

The Prodigal Son: A Story of Conversion (Luke 15:11–32)

Part 1: Answer the following questions with your partner after reading the story. Write in complete sentences, citing specific verses from the parable where appropriate.

1. At what point in the story do you think the younger son began the process of conversion? What other stages in this process can you identify in the story?
2. To what extent do you think the younger son's conversion is genuine? In other words, do you think it has "staying power," or might he someday run off and do the same thing again?
3. How does the father respond to the younger son when he returns home? What aspects of this response are surprising?
4. What do you think of the older son's behavior? What do you think about the father's response to the older son?
5. Who seems to be more open to God's grace and mercy, the older son or the younger son? Why?
6. Do you think the older son will ever respond to the call to conversion? Why or why not? What might help him to be open to this possibility?



Part 2: Proceed with this section when your teacher directs you to do so.

7. What further insight does your chosen image give you into the parable? For example, does it help you to see one of the characters differently? Does it convey a specific mood, emotion, or dramatic emphasis? Does it force you to focus on one specific aspect of the parable?

8. What further insight does this image give you into the concept of *conversion*?

