Reflective question and practice for Sunday March 19

<u>Question:</u> In your own words, describe how both the younger and older brother were lost. What do you think Jesus desires for you to know today about the Father's love and grace?

<u>Practice</u>: Spend time examining your life by reflecting on how you have been both the younger brother and older brother. Take time and talk with God about these two characters play out in your life. Also, spend some time thinking about how Jesus portrays the Father in this parable. Do you know of someone who has played the role of the father? How did they live out the father's role in this parable?

Readings and questions for the week of March 19

Luke 16:1-18

- (1) What does Jesus instruct us to do with wealth? What do you think He means by this?
- (2) What do you think is Jesus' main point in this reading? How will that point affect your life?

Luke 16:19-17:10

- (1) How might the stories in today's reading be connected to one another?
- (2) What future event is anticipated by "they will not be convinced, even if someone rises from the dead"? Are you convinced by the resurrection of Jesus that what He taught about life and wealth is true?

Luke 17:11-37

- (1) How might you at times be guilty of the sin of the nine cleansed lepers?
- (2) How is the kingdom of God in our midst now? How does affect your life on a daily basis?

(3) What should be our concern about the coming of the Son of Man?

Luke 18:1-17

- (1) What does the parable of the persistent widow teach you about prayer?
- (2) If Jesus returned right now, would you have the faith He would be seeking? Why or why not?
- (3) Which of the two praying men most closely represents your approach to prayer? How does prayer "justify" you before God?