

MWay Notes Wk01_Awaken Searching for Meaning Luke 15:11-32

This story reveals a Spirit-driven <u>process</u> that brings us home to God.

5 Awakenings in Our Spiritual Journey:

- 1. An awakening to longing: "There's got to be more."
- 2. An awakening to regret: "I wish I could start over."
- 3. An awakening to help: "I can't do this on my own."
- 4. An awakening to love: "God loves me deeply after all."
- 5. An awakening to life: "Now this is living!

Note his... LONGINGS

- He longed for love.
- He longed for purpose.
- He longed for meaning.

The problem isn't that we have these longings.

The problem is that we seek to fulfill them on our own.

Note his... ATTITUDE

He wants the father's goods rather than the father himself.

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 15:12]

A few days later this younger son packed all his belongings and moved to a distant land. [Luke 15:13]

Note his... PERDICAMENT

And there he wasted all his money in wild living. About the time his money ran out, a great famine swept over the land, and he began to starve. [Luke 15:13-14]

He persuaded a local farmer to hire him, and the man sent him into his fields to feed the pigs. 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 15:15-16]

 1^{st} Awakening: Our longings in life can only be fulfilled $\underline{\text{inside}}$ a relationship with God.

Prayer for the 1st Awakening: God, if you are real, make yourself real to me. Awaken in me the ability to see that you are what's missing from my life.