WARM UP | Three boys were bragging about who had the best dad. The first boy says, “My dad scribbles a few words on a piece of paper, calls it a poem, and they give him $100.” The second boy jumps in and says, “That’s nothing. My dad scribbles a few words on a piece of paper, calls it a song, and they give him $1,000.” The third boy grins and says, “Oh, yeah? My dad scribbles a few words on a piece of paper, calls it a sermon, and it takes six men just to collect all the money!”

BACKGROUND | In the famous prodigal son story, both sons struggle with the idea that being a son was a matter of being worthy. The youngest son blew the father’s inheritance and figured he was only fit to be a servant, and the older brother said “Look! All these years I’ve been slaving for you and never disobeyed your orders.” Both were wrong. The element that made him a son was the fact that he had a father. And nothing could change that. Worthiness is not the issue at all. Birth makes us sons of God. Not worth.

QUESTIONS | 1 Why is it dangerous to tie your worth to your performance?

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