

## FAMILY MATTERS #7 - HAVEN OF THE FAMILY

LUKE 15:11-24

Friends will fail but not family. Christian homes should be havens in life's storms for all who keep humble and repentant.

### I. WEATHERING TO REST

A. HAVEN - "A shelter; an asylum; a place of safety."

B. The Prodigal Son returned home

1. Remember - he was a SON (picture of the saved)

2. Father waited for him, ran to him, kissed him

C. Why did the Prodigal return? He remembered (vs. 17)

D. There is no rest in storms without Christ MATT. 8:24

1. If He's not worried, we shouldn't be worried

2. Home should be commodious to winter ACTS 27:12

3. Or the prodigal might risk going somewhere else

### II. WEATHERING IN RIGHTEOUSNESS

A. Commodious does not mean compromising! 2 COR. 6:14-18

1. Things that are different are not the same

2. It is written: "Be ye holy; for I am holy

3. Fellowship requires fellows-in-the-ship!

B. Dwelling together = wintering in a haven (vs. 16)

C. Family explains fellowship/relationship (vs. 18)

### III. WEATHERING IN REFRESHMENT

A. Consider trees by the river vs. in the desert PSA. 1:3

1. Children fruitful around the table PSA. 128:3

2. Sons and daughters NOURSISHED PSA. 144:12

B. Exhort and comfort and charge 1 THESS. 2:1-12

1. Paul said they spoke BOLDLY the Gospel (vs. 2)

2. Paul did not DECEIVE or trick (vs. 3)

3. Paul did not PLEASE but gave truth (vs. 4)

4. Paul did not flatter (vs. 5)

5. Paul was gentle as a nurse (vs. 6)

6. Paul considered their souls dear (vs. 8)

7. Paul an example of justice and holiness (vs. 10)

C. Should not the family be the same? (vs. 11)

1. As a father and a nurse - teaching and watching

2. Why? One stated goal - walking worthy of God

CONCLUSION: The Christian home should be a little piece of heaven for the children and a place of rest for the parents.