

## SMALL GROUP QUESTIONS

Welcome Home

“Longing for a Home”

Luke 15:11-32

Week of February 12, 2017

**Central Truth:** The beautiful qualities of a home we long for reflect the kind of relationship God invites us to have with him.

1. Describe the home life you had growing up. Was it mostly positive or negative or mixed? What is the fondest memory of home you have?
2. Read this quote from the sermon and share how it speaks to you.

*What is strange about the concept of home is that, even though we have had an imperfect experience of it, no one gives up on the longing for it. There is an ache for home that lives in all of us—we yearn for a safe place where we can be our true selves and be perfectly loved and accepted.*

3. Read Luke 15:1-3,11-32 (The Parable of the Prodigal Son), then answer the following questions:
  - a. How are the younger and elder brothers different? How are they alike?
  - b. Who do you identify with more, the younger brother or the elder brother? Why?
  - c. How would the attitude of the elder brother make it harder for the younger brother to come home? How can you prevent this from happening in your own life and in your church?
  - d. What is most surprising to you about how the father welcomes home his younger son?
4. Based on the Parable of the Prodigal Son, the 2017 theme of YNCC is “WELCOME HOME.” It communicates the importance of being a safe place where anyone can come as they are and be loved and accepted as they take steps towards Jesus.
  - a. Do you have friends who need this experience of church in order to consider faith again? How can you invite them to take a step towards Jesus?
  - b. How does this kind of church reflect the kind of relationship God invites us to have with him?
5. What do you feel like God is asking you to do in response to the “Welcome Home” theme? What is your next step? How can your Small Group support you and hold you accountable in this?