

The Rebel, The Resentful, The Runner, and The Restorer.

We Pray All Day - Bldg 500, Oct 29th, 6:30pm

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Heart Crew Homework

For the week of October 18th&19th

MY STORY

1. Have you ever tried to make a deal with God to get something you really wanted? How did it turn out?
2. If Jesus came to your house for dinner tonight, what would you want to talk to Him about, or what question would you ask first?
3. Looking back at your notes from this week's teaching, was there anything that particularly caught your attention, challenged, or confused you?

DIGGING DEEPER

1. The story of the Prodigal Son beautifully captures the heart of our Father. Even when the distance feels too great or the mistakes too many, this story reminds us of a Father who runs toward us with open arms, ready to restore what's been lost. This weekend, we explored four key traits in the story: the Rebel, the Resentful, the Runner, and the Restorer. Take a moment to reflect: which one do you see yourself in? The prodigal who rebelled, or the older brother who resented?

2. Let's look at the story of Hosea, a prophet who heard from God in a deeply personal and unusual way. Through his relationship with Gomer, God painted a vivid picture of His love for Israel, marked by heartbreak and redemption (see Hosea 3:1; 4:1–2). Have you ever wondered where you truly stand in your relationship with God? What does that look or feel like right now?

a. God continually sought Israel's redemption, using the image of "unfaithfulness" to reveal the condition of the human heart, but always with a purpose: restoration. He never leaves us stuck in failure; He runs toward us to restore what's been broken. Read Hosea 14:1–4. In light of His pursuing love, what should our response be as the rebel or the resentful? Where might God be inviting you to stop running and start rebuilding?

b. Repentance is something God invites us to actively participate in, not to earn forgiveness, but to return to relationship. Each day, we're called to bring our burdens to Jesus honestly, not perfectly. We don't need the right words or a cleaned-up version of ourselves. Jesus meets us where we are, running toward both the repentant and the resentful. This week, what's one way you can clear the path for repentance? How can you let Him meet you instead of coming with a prepared speech?

2. In the New Testament, Jesus is again welcomed into a home, this time by two sisters, Mary and Martha. Like the prodigal and his brother, they reveal two contrasting postures toward Him: one busy serving, the other simply sitting at His feet. Read Luke 10:38–42. Have you ever been busy like Martha, doing good things for Jesus, yet expecting blessings because of the work rather than the relationship? Which posture did Jesus commend?

- a. Mary and Martha weren't the only ones at that dinner, and it wasn't their first encounter with Jesus either. Imagine being in that same room with Him. What would you do? Would you find yourself comparing your actions to others, trying to justify your place at the table? Or would you slow down long enough to sit, abide, and truly listen to what Jesus is saying?

TAKING IT HOME

Each of these stories centers on one truth: the power of listening to God. Hosea obeyed when God spoke. Mary sat and listened while Martha stayed busy. The Father's words to the older son still remind us, "You are always with me, and everything I have is yours" (Luke 15:31). You don't have to earn God's love; you already have it. Don't just live under His roof; press deeper into relationship with Him.

This week, take ten minutes each day to pause in silence before God, no agenda, just to be with Him. As you do, look for a moment to celebrate what God is doing in someone else's life. When we learn to listen and to celebrate, our hearts begin to look more like His.