

Sermon Notes – June 15, 2014
“The Father's Lavish Love”
Luke 15:11-32
Pastor Bill Hoffman

Unconditional Love. What is unconditional love? Who in your life has loved you this way, and how do you know? What did their love for you look like?

- Does the younger son in Jesus' story believe his father loves him unconditionally? The older son?
- Do you think people who aren't involved in church believe this about God? How about church regulars? How about you?

How would you respond to someone who said it's dangerous to love someone unconditionally because it might give them license for bad behavior?

The Joy of the Father. Note at least four elements of the father's welcome of the younger in verses 20-24 that strike you as significant.

- Does it bother you that the father says nothing about the younger son's rebellion? That he throws this son a party?
- Note how it is the father who initiates contact with the older son and entreats him to come to the party.

Comparing verses 17-19 with verse 29, how are these two sons alike in what they expect from their father? How are they both wrong?