



**The Life Changing Decisions of a Father
(How One Father Changed Everything)**

June 15-16, 2019

Big Question: What did your Father do that changed your life? (Can be positive or negative)

- A. He was **present** in my life
- B. He was **engaged** in my life
- C. He was **honest**
- D. He was **repentant** (He changed his mind when necessary)
- E. He was **spiritually truthful**
- F. He was **consistent**
- G. He was **faithful** to my mom

Slides and Images About Dads:

Seven Great Decisions A Nameless Father Made

Luke 15:11–32 (NKJV):

1. He looked beyond being disrespected (He allowed the prodigal son to leave)

- Then He said: **“A certain man had two sons. 12** And the younger of them said to his **father, ‘Father,** give me the portion of goods that falls to me.’ So he divided to them his livelihood.

2. He looked beyond being abandoned (His son took his money and left)

- 13 And not many days after, **the younger son gathered all together, journeyed to a far country,** and there wasted his possessions with prodigal living. 14 But when he had spent all, there arose a severe famine in that land, and he began to be in want. 15 Then he went and joined himself to a citizen of that country, and he sent him into his fields to feed swine. 16 And he would gladly have filled his stomach with the pods that the swine ate, and no one gave him anything.

3. He waited to be remembered (He was remembered when his sons had a need)

- 17 “But when he came to himself, he said, ‘How many of my **father’s** hired servants have bread enough and to spare, and I perish with hunger!’

4. He waited for an apology (Kids eventually see the road)

- 18 I will arise and go to my **father,** and will say to him, **“Father, I have sinned against heaven and before you,** 19 and I am no longer worthy to be called your son. Make me like one of your hired servants.” ’

5. He offered his son forgiveness (He forgave his son for an embarrassing season)

- 20 “And he arose and came to his **father**. But when he was still a great way off, his **father saw him and had compassion, and ran and fell on his neck and kissed him.** 21 And the son said to him, ‘**Father**, I have sinned against heaven and in your sight, and am no longer worthy to be called your son.’
- 22 “But the **father** said to his servants, ‘**Bring out the best robe and put it on him, and put a ring on his hand and sandals on his feet. 23 And bring the fatted calf here and kill it, and let us eat and be merry; 24** for this my son was dead and is alive again; he was lost and is found.’ And they began to be merry.

6. He embraces a new challenge with his older son (He patiently explains his role as a father)

- 25 “Now his older son was in the field. And as he came and drew near to the house, he heard music and dancing. 26 So he called one of the servants and asked what these things meant. 27 And he said to him, ‘Your brother has come, and because he has received him safe and sound, your father has killed the fatted calf.’ 28 “**But he was angry and would not go in.** Therefore his father came out and pleaded with him.

7. He insisted on doing the right thing (He refused to walk in an unforgiving attitude)

- 29 So he answered and said to his father, ‘Lo, these many years I have been serving you; I never transgressed your commandment at any time; and yet you never gave me a young goat, that I might make merry with my friends. 30 But **as soon as this son of yours came, who has devoured your livelihood with harlots, you killed the fatted calf for him.**’
- 31 “And he said to him, ‘**Son, you are always with me,** and all that I have is yours. 32 **It was right that we should make merry and be glad,** for **your brother was dead** and is alive again, and was lost and is found.’ ”

Next Week: The Power of Relationship Decisions

How have your relationship decisions impacted your life and your choices?