



# The Prodigal Son

*Scenes in italics are told in flashback.*

**Interviewer:** Thanks for agreeing to speak to us. I understand this has been a difficult time for the family.

**Father:** Yes, it has been tough, but I think my son has learned an important lesson.

**Younger son:** Yeah, I mean I've been really selfish. A few months ago, I thought it would be a good idea to ask Dad for half of all his money.

**Father:** It was the money he would have received after I died. His inheritance. It was quite a lot of money.

**Interviewer:** Why did you let him have it?

**Father:** Well, I thought maybe he could do good things with it and spend it responsibly...

**Interviewer:** But, he didn't?

**Father:** No, not exactly. He...he...

**Younger son:** I spent it all on having a good time. I wasted it, basically.

**Older son:** Yeah, you wasted Dad's money alright! And he was worried sick about you when you were gone!

**Father:** Yes, yes you wasted the money and I was really worried about you! It's just good to have you back!

**Interviewer:** So, what's it like to be back home after all this time?

**Younger son:** It's great, y'know. It's so good to be back with the family. The time away really taught me about life, y'know? I became...humble.

**Older son:** 'Humble.' Seriously?

**Father:** Now, now.

**Older son:** Dad, c'mon! He went away with all the money he was meant to get as an inheritance *after* you died!

Did he spend it on, like, sensible things, like buying a house, or learning new skills, maybe getting married and starting a family?

No...no, he didn't! He spent the money on new clothes...and having a good time!

**Younger son:** I made some new friends...and enjoyed myself.

**Older son:** But when the money ran out, where were those friends then?



**Younger son:** I didn't party all the time! I got a job! I worked hard.

**Older son:** You got a job because you didn't have any money left! You were so desperate for money, you had to take any job you could find!

**Younger son:** *Er...I'm trying to earn a little money. I was...wondering if you have any jobs you need doing? I could make some bread or maybe do some decorating...*

**Man:** *We got some pigs we need lookin' after.*

**Younger son:** *Er...yeah...that's...great.*

It was at that time that I truly understood what was important in life, like, y'know...family.

**Older son:** You understood that you'd made a massive mistake more like!

**Father:** Now, now. He realised his mistake and he owned up to it.

**Older son:** No seriously, c'mon, tell the truth! The pay was bad, you got cold and hungry and the people you worked for wouldn't even give you the pig's food to eat. That's when you really...‘found yourself’.

**Younger son:** I'm really sorry, okay? I was selfish and I can't believe my dad has forgiven me. I'm so lucky.

**Interviewer:** Was it good to see your son when he returned?

**Father:** Oh, yes! He was so sorry when he came home.

**Younger son:** *I've wasted all the money you gave me! I'm not worthy to be called your son.*

**Father:** *There, there. Don't worry about all that! No, no, we should celebrate!*

**Older son:** *Seriously?*

Look! All these years I've been working so hard for you and never once disobeyed you! Yet you never threw me a party!

**Father:** I will always love you both! We had to celebrate and be glad. We didn't know where your brother had got to! He was lost but now is found.