



# my best life now

A New Collection  
of Bible Messages  
with Dr. Rich Wilkerson

Dr. Rich Wilkerson | April 30, 2023

## WHY DID YOU LEAVE?

*Part 3*

**Luke 15:1-2, 11-20** – Now the tax collectors and sinners were all gathering around to hear Jesus. <sup>2</sup> But the Pharisees and the teachers of the law muttered, “This man welcomes sinners and eats with them.”

<sup>11</sup> Jesus continued: “There was a man who had two sons. <sup>12</sup> The younger one said to his father, ‘Father, give me my share of the estate.’ So he divided his property between them. <sup>13</sup> “Not long after that, the younger son got together all he had, set off for a distant country and there squandered his wealth in wild living. <sup>14</sup> After he had spent everything, there was a severe famine in that whole country, and he began to be in need. <sup>15</sup> So he went and hired himself out to a citizen of that country, who sent him to his fields to feed pigs. <sup>16</sup> He longed to fill his stomach with the pods that the pigs were eating, but no one gave him anything. <sup>17</sup> “When he came to his senses, he said, ‘How many of my father’s hired servants have food to spare, and here I am starving to death!

<sup>18</sup> I will set out and go back to my father and say to him: Father, I have sinned against heaven and against you. <sup>19</sup> I am no longer worthy to be called your son; make me like one of your hired servants.’ <sup>20</sup> So he got up and went to his father.

“But while he was still a long way off, his father saw him and was filled with compassion for him; he ran to his son, threw his arms around him and kissed him.”

## Are you a GIVER or a TAKER?

**Luke 15:11-12** – Jesus continued: “There was a man who had two sons. <sup>12</sup> The younger one said to his father, ‘Father, give me my share of the estate.’ So he divided his property between them.

**Genesis 2:15** – The Lord God took the man and put him in the Garden of Eden to work it and take care of it.

**Colossians 3:23** – Whatever you do, work at it with all your heart, as working for the Lord, not for human masters.

## Are you a SAVER or a SQUANDERER?

**Luke 15:13** – Not long after that, the younger son got together all he had, set off for a distant country and there squandered his wealth in wild living.

**Ecclesiastes 10:19** – A feast is made for laughter, wine makes life merry, and money is the answer for everything.

## GIVERS tend to SAVE, while TAKERS tend to SQUANDER

**Luke 15:14-16** – After he had spent everything, there was a severe famine in that whole country, and he began to be in need. <sup>15</sup> So he went and hired himself out to a citizen of that country, who sent him to his fields to feed pigs. <sup>16</sup> He longed to fill his stomach with the pods that the pigs were eating, but no one gave him anything.

## Are you AWAKE or are you still SLEEPING?

**Luke 15:17-20** – “When he came to his senses, he said, ‘How many of my father’s hired servants have food to spare, and here I am starving to death! <sup>18</sup> I will set out and go back to my father and say to him: Father, I have sinned against heaven and against you. <sup>19</sup> I am no longer worthy to be called your son; make me like one of your hired servants.’ <sup>20</sup> So he got up and went to his father.

“But while he was still a long way off, his father saw him and was filled with compassion for him; he ran to his son, threw his arms around him and kissed him.

## To come to one’s SENSES: To begin to think in a correct or sensible way after being foolish or wrong.

– Merriam-Webster Dictionary