

**Title:** “Royal Reception”

**Text:** Luke 15:20-24

**Target:** It’s never too late to come back home! The steps to a new beginning require bravery and boldness in accepting fault, but choosing to advance forward...1...Step...at...a...Time..!

**While you are doing this, know that your heavenly Father is:**

**I. The Father Initiates:** *“But while he was still a long way off, his father **saw** him and **felt** compassion and **ran**”* (Vs. 20)

- a. **Saw Him:** Never stopped Looking
- b. **Felt for Him:** Never stopped Loving
- c. **Ran to Him:** Never stopped Leading.

**II. The Father Intercedes:** *“**embraced** him and **kissed** him”* (Vs. 20)

- a. **With Protection:** “Embraced” was to shield. (Duet. 21:18-21)
- b. **With Affection:** “Kissed” was to demonstrate acceptance.

**III. The Father Interrupts:** *And the son said to him, ‘Father, I have sinned against heaven and before you. I am no longer worthy to be called your son. But the father said to his servants* (Vs. 21-22)

- a. **Recognizes Repentance:** ‘Father, I have sinned’ (Vs. 21)
  - i. Invisible Authority: “against heaven”
  - ii. Visible Authority: “before you”

**Key Concept:** The younger son’s language shifted from “Give me” to “Make me”!

- b. **Reveals Restoration:** *“But the father said to his **SERVANTS**”* (Vs. 22)
  - i. **No Preconditions: Love was not withheld until...**
  - ii. **No Probations: Grace was not withheld until...**

**Key Concept:** There is a tremendous implication for both our homes and this Church, which is you don’t work for acceptance in family.

**IV. The Father Imparts:** *Bring quickly the best **robe**, and put it on him, and put a **ring** on his hand, and **shoes** on his feet.* (Vs. 22)

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| a. <b>Robe: Practical:</b> Standing     | <b>Spiritual:</b> Righteousness in Christ |
| b. <b>Ring: Practical:</b> Significance | <b>Spiritual:</b> Riches in Christ        |
| c. <b>Sandals: Practical:</b> Status    | <b>Spiritual:</b> Reward in Christ        |

**V. The Father Invests:** *“Bring quickly...And Bring”* (Vs.22-23)

- a. **In a Feast:** *“And bring the fattened calf and kill it, and let us eat”* (Vs. 23)
- b. **In a Festivity:** *“And celebrate”* (Vs. 23)
- c. **In a Freedom:** *“For this my son was dead, and is alive again; he was lost, and is found.”* (Vs. 24)

**Take Away:** *“Just so, I tell you, there is joy before the angels of God over one sinner who repents.”* **Luke 15:10**