

One way of shaping Luke 15.1-17.10

PREFACE: 15.1-2:

Now all **the tax collectors and sinners were coming** near to listen to him. And the **Pharisees and the scribes were grumbling** and saying, "This fellow welcomes sinners and eats with them." (recalling 5.30-32)

15.3-10: **Two parables about struggles in the lives of the poor:** lost sheep, lost coin, extravagant celebration

15.11-16.-13: **Two parables about economic/relational struggle and restoration**

16.14-18: **Heart (center) of the matter: can't serve two lords,** God and mammon

16.19-31: **A parable about final consequences:** the time to practice Jubilee is now!

17.1-4: **the call for endless forgiveness** within the community of discipleship

CONCLUSION: 17.5-10:

a life of trust in God is its own reward