

JESUS IS _____ .

Order of Service | December 9 - 10, 2017

Worship Team	Joy To The World
Welcome/Greeting	
Worship Team	Champion King Of My Heart
Message	Pastor Jay Bruner Jesus Is... (Week 3)
Offering/Dismissal	

JESUS IS GRACE

GRACE demonstrated; Luke 15:11-32

...Jesus told them this story: "A man had two sons.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.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.¹⁴ About the time his money ran out, a great famine swept over the land, and he began to starve.¹⁵ He persuaded a local farmer to hire him, and the man sent him into his fields to feed the pigs.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.

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!¹⁸ I will go home to my father and say, "Father, I have sinned against both heaven and you,¹⁹ and I am no longer worthy of being called your son. Please take me on as a hired servant.'"

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.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.'

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.²³ And kill the calf we have been fattening. We must celebrate with a feast,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.

²⁵ “Meanwhile, the older son was in the fields working. When he returned home, he heard music and dancing in the house, ²⁶ and he asked one of the servants what was going on. ²⁷ ‘Your brother is back,’ he was told, ‘and your father has killed the fattened calf. We are celebrating because of his safe return.’

²⁸ “The older brother was angry and wouldn’t go in. His father came out and begged him, ²⁹ but he replied, ‘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. ³⁰ **Yet when this son of yours comes back after squandering your money on prostitutes, you celebrate by killing the fattened calf!**’

³¹ “His father said to him, ‘Look, dear son, you have always stayed by me, and everything I have is yours. 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!**” **Luke 15:11-32 (NLT)**

Jesus is GRACE.

GRACE = God’s unmerited love, forgiveness, and help found in (and through) Jesus.

What this means to me:

1. There is nothing I have done that will stop God from offering His love to me.
2. I don’t have to earn it (I couldn’t if I tried). I just need to believe and accept it.
3. I should live my life in light of it.

Going deeper on your own: Begin by praying and asking God to help you see the fullness of His Grace towards you. Now read the entire chapter of Luke 15 three times, very slowly and out loud. Now read verses 11-32 again. Who does the young son represent? Who does the father represent? Who does the older son represent? What did the young son do to merit his father’s love? What did he do to regain his place in the family? How do you think he felt after he was welcomed back into the family? What was the real problem with the older brother? What was the father’s heart towards him? What would it be like for you to have someone in your life that would extend you unmerited love, forgiveness, and help in your life? Merry Christmas! GRACE has come - His name is Jesus. If you have never accepted Him, do it this Christmas. Come home, breathe Him in, and accept all He offers.