

# Prodigal Love

***How great is the love the Father has lavished on us, that we should be called children of God! And that is what we are! The reason the world does not know us is that it did not know him.***

***1 John 3:1***



**“Reckless Love...”**

***Is Demanding***

***Brings Dishonor***

***Leads to Destitution***

***Needs a new direction***

# **“Rigid Love...”**

***Has a misguided sense of Duty***

***Is judgmental in exalting  
discipline over grace***

***Needs a new direction***

# 1 Unconventional Love

*So he got up and went to his father. But while he was still a long way off, his father saw him and was filled with compassion for him; he ran to his son, threw his arms around him and kissed him.*

*Luke 15:20*

*On Judgment – Conventional wisdom says, “Let me take the speck out of your eye...”*

*Do not judge, or you too will be judged. For in the same way you judge others, you will be judged, and with the measure you use, it will be measured to you.*

*Matthew 7:1-2*

*On Retribution – Conventional wisdom says, “Eye for eye, and tooth for tooth.”*

*I tell you, Do not resist an evil person. If someone strikes you on the right cheek, turn to him the other also.*

*Matthew 5:39*

*On Love – Conventional wisdom says, “Love your neighbor...hate your enemy.”*

*I tell you: Love your enemies and pray for those who persecute you, that you may be sons of your Father in heaven.*

*Matthew 5:44-45a*

# 2 Unconditional Love

*The son said to him, 'Father, I have sinned against heaven and against you. I am no longer worthy to be called your son.' But the father said to his servants, 'Quick! Bring the best robe and put it on him...'*

*Luke 15:21-22a*

# It is Unmerited

*Jesus continued: There was a man who had two sons. The younger one said to his father, 'Father, give me my share of the estate.' So he divided his property between them.*

*Luke 15:11-12*

# It is Unsurpassed

***Bring the fattened calf and kill it. Let's have a feast and celebrate. For this son of mine was dead and is alive again; he was lost and is found. So they began to celebrate.***

***Luke 15:23-24***

# It is Unlimited

***‘My son,’ the father said, ‘you are always with me, and everything I have is yours.***

***Luke 15:31***

# 3 Unceasing Love

*But while he (younger brother) was still a long way off, his father saw him and was filled with compassion for him...*

*The older brother became angry and refused to go in. So his father went out and pleaded with him.*

*Luke 15:20, 28*

