



Pastor Scott Archer 07.15.2018\*  
Central Congregational Church  
“For the Glory of God and the Good of our Neighbors”  
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## Is God Mad At You?

Luke 15:11-32

Series: Sinners in the Hands of a Loving God  
(Summer Reading Series)

### Central Passage

**Luke 15:21–24 (ESV)** — *21 And the son said to him, ‘Father, I have sinned against heaven and before you. I am no longer worthy to be called your son.’ 22 But the father said to his servants, ‘Bring quickly the best robe, and put it on him, and put a ring on his hand, and shoes on his feet. 23 And bring the fattened calf and kill it, and let us eat and celebrate. 24 For this my son was dead, and is alive again; he was lost, and is found.’ And they began to celebrate.*

**Central Thought:** Whether you tend to be overly confident in your own self-righteousness like the older brother, or you are acutely aware of your sin and failure, God’s disposition toward you is deeply affectionate love, and an intense longing for you to come home.

### Context

- ❖ Jesus was regularly accused of hanging out with the wrong crowd

**Luke 15:1–2 (ESV)** — *1 Now the tax collectors and sinners were all drawing near to hear him. 2 And the Pharisees and the scribes grumbled, saying, “This man receives sinners and eats with them.”*

- Are we spending time with anybody that could get us in trouble with the religious establishment?

### The Younger Son... (vs.11-16)

- ❖ In willful disobedience breaks faith with the father and finds himself destitute in a “far country.”

**Romans 6:23 (ESV)** — *23 For the wages of sin is death, but the free gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord.*

### The Older Son... (vs.25-30)

- ❖ In smug self-righteousness finds himself estranged from his father and outside the house.

**Luke 15:7 (ESV)** — *7 Just so, I tell you, there will be more joy in heaven over one sinner who repents than over ninety-nine righteous persons who need no repentance.*

### The Father... (vs.17-24; 31-32)

- ❖ Passionately affirms his love for both children and completely confirms their rights as sons.

**Matthew 23:37 (ESV)** — *37 “O Jerusalem, Jerusalem, the city that kills the prophets and stones those who are sent to it! How often would I have gathered your children together as a hen gathers her brood under her wings, and you were not willing!*

**2 Peter 3:8–9 (ESV)** — *8 But do not overlook this one fact, beloved, that with the Lord one day is as a thousand years, and a thousand years as one day. 9 The Lord is not slow to fulfill his promise as some count slowness, but is patient toward you, not wishing that any should perish, but that all should reach repentance.*