

### **"Welcome Home"**

*This week's questions are based on the Parable of the Lost Son in Luke 15:11–32. Begin by reading the passage.*

1. With which of the three characters in this story (father, younger son, older son) do you most identify? Why?

What do you think is the most surprising action taken by one of the other two characters (those with which you least identify)?

2. Read Luke 15:1–10. What do these verses reveal about Jesus' purpose for telling the story of the lost son? What do you think is the common lesson Jesus is teaching in all three stories in this chapter of Luke?

If you had been in that family, what would you have wanted to see the younger son do before you felt good about accepting him back? How did the father's reaction differ from what you think your reaction might have been? Why did he react that way?

3. How does the older son's attitude toward his brother affect his relationship with his father? What do the older son's words (29–30) reveal about his relationship with his father?

Read Matt 5:23–24 and 1 John 4:19–21 and, in one sentence, summarize the principle being taught.

### **Recurring Questions**

- » How have you seen God working in your life or the lives of those around you this week?
- » What prayer requests would you like to share with the group, including prayer for any spiritual struggles you may be experiencing?