

# HEART <sup>to</sup> HEART

THE HEART OF GOD'S TO OURS

Part 2: Reckless

## Introduction

In the parables of the lost sheep and the lost coin, the lost items were lost through no fault of their own. But when people get lost, sometimes it's the result of our own decisions. Sometimes we wander, drift, or even run away. In his third parable, Jesus sheds light on how God views us when our choices lead us away—and how he responds when we're ready to come home.

## Discussion Questions

1. Describe a time when you got into trouble or did something foolish and were afraid to go back home.
2. Have you or someone you loved ever felt like you were past the point of no return? What was that like?
3. Read Luke 15:11–24. When the younger son had gone past the point of no return, what brought him to his senses?
4. What does the father's response tell us about how God views us when we wander, drift, or even run away? What was the basis of the father's acceptance?
5. In the message, Samer said, "God's unconditional love operates outside the bounds of our behavior. His love could not be unconditional otherwise." Why do we tend to operate as if God's acceptance of us is contingent upon our behavior?
6. Is there an area of your life where you're particularly tempted to believe that God views you through the lens of your behavior? What would change if you were convinced that God's love and acceptance were unconditional even in that area?

## Changing Your Mind

Yet to all who did receive him, to those who believed in his name, he gave the right to become children of God.

—John 1:12