

Mid-week Stewardship Thought

His Compassion Never Fails

In the Parable of the Prodigal Son (Luke 15:11-24), Jesus tells us about a son who leaves his father and home, takes his inheritance, and lives a life of ill dissolution. After he squanders his money and is destitute, he returns home. Instead of greeting his son with recrimination, the father runs to meet him, welcoming him with hugs and kisses. The son is forgiven for all his past mistakes.

Jesus told the parable so that we might better understand the nature of our Heavenly Father's love for us. Just as that father ran to meet his son, so does our heavenly Father reach out to us as sinful people. God is eager to restore us to a position of sonship. Just as the father in the parable didn't require that his son prove he had "shaped up," so God's love for us is free and unconditional, requiring no personal merit. God's love doesn't quit. As St. Augustine wrote, "God loves each one of us if there were only one of us."

In this parable, God's portrays His love for us as sinners. In spite of our sinful and evil ways, Jesus makes abundantly clear the depth of our heavenly Father's compassion for us. God's love was so great that He sent His one and only Son to the Cross so we could be reconciled with Him.

