



Dear Brother of the Prodigal Son:

I Relate To You More Than You May Know

Since you downloaded this, I'm assuming you relate to the Brother of the Prodigal Son, too. **Before we delve into this worksheet, let's revisit the parable, as told in the Gospel of Luke, chapter eleven:**

"There was a man who had two sons. And the younger of them said to his father, 'Father, give me the share of property that is coming to me.' And he divided his property between them. Not many days later, the younger son gathered all he had and took a journey into a far country, and there he squandered his property in reckless living. And when he had spent everything, a severe famine arose in that country, and he began to be in need. So he went and hired himself out to one of the citizens of that country, who sent him into his fields to feed pigs. And he was longing to be fed with the pods that the pigs ate, and no one gave him anything.

"But when he came to himself, he said, 'How many of my father's hired servants have more than enough bread, but I perish here with hunger! I will arise and go to my father, and I will say to him, "Father, I have sinned against heaven and before you. I am no longer worthy to be called your son. Treat me as one of your hired servants."' And he arose and came to his father. But while he was still a long way off, his father saw him and felt compassion, and ran and embraced him and kissed him. 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.' 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. And bring the fattened calf and kill it, and let us eat and celebrate. For this my son was dead, and is alive again; he was lost, and is found.' And they began to celebrate.

"Now his older son was in the field, and as he came and drew near to the house, he heard music and dancing. And he called one of the servants and asked what these things meant. And he said to him, 'Your brother has come, and your father has killed the fattened calf, because he has received him back safe and sound.' But he was angry and refused to go in. His father came out and entreated him, but he answered his father, 'Look, these many years I have served you, and I never disobeyed your command, yet you never gave me a young goat, that I might celebrate with my friends. But when this son of yours came, who has devoured your property with prostitutes, you killed the fattened calf for him!' And he said to him, 'Son, you are always with me, and all that is mine is yours. It was fitting to celebrate and be glad, for this your brother was dead, and is alive; he was lost, and is found.'"

Luke 11:15-32, ESV

If you haven't already read the blog post that correlates with this worksheet, you can find it here. →

<http://kristyscottage.com/dear-brother-of-the-prodigoal-son-i-relate-to-you-more-than-you-may-know>

What do you relate to most about how the brother of the Prodigal responded in this story?

→ His anger.

→ His withdrawal.

→ His self pity.

→ Something else: _____

There have been times in my life as a believer when it felt like less-devoted Christians were enjoying the favor of God more than I was. And even times when it seemed like non-believers were receiving more blessings in life than me, even though I was "doing all the right things." **Have you ever felt this way?**

What does God's Word say about His favor and blessings upon His children?

Look up and read the following Scriptures, then journal your thoughts below:

➔ James 1:17

➔ Psalm 68:19

➔ Psalm 103 (entire chapter)

Do you feel like the brother of the Prodigal had really learned how to enjoy his relationship with his father? Was he keeping rules out of moral obligation, or love?

Making it Personal

Are rules or relationship your focus? Think about your life as a believer. Can you honestly say that you enjoy God? Does serving in His kingdom, and being part of the Body of Christ, feel like a privilege? Or a drudgery?

Keeping rules will never bring peace, joy, or freedom. You cannot earn those things, but you can enjoy an abundant life because of Christ (John 10:10)! **Are you living into that provision of abundance?**

How can you begin to live into the provision of your loving Heavenly Father? Begin to pray and ask Him how. _____

Dear Heavenly Father,

Thank you for your loving and gracious provision. Please forgive me for focusing so much on keeping rules, and neglecting to simply enjoy my relationship with you. Help me to learn to truly celebrate You who are, and who I am becoming through Christ.

I have especially been struggling with : _____.

I release that now to you, in Jesus' name. Please teach me how to truly live into your provision as my Heavenly Father. I want to know your heart.

Thank you for your provision of every good and perfect gift.

In Jesus' name,

Amen.

Teach me
to live
into
Your
abundant
provision,
Lord.

“You are ever with me, and all that I have is yours.” Luke 15:32