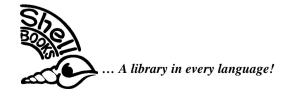
The Parable of the Prodigal Son





Language Bible Story

Optional ending:

In the same way, there is great rejoicing and celebrating in heaven when even one person turns from his or her sin and gains new life by following Jesus.



"My son," the father answered, "You are always here with me and everything I have is yours. But we had to have a feast and be happy, because your brother was dead, but now he is alive; he was lost, but now he has been found."

MT Title The Parable of the Prodigal Son

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The older brother was so angry that he would not go into the house; so his father came out and begged him to come in.

"Look," the older brother answered back to his father, "All these years I have worked like a slave for you, and I never disobeyed your orders. What have you given me? Not even a goat for me to have a feast with my friends! But this son of yours wasted all your property on prostitutes, and when he comes back home you kill the prize calf for him!"



The older son, in the meantime, was out in the field. On his way back, when he came close to the house, he heard the music and dancing. He called one of the servants and asked him, "What's going on?"

"Your brother came back home," the servant answered, "and your father has killed the prize/fat calf because he got him back safe and sound."

PREFACE (write in both MT and LWC)





To show how happy God is when a person repents, Jesus told this story:

There was a man who had two sons. The younger one said to him, "Father, give me now my share of the property."

So the man divided the property between his two sons.

But the father called his servants: "Hurry!" he said. "Bring the best robe and put it on my son. Put a ring on his finger and shoes on his feet. Then go get the prize/fat calf and kill it, and let us celebrate with a feast! Because this son of mine was dead, but now he is alive; he was lost, but now he has been found."

And so the feasting began.



The son was still a long way from home when his father saw him. The father's heart filled with pity and he ran, threw his arms around his son, and kissed him.

"Father," the son said, "I have sinned against God and against you. I am no longer fit to be called your son."



After a few days the younger son sold his part of the property and left home with the money. He went to a country far away, where he wasted his money in reckless living.



The young man spent everything he had. Then a severe famine spread over that country, and he was left without a thing. So he went to work for one of the citizens of that country, who sent him out to his farm to take care of the pigs. He wished he could fill himself with the bean pods the pigs ate, but no one gave him anything to eat.



At last he came to his senses and thought, "All my father's hired workers have more than they can eat, and here I am, about to starve! I will get up and go to my father and say, 'Father, I have sinned against God and against you. I am no longer fit to be called your son; treat me as one of your hired workers."

So he got up and started back to his father.