

ZONDERVAN

The Prodigal God Discussion Guide
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S e s s i o n O n e

THE PARABLE

IN PREPARATION

-  If time allows, begin with some form of worship; for example, sing a song or read a psalm aloud.
-  As you begin this series, pray that God would grant you a fresh understanding of the gospel and that you and your group would be enlightened and helped by the parable.
-  Briefly answer the following questions aloud:
What was your reason for coming to this study?
Have you read *The Prodigal God* book?
-  Read Luke 15:1–3, 11–32 aloud (you can find this Scripture on pages 8–9 of this guide), then watch *The Prodigal God Film* (38 minutes). There is room to take notes on the following page.

DVD NOTES

3. How close is a great feast to your idea of heaven?

4. Is there anything you would like the group to pray for you personally or as a result of what you saw on the DVD?

IN CLOSING

-  Pray for each other in light of your answers to question 4.
-  If possible, allow time for the group to have coffee or a meal together, in order to deepen relationships with one another.
-  Over the next five sessions we will be reading *The Prodigal God* book and discussing it together. Before the next session please read the Introduction and Chapter One. As you read, keep track of, underline, or mark (e.g., with a “?” or “!”) anything you would like to discuss, question, or comment on when we next meet. There is room to take notes on the following pages.

NOTES ON THE INTRODUCTION



| NOTES ON CHAPTER ONE |



SESSION ONE NOTES FOR LEADERS

Question 1

Your group may have questions after watching the DVD that will be answered in greater depth when they have read *The Prodigal God* book and worked through the questions in this guide. It is not necessary to answer all the comments and questions in great detail at this point.