

contagious

The word "contagious" is rendered in a bold, 3D, red font with a slight shadow, positioned centrally. The background consists of a dense field of white, 3D letters in various orientations, which are blurred to create a sense of depth and movement. The overall composition is set against a dark, almost black background.

Part 12

Contagious

Holy, Shameless Love

Luke 15:11

To illustrate the point further,
Jesus told them this story:
“A man had two sons.

Luke 15:12

**The younger son told his father,
'I want my share of your estate
now before you die.' So his father
agreed to divide his wealth
between his sons.**

Luke 15:13

A few days later this younger son packed all his belongings and moved to a distant land, and there he wasted all his money in wild living.

Luke 15:14

About the time his money ran out,
a great famine swept over the land,
and he began to starve.

Luke 15:15

He persuaded a local farmer to hire him, and the man sent him into his fields to feed the pigs.

Luke 15:16

The young man became so hungry that even the pods he was feeding the pigs looked good to him. But no one gave him anything.

Luke 15:17

**When he finally came to his senses,
he said to himself, 'At home even
the hired servants have food
enough to spare, and here I am
dying of hunger!**

Luke 15:18

I will go home to my father
and say, “Father, I have sinned
against both heaven and you,

Luke 15:19

and I am no longer worthy of being called your son. Please take me on as a hired servant.”

Luke 15:20

**So he returned home to his father.
And while he was still a long way
off, his father saw him coming.
Filled with love and compassion,
he ran to his son, embraced him,
and kissed him.**

Luke 15:21

His son said to him, 'Father, I have sinned against both heaven and you, and I am no longer worthy of being called your son.'

Luke 15:22

But his father said to the servants,
'Quick! Bring the finest robe in the
house and put it on him. Get a ring
for his finger and sandals
for his feet.

Luke 15:23

And kill the calf we have been fattening. We must celebrate with a feast,

Luke 15:24

for this son of mine was dead
and has now returned to life.
He was lost, but now he is found.’
So the party began.

Luke 15:25

Meanwhile, the older son was in the fields working. When he returned home, he heard music and dancing in the house,

Luke 15:26

and he asked one of the servants
what was going on.

Luke 15:27

**‘Your brother is back,’ he was told,
‘and your father has killed the
fattened calf. We are celebrating
because of his safe return.’**

Luke 15:28

The older brother was angry
and wouldn't go in. His father
came out and begged him,
but he replied,

Luke 15:29

All these years I've slaved for you and never once refused to do a single thing you told me to. And in all that time you never gave me even one young goat for a feast with my friends.

Luke 15:30

Yet when this son of yours comes back after squandering your money on prostitutes, you celebrate by killing the fattened calf!’

Luke 15:31

His father said to him,
'Look, dear son, you have always
stayed by me, and everything
I have is yours.'

Luke 15:32

We had to celebrate this happy day. For your brother was dead and has come back to life!

He was lost, but now he is found!””

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Contagious
Holy, Shameless Love

Jesus' Parables

A parable is an earthly story with a heavenly meaning. Parables tell a story using something we see every day to help us understand a spiritual truth that we cannot comprehend with our natural thinking.

Jesus' Parables

Christ's parables are usually open ended. They are open ended in the sense that we are not told how the story ends. We do not know the final outcome of the situation in the parable.

Jesus' Parables

Jesus taught parables that are open ended because they leave the audience with some deep questions to think about. They leave us with a truth to which we have to respond one way or another.

Jesus' Parables

For the most part, Christ's parables are not meant to be prescriptive teaching regarding the details of the earthly story. They are meant to help us understand the spiritual reality that God is revealing to us.

Principle #1

God's supernatural love for all His children, saved and lost, is limitless and shameless.

Holy, Shameless Love

What kind of father raises a child who wants their father's possessions, more than they want a relationship with their father?

Holy, Shameless Love

What kind of father gives his ungrateful and immature child what they want, even though it is clearly wrong and will end in a disaster?

Holy, Shameless Love

What kind of father runs to his shameful and wayward child, demonstrating public affection for all to see when the child has brought such shame on the family?

Holy, Shameless Love

**What kind of father immediately
throws a party for his child who has
just returned home with their tail
between their legs?**

Holy, Shameless Love

What kind of father believes his shameful son has changed without any concrete proof for any significant amount of time?

Holy, Shameless Love

What kind of father goes out of his way to continue to do his best for a child who has only done their worst?

Holy, Shameless Love

**What kind of father begs his child
to do what he asks in his own
home, especially when company
is over?**

Holy, Shameless Love

**What kind of father raises such
lost and disrespectful children?**

**If one is not the problem,
the other one is!**

Principle #1

God's supernatural love for all His children, saved and lost, is limitless and shameless.

Principle #2

**God's love is infinitely greater,
infinitely more powerful,
and infinitely more confusing
than anyone can fathom.**

Principle #3

**Loving others with God's limitless
and shameless love will cost you
everything.**

Principle #4

Too many longtime followers of Christ think, speak, and behave like the older brother.

Luke 15:25

Meanwhile, the older son was in the fields working. When he returned home, he heard music and dancing in the house,

Luke 15:26

**and he asked one of the servants
what was going on.**

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money on prostitutes, you
celebrate by killing the fattened
calf!

Principle #4

Too many longtime followers of Christ think, speak, and behave like the older brother.

Principle #5

Many people who have repeatedly tasted the generosity and shamelessness of God's love for them, never commit and never choose to have a right relationship with Him.

Principle #6

God's pure, holy, passionate, perfect, supernatural love is never wasted, regardless of the results.

Principle #7

Loving others with God's supernatural, limitless, shameless love is not about seeing results or getting results; It is about obeying our Master and King.

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