

## PATIENTLY PURSUES God Who Loves

SERIES BIG IDEA:

**God who loves invites me to \_\_\_\_\_ on His love by accepting His love.**

*<sup>11</sup>Jesus continued: "There was a man who had two sons. <sup>12</sup>The younger one said to his father, 'Father, give me my share of the estate.' So he divided his property between them."*

Luke 15:11-12 (NIV)

**A natural tendency is to try and \_\_\_\_\_ what we think is ours.**

*<sup>13</sup>"Not long after that, the younger son got together all he had, set off for a distant country and there squandered his wealth in wild living. <sup>14</sup>After he had spent everything, there was a severe famine in that whole country, and he began to be in need. <sup>15</sup>So he went and hired himself out to a citizen of that country, who sent him to his fields to feed pigs. <sup>16</sup>He longed to fill his stomach with the pods that the pigs were eating, but no one gave him anything."*

Luke 15:13-16 (NIV)

**When we are in control, we can make big \_\_\_\_\_ because we want to do our own thing.**

*<sup>17</sup>"When he came to his senses, he said, 'How many of my father's hired servants have food to spare, and here I am starving to death! <sup>18</sup>I will set out and go back to my father and say to him: Father, I have sinned against heaven and against you. <sup>19</sup>I am no longer worthy to be called your son; make me like one of your hired servants.' <sup>20</sup>So he got up and went to his father."*

Luke 15:17-20 (NIV)

**After making mistakes, we often attempt to \_\_\_\_\_ to God.**

*"But while he was still a long way off, his father saw him and was filled with compassion for him; he ran to his son, threw his arms around him and kissed him."*

Luke 15:20 (NIV)

TEACHING BIG IDEA:

**God who loves patiently \_\_\_\_\_ me to forgive me and be in relationship with me.**

*<sup>21</sup>"The son said to him, 'Father, I have sinned against heaven and against you. I am no longer worthy to be called your son.' <sup>22</sup>"But the father said to his servants, 'Quick! Bring the best robe and put it on him. Put a ring on his finger and sandals on his feet. <sup>23</sup>Bring the fattened calf and kill it. Let's have a feast and celebrate. <sup>24</sup>For this son of mine was dead and is alive again; he was lost and is found.' So they began to celebrate."*

Luke 15:21-24 (NIV)

**God's plans and purposes are always \_\_\_\_\_ than our own.**

*<sup>25</sup>"Meanwhile, the older son was in the field. When he came near the house, he heard music and dancing. <sup>26</sup>So he called one of the servants and asked him what was going on. <sup>27</sup>'Your brother has come,' he replied, 'and your father has killed the fattened calf because he has him back safe and sound. <sup>28</sup>The older brother became angry and refused to go in."*

Luke 15:25-28 (NIV)

**Our own anger can \_\_\_\_\_ us from experiencing God's love.**

*"So his father went out and pleaded with him."*

Luke 15:28 (NIV)

**God patiently \_\_\_\_\_ us even when we are mad at Him.**

*<sup>29</sup>"But he answered his father, 'Look! All these years I've been slaving for you and never disobeyed your orders. Yet you never gave me even a young goat so I could celebrate with my friends. <sup>30</sup>But when this son of yours who has squandered your property with prostitutes comes home, you kill the fattened calf for him!'"*

Luke 15:29-30 (NIV)

**The older brother was just as \_\_\_\_\_ as the younger brother because he was relying on his own \_\_\_\_\_.**

**When I'm mad that I can't control God with my good behavior, it can show me that I'm \_\_\_\_\_ from God.**

*<sup>31</sup>"'My son,' the father said, 'you are always with me, and everything I have is yours. <sup>32</sup>But we had to celebrate and be glad, because this brother of yours was dead and is alive again; he was lost and is found.'"*

Luke 15:31-32 (NIV)

**God patiently pursues \_\_\_\_\_ who are far from Him.**

- **He pursues those who try to gain \_\_\_\_\_ and do their own thing.**
- **He pursues those who try to control God through their own \_\_\_\_\_.**

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