

Make a Difference: We Had to Celebrate

Pastor Cory Johnson
Sunday, November 15, 2020
Luke 15:17, 24, 28;
Hebrews 2:10-11

¹⁷ “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! Luke 15:17

Home meets all of your needs: Love, significance, belonging

Home has been lost. It was lost when humanity choose to live the way it wants and not as the Father wants. You lose it when you do the same.

If we are just a byproduct of the physical universe, why don't we feel like we fit? Why are we not at home here?

This isn't home. Is it all we have? Mid-life Crisis – Meaningless bargaining. We all long for a home that is better than here.

Life-giving repentance is a lifestyle. Joy-producing repentance--Repentance that kicks off a party.

²⁸ The older son was angry and would not go in to the feast. So his father went out and begged him to come in. Luke 15:28

A true elder brother would have gone after the lost younger brother. “The Brother”

Jesus is the true elder brother. This is the main story of the Bible: Redemption

How can the younger son be forgiven without atoning? Jesus is our atonement--“The means by which sins are forgiven.”

Everything I have is yours. Everything is paid for by the older brother. I will bring my foolish younger brother back at my own expense.

⁴ My son was dead, but now he is alive again! He was lost, but now he is found! So they began to celebrate. Luke 15:24

Celebration is something you do as a community. Your celebration is mine also. You will not be fully changed by Jesus until you join his community.

The greatest sense of being home comes when we celebrate as a community.
Jesus is meant to hold the full weight of your life, when you accept him as your true elder brother.

¹⁰ God is the One who made all things, and all things are for his glory. He wanted to have many children share his glory, so he made the One who leads people to salvation perfect through suffering. Hebrews 2:10

¹¹ Jesus, who makes people holy, and those who are made holy are from the same family. So he is not ashamed to call them his brothers and sisters. Hebrews 2:11

Jesus invites us into the celebration now; as he also invites us into the mission--Inviting and teaching others to follow Jesus.