**sElf on a Shelf:**

**Part 2 – “Self-Pity”**

**Philippians 2:21** - For everyone looks out for his own interests, not those of Jesus Christ.

**Luke 15:25-32** - “Meanwhile, the older son was in the fields working. When he returned home, he heard music and dancing in the house, **26**and he asked one of the servants what was going on. **27**‘Your brother is back,’ he was told, ‘and your father has killed the fattened calf. We are celebrating because of his safe return.’ **28**“The older brother was angry and wouldn’t go in. His father came out and begged him, **29**but he replied, ‘All these years I’ve slaved for you and never once refused to do a single thing you told me to. And in all that time you never gave me even one young goat for a feast with my friends. **30**Yet when this son of yours comes back after squandering your money on prostitutes, you celebrate by killing the fattened calf!’ **31**“His father said to him, ‘Look, dear son, you have always stayed by me, and everything I have is yours. **32**We had to celebrate this happy day. For your brother was dead and has come back to life! He was lost, but now he is found!’”

**1. SELF-PITY’S DESTRUCTION (v. 28-30)**

**A. Self-pity destroys our HAPPINESS**

**B. Self-pity destroys our HELPFULNESS**

**C. Self-pity destroys HARMONY**

**2. SELF-PITY’S DISTORTION (v. 29)**

**A. Self-pity distorts VISION**

**Proverbs 29:23** - One's pride will bring him low…(ESV)

**Proverbs 6:16-17** - There are six things the Lord hates— no, seven things he detests:  
**17**haughty eyes…

**James 4:6** - God opposes the proud but gives grace to the humble.

**B. Self-pity distorts VALUE**

**Proverbs 27:7** – The soul that is full loathes honey… (KJV)

**C. Self-pity distorts VIRTUE**

**Colossians 3:23** - Work willingly at whatever you do, as though you were working for the Lord rather than for people.

**3. SELF-PITY’S DEMISE (v. 31-32)**

**A. Recognize your Father’s PRESENCE**

**Psalm 16:11** - …In Your presence *is* fullness of joy; at Your right hand *are* pleasures forevermore.

**Psalm 27:4** - One thing I have desired of the Lord, that will I seek: That I may dwell in the house of the Lord all the days of my life, to behold the beauty of the Lord, and to inquire in His temple.

**B. Recognize your Father’s PRESENTS**

**James 1:17** - Whatever is good and perfect is a gift coming down to us from God our Father…

**Philippians 4:19** - …God who takes care of me will supply all your needs from his glorious riches, which have been given to us in Christ Jesus.

**2 Peter 1:3** - By his divine power, God has given us everything we need for living a godly life. We have received all of this by coming to know him, the one who called us to himself by means of his marvelous glory and excellence.

**C. Recognize your Father’s PURPOSE**

**Luke 19:10** - …For the Son of Mancame to seek and save those who are lost.

**Luke 2:49** - …Did you not know that I must be about My Father’s business?

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