

Message 2: God's Fulness

Fulness through repentance

Luke 15:17-32 - Story of the Prodigal Son

*"And when **he came to himself**, he said, How many hired servants of my father's have bread **enough and to spare**, and I perish with hunger! **I will arise and go** to my father, and will say unto him, Father, **I have sinned against heaven, and before thee**, And am **no more worthy** to be called thy son: make me as one of thy hired servants". Luke 15: 17-19.*

Not only he thought about returning to his father's house, he got up and went:

*"**He arose, and came** to his father. But when he was yet a great way off, his father saw him, and had compassion, and ran, and fell on his neck, and kissed him. And the son said unto him, **Father, I have sinned against heaven**, and in thy sight, and **am no more worthy** to be called thy son". Luke 15: 20-21*

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Luke 15:17-32 - Story of the Prodigal Son

But the father said to his servants, Bring forth the **best robe, and put it on him**; and put a **ring on his hand**, and **shoes on his feet**: And bring hither the fatted calf, and kill it; and let us eat, and be **merry**: For this my son was dead, and is alive again; he was lost, and is found. And they began to be **merry** (Luke 15: 23-25).

Younger son received:

- Fulness of Joy
- Fulness of Life

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- ★ Craving for independence and freedom outside the healthy boundaries of God leads to emptiness and bondage!
- ★ 'Returning to God in repentance' leads to fulness and true freedom through forgiveness in Christ.

*"...And of **his fulness** have all we received, and grace for grace" (John 1:16).*

- ★ Fulness is freedom (acceptance, authority and sonship) within the boundaries.

*"Stand fast therefore in the **liberty wherewith Christ hath made us free**, and be not entangled again with the yoke of bondage" Galatians 5:21.*

- ★ The answer to the human **Emptiness** and **Brokenness** is the **fulness in Christ**:

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What is repentance?

Hebrew - Nacham (Job 42:6; Ezekiel 14:6; 18:30)

Greek - Metanoia (Matthew 3:2; 4:17; 2 Peter 3:9; 1 Timothy 2:4)

★ Change of Mind (Acts 2:38; Acts 17:29-31)

★ Change of Heart (Job 42:6)

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What is repentance?

1. Turn or return to God (Jeremiah 3:14; Lamentations 3:40; Ezekiel 18:30),
2. Acknowledge your sins (Jeremiah 3:13; Psalm 51:3),
3. Amend your ways (Jeremiah 7: 3, 5; 26:3)
4. Cast away / cast off (Ezekiel 20:7)
5. Confess (Acts 19:8; Romans 10:9-10; 1 John 1:9)

True repentance: Proverbs 28:13

*"He that ¹**covereth his sins shall not prosper**: but whoso ²**confesseth** and ³**forsaketh** them shall have mercy".*

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Fulness through returning

Ruth 1: 1-22 - Story of Naomi

- ✓ Naomi decided to return to Bethlehem (Ruth 1:6)
- ✓ Naomi understood the kindness of God (Ruth 1: 8, 9; 2:20)
- ✓ Naomi believed in the kinsman (Redeemer, Ruth 2:20)
- ✓ Naomi took Obed ... laid to her bosom (Ruth 4:16)
- ✓ A son born to Naomi (Ruth 4:17)
 - Restorer (Ruth 4:15)
 - Nourisher (Ruth 4:15)

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Fulness through returning

Decisions or choices have consequences!

How to make a right choice?

- Psalm 37:3 **Trust in the LORD**, and do good; so shalt thou dwell in the land, and verily thou shalt be fed. (Proverbs 3:5)
- Psalm 37:4 **Delight thyself also in the LORD**; and he shall give thee the desires of thine heart.
- Psalm 37:5-6 **Commit thy way unto the LORD**; trust also in him; and he shall bring it to pass. (Proverbs 3:6)
- Psalm 37:7 **Rest in the LORD, and wait patiently for him**: fret not thyself because of him who prospereth in his way, because of the man who bringeth wicked devices to pass.
- Psalm 37:8 **Cease from anger**, and forsake wrath: fret not thyself in any wise to do evil. (Proverbs 3:7)

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Human Emptiness and God's Fulness

God's fulness can be experienced
through repentance and returning to God.

God and His Word enables us to make right decisions towards fulness.