he was lost and is found.' So they began to celebrate. Luke 15:22-24, NIV

²⁸ "The older brother became angry and refused to go in. . .²⁹ But he answered his father, 'Look! All these years I've been slaving for you and never disobeyed your orders. Yet you never gave me even a young goat so I could celebrate with my friends. ³⁰ But when this son of yours who has squandered your property with prostitutes comes home, you kill the fatted calf for him!' Luke 15:28-30, NIV

Why are _____ harder to forgive than _____?

³¹ " My son,' the father said, 'you are always with me, and everything I have is yours. ³² But we had to celebrate and be glad, because this brother of yours was dead and is alive again; he was lost and is found.' Luke 15:31-32, NIV

How can I take time to _____ forgiveness?

MEMORY VERSE

²⁴ For this son of mine was dead and is alive again; he was lost and is found.' So they began to celebrate. Luke 15:24, NIV

Bottom line: Despite my past, God does not give up on me. He waits for my return with open arms and unconditional love.

What's your next step today?

Mark it on your Communication Card.