

### Getting Started

Tell a story about a relationship you have lost. What happened? Is there anything you could have done differently to salvage the relationship?

Tell a story about a time that you had a chance to share your faith and didn't. What stopped you? What were the long-term consequences?

### Into the Bible

Read Luke 15:11-32. What reasons does the father have to resent the younger son?

What reasons does the older brother have to resent his younger sibling?

What reasons does the father have to resent his older son?

What do you suppose the father's reaction might have been to the older son's obstinance?

Have you ever been in the father's position, where you could see your way clear to forgiving someone but were faced with someone who just couldn't? How did you approach it?

Read 1 Corinthians 13:4-7 and 1 John 4:8, 19. What help do these verses give as you struggle to forgive those who have hurt you?

Read the following verses. What do they have to say about the importance of our Christian witness and how we conduct it.

Matthew 28:18-20—

Acts 4:12—

1 Peter 3:15—

2 Peter 3:9—

### Digging Deeper

In your prayer time, share and pray about those with home you are alienated, and share and pray for those in your circles that need to know their Savior.