**THE PARABLE OF THE TWO SONS**

Matthew 21:28-32

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**INTRODUCTION**

May is the month to celebrate family, something that should be celebrated reverently since the world is diligently destroying the traditional concept of family. Can you imagine what God is thinking? It is only by God’s mercy and compassion that He has delayed sending judgment upon the world. Therefore, we must celebrate God’s order of male and female coming together in marriage to form a family. Children follow this union and bring additional joy to the family. Some are not blessed with children and thus must adopt the children of others as adoptive parents, or by becoming a Bible teacher or working with abandoned children in orphanages, etc. All children are special and need good parenting. Jesus talks about two sons in a parable. Let us examine His teaching.

1. **THE FIRST SON**
2. He was told by his father to **go** and **work**.
3. He was **disrespectful** when he refused to do what his father told him to do.
4. He later **repented** and went to work in his father’s vineyard.

*Being disrespectful on the spur of the moment may not mean a child is disrespectful intentionally. The first son realized what he had done & decided to do as his father told him to do. No doubt, you and I have also said no but later felt ashamed and repented.*

1. **THE SECOND SON**
2. He was told by his father to **go** and **work**.
3. He was **respectful** and said he would do what his father told him to do.
4. He later did not do what he said he would do and proved his lack of **love**.

*Being respectful is more than speaking properly. It involves commitment to do what one says so that love is apparent through action and not just a word easily spoken. This son was not good but evil. How many times have you and I done the same thing?*

1. **THE LESSON TO BE LEARNED**
2. Those who are rebellious can have a change of heart and be **accepted**.
3. Those who appear to be righteous will reveal their inner nature & be **rejected**.
4. Those who are warned about this truth may still **refuse** to **change**.

*The reality is that we are acceptable to God only when we respond to His love and commands with loving obedience. God knows the heart, and we cannot fool Him. As children, we need to respond in faith and loving obedience. Nothing less will do!*

**CONCLUSION**

 This parable is a reminder of what kind of child we should be. Even if we do wrong, we can be forgiven if we respond to God’s loving call to return to Him. Young People, God calls you to come and follow Him. He invites you through His Son, Jesus Christ. It is only as you respond to His loving call with loving obedience that you will be accepted as His child.

*“Jesus is tenderly calling you home, Calling today, calling today.*

*Why from the sunshine of love will you roam Farther and farther away?*

*Calling today, Calling today, Jesus is calling, Is tenderly calling today.”*