

LUKE 15:11-32

*“...And he said unto him, Son,
thou art ever with me, and **all that**
I have is thine.”*

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“No Regrets”

By Kristina Joy Alley



Being a Christian young person is the greatest opportunity in the whole world.

I was raised in a Christian home all my life, and many times I have spoken to people who think that being a Christian is no fun. They think that Christians miss out on all the fun and all the excitement of what life has to offer. For some reason, we think we have to be just a little bit bad, a little bit rebellious, and try everything the world has to offer in order to have a good time. We think that it is okay if we mess up our lives because we have heard of the story of the prodigal son so many times and that God will take us back.

And, yes, that is true. God will take us back no matter what we have done, and He is always there for us when we are ready to come back to Him. But when I was a young teenager, I heard a sermon by Dr. Jack Hyles at Youth Conference in Hammond, Indiana, that changed my life. Dr. Hyles preached a sermon on the prodigal son's brother. When the prodigal son came home, his father did take him back with great rejoicing; but the Bible goes on to say that the father told the prodigal son's brother who had been faithful to him all those years, "All that I have is thine."

God has so many blessings that He wants to give each one of us, and I decided that I wanted all that God had to give me. As a young teenager, I made a decision that I wanted to be just like the prodigal son's brother.

As I look back on my teenage years, I did not miss out on any fun. I did not miss out on any excitement. I love life, and I have always enjoyed everything that I have done. But there were a few things that I did miss out on. I missed out on the pain, the heartache, the tears, the guilt, and the regrets that living for the world has to offer. And most importantly to me, I missed out on breaking my mom and dad's hearts.

I am so thankful that I have a church like Cornerstone Baptist Church of Greater Denver to attend where my pastor, the staff members and my co-workers, and the church members and my friends all support the decision I made as a teenager to serve God.

Someday, I want to be able to look back on my life and say that I am so glad I did; instead of, I wish I had.