

At last he came to his senses and said, 'All my father's hired workers have more than they can eat, and here I am, about to starve! I will get up and go to my father and say, "Father, I have sinned against God and against you. I am no longer fit to be called your son; treat me as one of your hired workers."' So he got up and started back to his father.

He was still a long way from home when his father saw him; his heart was filled with pity and he ran, threw his arms around his son, and kissed him. 'Father,' the son said, 'I have sinned against God and against you. I am no longer fit to be called your son.' But the father called his servant: 'Hurry!' he said, 'Bring the best robe and put it on him. Put a ring on his finger and shoes on his feet. Then go get the prized calf and kill it, and let us celebrate with a feast! Because this son of mine was dead, but now he is alive; he was lost, but now he has been found.' And so the feasting began."

Perhaps you feel like that son today. You have wandered away from the Father's house. Just remember, He is waiting and watching to welcome you home. If you want love, understanding, and forgiveness, you can find it by returning to Him!

Would you like to express your response to His love by checking one or more of the boxes below?

- I want to thank God for His love to me. ☐
 I want His love to touch and change me. ☐
 I need to feel God's love in my life today. ☐

COMMENTS:

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Steps to Eternal Life Someone Loves You / 1

Name _____

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*Always pray before opening your Bible.
Find the text in your Bible and write the answer.*

Startled motorists watched the car on the San Francisco-Oakland Bay Bridge pull to the outside lane and stop. Before the amazed on-lookers, the driver's door flew open, and a young man jumped out and ran to the railing. He climbed to the top and stood there for just a moment looking down, then he jumped to his death in the water below.

Those who had witnessed the drama were stunned. It was too late to help. As the police examined the car for the identity of the man, they discovered a number of letters that told his story. The young man, deeply in debt, had lost his wife and family. It seemed to him that no one cared whether he lived or died. No one loved him. What did he have to live for? Why not end it all?

Many people in the world today feel just like that young man on the bridge. In this tense, trouble-filled age they run out of money, friends, and time. Troubles, worry, and fear seem to crush out all hope. They feel they have no place to turn. No one loves, understands, or cares.

But there is One who cares. One who understands and loves, regardless of the mistakes that have been made. This Friend is ever ready to help if only we will let Him. That Friend is God.

I used to think He was a severe Judge who was just waiting for me to make a mistake so that He could punish me; but as I have studied the Book that reveals His true character, I have found that He is just the opposite. He is a loving, kind, forgiving Friend who is willing to forgive me and help me if only I will let Him.

Let's take a few minutes to learn about our most faithful Friend.