



BECOMING WHAT GOD

Intended

MINISTRIES





**WHAT DOES IT MEAN
TO BE LOST?**

Luke 15:1-2, 11-32

Rev. Cathy Stambaugh

BOTTOM LINE

Both the religious and the
irreligious are spiritually lost; but
God freely offers his grace to find
us.

THE SETTING OF THE STORY

Now the tax collectors and sinners were all drawing near to hear him. And the Pharisees and the scribes grumbled, saying, “This man receives sinners and eats with them.”

Luke 15:1-2

ACT 1 SUMMARY

- Challenges the mindset of elder brothers.
- Demonstrates the lavishness of God's grace.

ACT 2 SUMMARY

- Act 1 shows us the freedom of God's grace.
- Act 2 shows us the costliness of that grace.

ELDER BROTHER'S LOSTNESS

- Anger
- Moral superiority
- Fear-based compliance
- Lack of assurance of the Father's love

WHAT WE NEED TO ESCAPE OUR LOSTNESS

- God's initiating love
- Our repentance
- Elder brother's cost

WHAT WE PUT OUR TRUST IN

- Others' approval
- Professional success
- Power
- Influence
- Money

HOW WE CHANGE

“We must feed on the gospel, . . . digesting it and making it part of ourselves. That is how we grow.”

Tim Keller

The Prodigal God

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