

RED LETTERS

“The Older Son”

¹ Now the tax collectors and sinners were all gathering around to hear Jesus. ² But the Pharisees and the teachers of the law muttered, **“This man welcomes sinners and eats with them.”** Luke 15:1-2 (NIV)

The conversion of the younger son is told simply to reveal the father’s heart in the story.

The conversion of the older son is the POINT of the story.

It’s the hardest conversion of the two.

²⁸ *“The older brother became angry and refused to go in. So, his father went out and pleaded with him.”* Luke 15:28 (NIV)

The Father’s invitation is to:

1. COME HOME (embrace of the loving Father)

³¹ **“My son,**’ the father said, ‘you are always with me, and everything I have is yours. ³² But we had to celebrate and be glad, because this brother of yours **was dead and is alive again; he was lost and is found.**” Luke 15:31-32 (NIV)

“Teknon” = The most affectionate word he can use as “his child.”

The Father’s invitation is to:

1. COME HOME (embrace of the Father)
2. SHARE IN HIS JOY (heart of the Father)

The Father’s invitation is to:

1. COME HOME (embrace of the Father)
2. SHARE IN HIS JOY (heart of the Father)
3. JOIN THE PARTY (response from us)

You are the beloved child on whom God’s favor rests.