

“WHEN CHILDREN STRAY”

Parenthood #4

Luke 15:11-24

I. REBELLION (Verses 11-16)

“...give me...”

What to do:

1. Let them go.

“...the younger son...set off for a distant country...”

2. Let them make their own mistakes.

“...and there squandered his wealth in wild living...”

3. Let them reap the consequences of their choices.

“...after he spent everything...he began to be in need.”

II. RE-EVALUATION and REGRET (Verses 17-19)

“When he came to his senses...I will go back...”

What to do:

- Pray for your kids.
- Commit them to God.
- Wait patiently.

III. THE RETURN (Verses 20-24)

What to do:

1. Love them faithfully.

“...his father saw him and was filled with compassion for him...”

2. Accept them unconditionally.

“he threw his arms around him and kissed him.”

THE SON’S CONFESSION: Verse 21

3. Forgive them completely.

“Bring the best robe...put a ring on his finger...and sandals on his feet.”

“For this son of mine was dead, and is alive again; he was lost and is found!”