STICKING POINTS: Overcoming Obstacles to Faith

BREAKING THE CHAINS OF GUILT AND SHAME

Luke 15:11-24 Jeff Schreve

And He said, "A certain man had two sons; and the younger of them said to his father, 'Father, give me the share of the estate that falls to me.' And he divided his wealth between them. And not many days later, the younger son gathered everything together and went on a journey into a distant country, and there he squandered his estate with loose living. Now when he had spent everything, a severe famine occurred in that country, and he began to be in need. And he went and attached himself to one of the citizens of that country, and he sent him into his fields to feed swine. And he was longing to fill his stomach with the pods that the swine were eating, and no one was giving anything to him. Luke 15:11-16

Do you want to break free from the chains of guilt and shame?

- 1. Take an honest look at your life.
 - A. What have <u>you done</u>?
 - B. What has been done to you?
 - C. What has become your identity?

2. Take a necessary departure from your pig sty.

"But when he came to his senses, he said, 'How many of my father's hired men have more than enough bread, but I am dying here with hunger! I will get up and go to my father, and will say to him, "Father, I have sinned against heaven, and in your sight; I am no longer worthy to be called your son; make me as one of your hired men.'"

Luke 15:17-19

- A. No one can get right with God without <u>repentance</u>.
- B. No one can get right with God without <u>action</u>.

 "And he got up and came to his father." Luke 15:20

3. Take a biblical stand on the truth of God.

"But while he was still a long way off, his father saw him, and felt compassion for him, and ran and embraced him, and kissed him. Luke 15:20

A. He still loves you.

B. He will forgive you.

"And the son said to him, 'Father, I have sinned against heaven and in your sight; I am no longer worthy to be called your son.'" Luke 15:21

C. He will restore you.

"But the father said to his slaves, 'Quickly bring out the best robe and put it on him, and put a ring on his hand and sandals on his feet'" Luke 15:22

D. He will rejoice over you.

... and bring the fattened calf, kill it, and let us eat and be merry; for this son of mine was dead, and has come to life again; he was lost, and has been found.'

And they began to be merry. Luke 15:23-24

If you will leave the pigsty and come to Jesus, you can experience His love and forgiveness today!