

THE LOST SON

When he got close to his home, he saw his father running to him.
His arms were stretched open wide and when he got to his son,



he hugged and kissed him over and over again. He was SO happy
to see his son again! He missed him SO much!

Even before the son could say anything, his father told the
servants to bring some new clean clothes and shoes for his son.

He even gave him a ring to put on his finger.

He said :

"My son came back home. I was so worried about him for a long
time. It was as if he was dead and had now come alive again. He
was lost and now I found him again."

He told his servants to cook the best meat
and they had a big party to celebrate
his son's return.



It must have been wonderful
for the son to sleep in his own bed again!

You can also read this story in the Bible in Luke 15 v 11-24

When Jesus was on earth, He was often invited to eat with
different people. The church leaders saw that He also went to
peoples's homes who made wrong choices. They grumbled about
that, so Jesus told them this story:

There was a man
who had two sons.

One day the
younger son asked
his father this :

"Give me my share
of everything which I will inherit."



The father was a very kind man, so he gave him his share of
everything.

A short time after this, the son decided to leave home. He
packed his bags and took with him everything he owned. Then
he went to a far away country. This made his father very sad.



*The son spent all his money in that country.
He went to many parties and didn't behave well.*



*After some time, there was a drought in that country.
Many people suffered because there wasn't enough food.*

We call that a famine.

The son didn't have any money left to buy food.

So he asked one of the farmers for help.

The farmer gave him a job to look after his pigs.

The son did this for some time.



*He often felt very hungry, but nobody was kind to him.
He even looked at the pigs' food and wished that he could have
some of it. He really had a hard time.*



One day, he was sitting next to the pigs, feeling sad.

*He really missed home and his family. He remembered how
good his life was. He was always so well cared for by his father.*

*He remembered that even his father's servants had a better
life than he did.. He realized that he had made some bad
choices and made many mistakes. Like treating his father badly
by asking for his share. He also realized that it was wrong to
spend all his money on parties. He was feeling very ashamed.*

*It was then that he decided to go back home. He wanted to say
sorry to his father and to the Lord. He hurt God's heart and
his father's heart by the way he had behaved.*

*He knew that he couldn't expect his father to take him back as
if nothing had happened. He decided that he would ask his
father if he could work as one of his father's servants.*

So with this plan in his heart, he went back home.