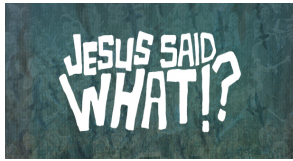


MARINERS CHURCH



The Way Home

April 30, 2023

Luke 15:1-32 NLT

How do I get back home?

O Lord, you have examined my heart and know everything about me. Search me, O God, and know my heart; test me and know my anxious thoughts. Point out anything in me that offends you, and lead me along the path of everlasting life. Psalms 139:1, 23-24 NLT

Knowing the one we are coming back to

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 15:20

Don't you see how wonderfully kind, tolerant, and patient God is with you? Does this mean nothing to you? Can't you see that his kindness is intended to turn you from your sin? Romans 2:4 NLT

Knowing the way back home

Don't let your hearts be troubled. Trust in God, and trust also in me. There is more than enough room in my Father's home. If this were not so, would I have told you that I am going to prepare a place for you? When everything is ready, I will come and get you, so that you will always be with me where I am. And you know the way to where I am going.

"No, we don't know, Lord," Thomas said. "We have no idea where you are going, so how can we know the way?" Jesus told him, "I am the way, the truth, and the life. No one can come to the Father except through me." John 14:1-6 NLT

God showed how much he loved us by sending his one and only Son into the world so that we might have eternal life through him." 1 John 4:9 NLT For everyone has sinned; we all fall short of God's glorious standard. Romans 3:23 NLT



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For the wages of sin is death, but the free gift of God is eternal life through Christ Jesus our Lord. Romans 6:23 NLT

He saved us, not because of the righteous things we had done, but because of his mercy. He washed away our sins, giving us a new birth and new life through the Holy Spirit." Titus 3:5

God saved you by his grace when you believed. And you can't take credit for this; it is a gift from God. Salvation is not a reward for the good things we have done, so none of us can boast about it. Ephesians 2:8-9 NLT

Luke 15:5-7 NLT

Luke 15:9-10 NLT

Luke 15:22-24 NLT

For your LifeGroup and growth time.

Talk together...

Read Luke 15:1-32 together. Try assigning 'parts' Narrator, Jesus, Older Brother, Younger Son to different group members.

What are the behaviors or actions the Father shows?

Notice there are no details given to exactly what the younger son did while away and yet the older brother seems to 'know'. Talk about how jealousy can cause one to assume or project or imagine the sin of another.

Share with each other which son you identify with most and why?

Read Titus 3:5. In light of the older brother's complaint, how does this verse cause you to respond? To him, to others, to yourself?

Pray together and support each other!

If you'd like to grow in your faith and connect with others, LifeGroups are a great place for you. For more information, drop us your name and we'll get back to you (emma@marinerscc.org)