



# THE ART OF BEING FATHERED

THOMAS BLEVINS, EXECUTIVE PASTOR

## LUKE 15:25-32 (NIV)

25 “Meanwhile, the older son was in the field. When he came near the house, he heard music and dancing. 26 So he called one of the servants and asked him what was going on. 27 ‘Your brother has come,’ he replied, ‘and your father has killed the fattened calf because he has him back safe and sound.’

28 “The older brother became angry and refused to go in. So his father went out and pleaded with him. 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 fattened calf for him!’

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.’”

# NOTES

(THE STUFF THAT STICKS OUT TO ME)

A photograph showing the lower legs and feet of a person sitting on a large, textured rock. The person is wearing white shorts and dark sneakers. The background is a calm body of water under a soft, overcast sky.

**WE ARE A CHURCH WHERE EVERYONE IS WELCOME,  
AND EVERYONE IS WANTED...INCLUDING YOU.**

# GOING DEEPER

(SOME IDEAS TO PUT IT INTO PRACTICE)

## QUESTIONS TO PONDER:

What do you think of when you think of “Father?” What was your relationship with your dad like? How have those feelings and thoughts impacted the way you view God THE Father?

Read Luke 15:25-32. What do you notice about the story? How would you describe the older brother? In what ways do you fall into this trap? How has it affected you / others?

Who in your life do you need to forgive? Your father? Your kids? Yourself? What would it look like for you to be free from that? What’s a step you can take toward forgiveness and freedom?

## A VERSE TO MEMORIZE:

1 John 3:1a (NIV) - See what great love the Father has lavished on us, that we should be called children of God! And that is what we are!

## TAKE A STEP:

Call a father figure in your life and let them know you appreciate them, or reach out to someone who may be missing their dad this week!

A photograph showing the lower legs and feet of a person walking on a rocky, uneven path. The person is wearing dark sneakers and light-colored shorts. The background is a blurred, natural outdoor setting.

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# ALL IN, TOGETHER

## GENERAL OFFERING

2023 Weekly Budget:	\$10,187
Given June 11th:	\$7,206
Difference:	(\$2,981)

2023 Annual Budget:	\$529,724
2023 Budget YTD:	\$234,301
2023 Given YTD:	\$212,023
Difference:	\$22,278

## BUILD YOUR CHURCH FUND

BYC June 11th:	\$3,298
BYC YTD:	\$56,251
BYC Total Given:	\$378,743

## STAY CONNECTED

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