

25-27 “All this time his older son was out in the field. When the day’s work was done he came in. As he approached the house, he heard the music and dancing. Calling over one of the houseboys, he asked what was going on. He told him, ‘Your brother came home. Your father has ordered a feast—barbecued beef!—because he has him home safe and sound.’

28-30 “The older brother stomped off in an angry sulk and refused to join in. His father came out and tried to talk to him, but he wouldn’t listen. The son said, ‘Look how many years I’ve stayed here serving you, never giving you one moment of grief, but have you ever thrown a party for me and my friends? Then this son of yours who has thrown away your money on whores shows up and you go all out with a feast!’

31-32 “His father said, ‘Son, you don’t understand. You’re with me all the time, and everything that is mine is yours—but this is a wonderful time, and we had to celebrate. This brother of yours was dead, and he’s alive! He was lost, and he’s found!’”

March/April Weekly Bible Readings

Date	Day	New Testament	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Special Prayer	Old Testament	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
30	Su	Acts 3			Ezra 6	
31	Mo	Acts 4			Ezra 7	
01	Tu	Acts 5			Ezra 8	
02	We	Acts 6			Ezra 9	
03	Th	Acts 7			Nehemiah 1	
04	Fr	Acts 8			Nehemiah 2	
05	Sa	Acts 9			Nehemiah 3	
06	Su	Acts 10			Nehemiah 4	

Deep Sheet

A place for your notes.

God always treats us better than we deserve. Let’s respond with gratitude. Life is better when we do.

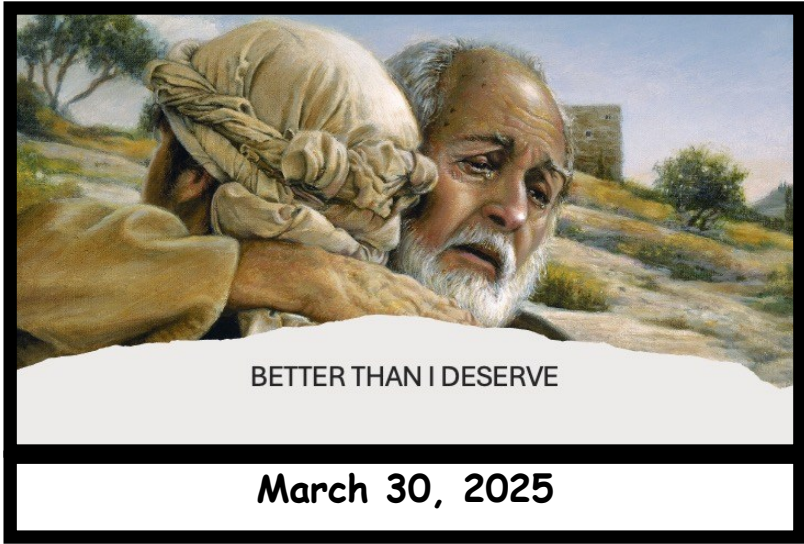
What is the root cause of anger?

What does God owe you?

Why did the Pharisees grumble about Jesus?

What is the real meaning of “prodigal?”

Other Notes:



Laketon Bethel’s Core Values:

A. ACCEPTANCE:

Everyone, regardless of who they are, what they have done, or what they are doing, will be accepted here. Laketon Bethel will be a safe place to explore your relationship with Jesus.

B. BIBLE:

The teachings of Jesus, contained in the Bible, are the final authority for faith and practice. We will study these teachings with open minds and the best scholarship available.

C. CONNECTION:

We invite people to connect with Jesus and with each other in all that we do.

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Order of Worship-9:00am

Gathering Song
 “God and God Alone”
Call to Worship
 “To God Be the Glory”
Welcome & Announcements
Congregational Prayer
Worship in Song
 “Softly and Tenderly”
 “Lord, I’m Coming Home”
Crosstalk - “Better Than I Deserve”
Offering
 “Daystar”
Benediction
 “Spirit Song”



Order of Worship-11:00am

Gathering Song
 “Holy Water”
Call to Worship
 “Did you Feel the Mountains Tremble?”
Welcome & Announcements
Congregational Prayer
Worship in Song
 “Amazing Grace”
 “This Is Amazing Grace”
Crosstalk - “Better Than I Deserve”
Offering
 “New Creation”
Benediction
 “God Be With You”

Announcements

Jr. High J.A.M. Students in grades 6th and up are welcome to enjoy a lesson during the Crosstalk the 2nd and 4th Sunday. We have begun a new study that’s focused on answering the question Jesus asked his disciples: “Who do you say that I am?” The first lesson will challenge students to consider what they really know about Jesus, experience what it’s like to get closer to him, and begin to develop a new and deeper understanding of who he is. Our Jr. High JAM group will also get together during our time to support Hand2Hand.

Women’s Divorce Group For details, please contact Heather Wilke at (231) 215-8593.

*Ladies, mark your calendar for the
Mother's Day Dinner on May 9th at 6:00pm.
More information coming soon.*

Service Opportunities

Nursery Help Needed We are looking for Nursery help for the Second service. If you are interested, please see Tina or Sally.

Sacred Suds Sacred Suds is an organization that helps the homeless. It offers showers, laundry, technology and housing by appointment. They are in need of many items and the list is on the table in entryway. For any questions, please see Lois Cordle or call her at (231) 286-5700.

Volunteers

1st Service Coffee Server: Diane Brantsen
2nd Service Coffee Server: Mark Gaultney
1st Service Nursery: Tina Dadd
2nd Service Nursery: Zonnebelt Family

Special Senior: Jim Hoekzema

Please sign the cards located on the table in the entryway.

Luke 15

From The Message

15 ¹⁻³ By this time a lot of men and women of questionable reputation were hanging around Jesus, listening intently. The Pharisees and religion scholars were not pleased, not at all pleased. They growled, “He takes in sinners and eats meals with them, treating them like old friends.” Their grumbling triggered this story.

¹¹⁻¹² Then he said, “There was once a man who had two sons. The younger said to his father, ‘Father, I want right now what’s coming to me.’

¹²⁻¹⁶ “So the father divided the property between them. It wasn’t long before the younger son packed his bags and left for a distant country. There, undisciplined and dissipated, he wasted everything he had. After he had gone through all his money, there was a bad famine all through that country and he began to feel it. He signed on with a citizen there who assigned him to his fields to slop the pigs. He was so hungry he would have eaten the corn-cobs in the pig slop, but no one would give him any.

¹⁷⁻²⁰ “That brought him to his senses. He said, ‘All those farmhands working for my father sit down to three meals a day, and here I am starving to death. I’m going back to my father. I’ll say to him, Father, I’ve sinned against God, I’ve sinned before you; I don’t deserve to be called your son. Take me on as a hired hand.’ He got right up and went home to his father.

²⁰⁻²¹ “When he was still a long way off, his father saw him. His heart pounding, he ran out, embraced him, and kissed him. The son started his speech: ‘Father, I’ve sinned against God, I’ve sinned before you; I don’t deserve to be called your son ever again.’

²²⁻²⁴ “But the father wasn’t listening. He was calling to the servants, ‘Quick. Bring a clean set of clothes and dress him. Put the family ring on his finger and sandals on his feet. Then get a prize-winning heifer and roast it. We’re going to feast! We’re going to have a wonderful time! My son is here—given up for dead and now alive! Given up for lost and now found!’ And they began to have a wonderful time.

