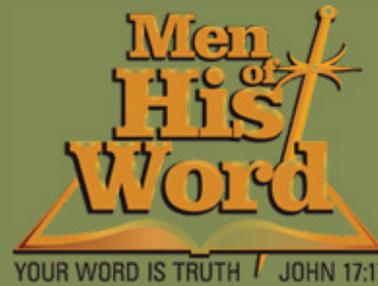




4

Part 4 - Ministering to the prodigal's family

- **DISCUSS:** Comment on the following “Don’t’s” in ministering to a prodigal’s family and give examples of each
 - Ask painful questions
 - Make glib statements
- **DISCUSS:** Comment on the following “Do’s” in ministering to a prodigal’s family and give examples of each
 - Offer prayers
 - Express empathy
 - Understand that people deal with these things differently
 - Turn the situation over to the Lord
 - Remain confident in our prodigal God.
- **APPLY:** How might you apply Romans 8:28 in ministering to a prodigal or a prodigal’s family.
- **NOTES:**



Video Discussion Guide
www.menofhisword.org

5

Ministering to the prodigal



Pastor Becker, from the standpoint of personal experience, addresses the painful situation of a child or loved one who has “abandoned” us and provides concrete advice in how to minister to both the prodigal and his or her family.

Pastor Bruce Becker

2015 Conference Topic
January 31, 2015



1

Part 1 - Background

- **QUEUE UP:** “Ministering to the prodigal” under Downloads at <http://www.menofhisword.org> , and play Part 1

- **DEFINITIONS:**

What is the meaning of the word “prodigal”?

What does each type of “abandonment” mean or refer to?

- **DISCUSS:** How does the parable of the two lost sons recorded in Luke 15:11-32 serve as an essential background for this topic?

- **NOTES:**



2

Part 2 - Bruce’s story

- **DISCUSS:** Why is it so valuable to hear someone relate such a painful story?
- **DISCUSS:** Can you think of Scriptural parallel’s to Bruce’s story?
- **APPLY:** Are there any here who would like to share their story?

- **NOTES:**



3

Part 3 - Ministering to the prodigal

- **DISCUSS:** Why is prayer such a powerful tool in our ministering to the prodigal?
- **DISCUSS:** Comment on the importance of each of these points:
 - Show unconditional love
 - Keep the door open
 - Address the issues
 - Don’t beat yourself up or blame yourself
 - Look for a support group

- **NOTES:**