The Waiting Father

Jesus often used the idea of an earthly father to teach us about God---our Heavenly Father. Ref: Luke 11:1-2

Jesus understood man's sinful nature. Ref: Luke 11:13

The parable of the Lost Son is set in the context of a loving, forgiving, reconciling Heavenly Father. Ref: Text: Luke 15:11-31

The Lost Son is salvations story!

The lost son is primarily the story of God's love for each and every one of us.

Jesus in the story, used the example of a perfect father, to teach us words we can say to our children that help us build life time relationships.

The first words:

#1 ____ ____ _____

The child needs rules, boundaries, examples, and love. Most children will grow and live happily, assuming basic needs, boundaries, role models, and love are in place.

#2 ___ _____ _____

Many things bond you to your children, but the main adhesive in the bonding process is love.

Communicated love is how the child gets his or her identity, feeling of worth, and how they feel wanted and secure in this world.

A child deprived of love, no matter what else is given is a damaged child. This loss many times carries into adulthood.

This adult/child will never find joy or peace until he or she is born again, and adopted by Father God and healed and sanctified, (filled and refilled) by the Holy Spirit. Our Lord Jesus said: Luke 11:13 NLT

True love should be without interruption

Our ego and our pride can become barriers to love.

Jesus gives us two very real consequences for unforgiveness..

First-Consequence-- You Are Subject To Judgment Ref: Matthew 5:22

Second Consequence-- You Cannot Worship Ref: Matthew 5:23-24

#3. _____ ___ _____

In relationships you need starting over words.

Deal with the issues before it's too late.

In the text it's the father's love that made forgiveness possible, and the son's repentance and change of heart that made it actual.

Jesus told this story for a reason. He was teaching us of how when we come back to God we will hear the words: You Are Forgiven.

#4 __ _____ _____