

11 And he said, “There was a man who had two sons. 12 And the younger of them said to his father, ‘Father, give me the share of property that is coming to me.’ And he divided his property between them.

13 Not many days later, the younger son gathered all he had and took a journey into a far country, and there he squandered his property in reckless living.

14 And when he had spent everything, a severe famine arose in that country, and he began to be in need. 15 So he went and hired himself out to one of the citizens of that country, who sent him into his fields to feed pigs.

16 And he was longing to be fed with the pods that the pigs ate, and no one gave him anything.

17 “But when he came to himself, he said, ‘How many of my father's hired servants have more than enough bread, but I perish here with hunger!’

18 I will arise and go to my father,
and I will say to him, “Father, I have
sinned against heaven and before
you. 19 I am no longer worthy to be
called your son. Treat me as one of
your hired servants.””

20 And he arose and came to his father. But while he was still a long way off, his father saw him and felt compassion, and ran and embraced him and kissed him.

21 And the son said to him, 'Father, I have sinned against heaven and before you. I am no longer worthy to be called your son.'

22 But the father said to his servants,
'Bring quickly the best robe, and put
it on him, and put a ring on his hand,
and shoes on his feet. 23 And bring
the fattened calf and kill it, and let us
eat and celebrate.

24 For this my son was dead, and is
alive again; he was lost, and is found.'
And they began to celebrate.

25 “Now his older son was in the field, and as he came and drew near to the house, he heard music and dancing. 26 And he called one of the servants and asked what these things meant.

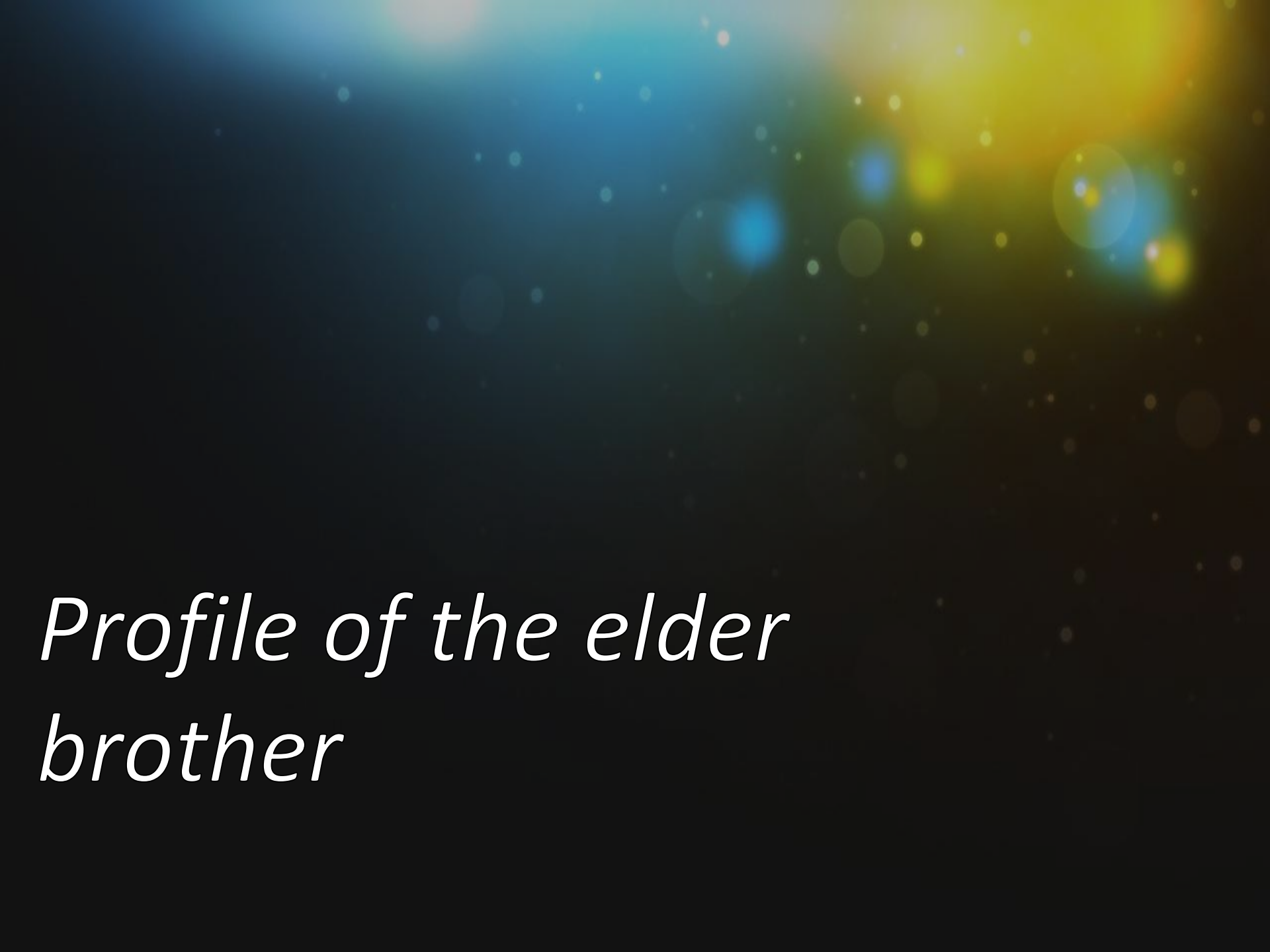
27 And he said to him, 'Your brother has come, and your father has killed the fattened calf, because he has received him back safe and sound.'

28 But he was angry and refused to go in. His father came out and entreated him, 29 but he answered his father,

'Look, these many years I have served you, and I never disobeyed your command, yet you never gave me a young goat, that I might celebrate with my friends.

30 But when this son of yours came,
who has devoured your property
with prostitutes, you killed the
fattened calf for him!””

31 And he said to him, 'Son, you are always with me, and all that is mine is yours. 32 It was fitting to celebrate and be glad, for this your brother was dead, and is alive; he was lost, and is found.'"



*Profile of the elder
brother*

1) Resentment

- “Look...” (v. 29)

1) Resentment

2) Joyless compliance

- “these many years I have served you” (v. 29)

1) Resentment

2) Joyless compliance

3) Entitlement

- “yet you never gave *me* a young goat...” (v. 29)

1) Resentment

2) Joyless compliance

3) Entitlement

4) Moral superiority

- “I never disobeyed...[unlike him]...who has devoured your money with prostitutes...” (v. 29-30)

- 1) Resentment
- 2) Entitlement
- 3) Moral superiority
- 4) Joyless compliance
- 5) Lack of assurance in the Father's love

*Elder brothers don't
need to be
corrected...they need
to be converted.*

*Profile of the younger
brother*

1) Self-reliance

- “...give me the share of the property...” (v. 12)

1) Self-reliance

2) Rock bottom

- “...he was longing to be fed with the pods the pigs ate...” (v. 16)

1) Self-reliance

2) Rock bottom

3) Recognition

- “But when he came to himself...”
(v. 17)



Profile of the Father

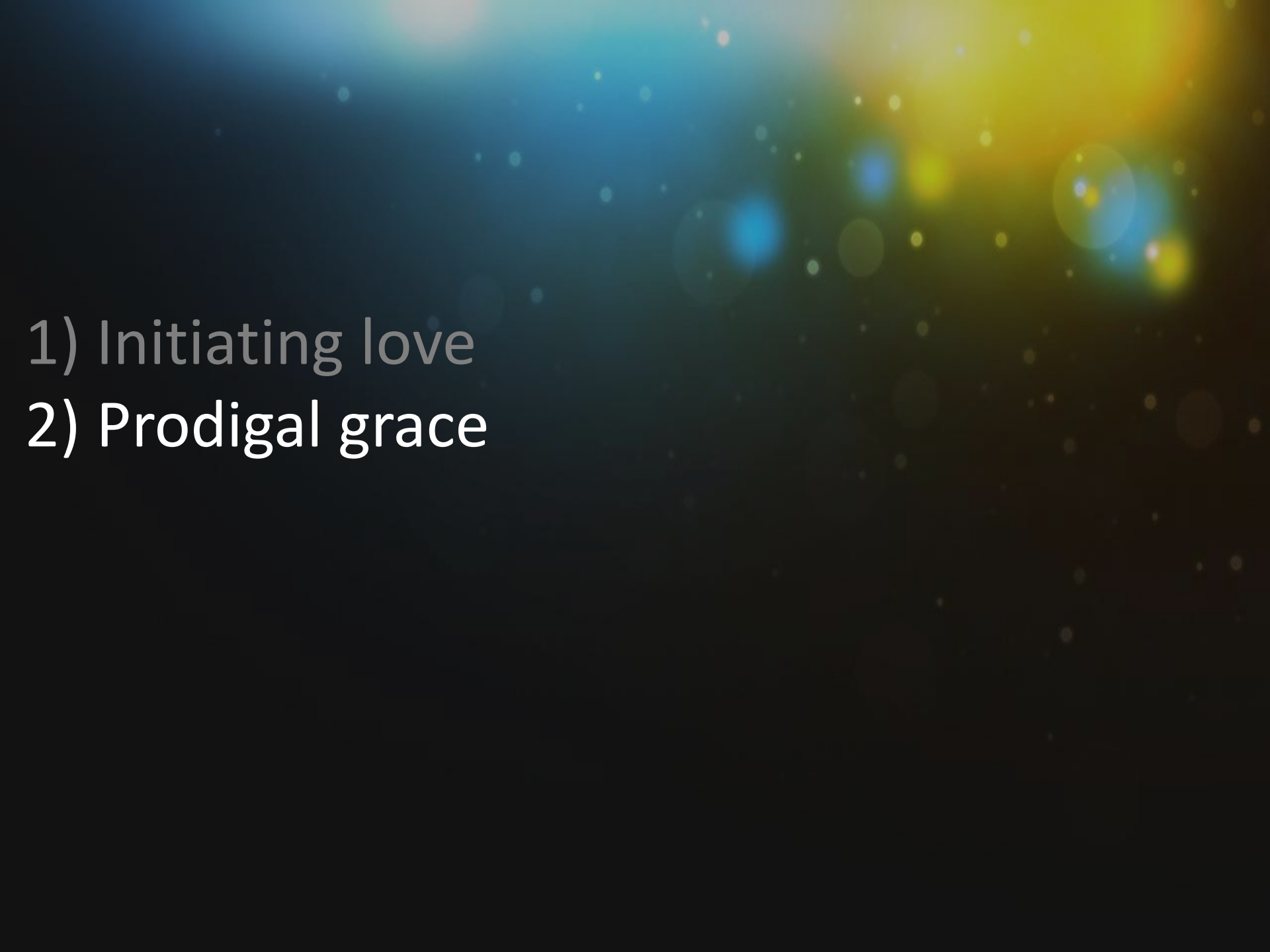
1) Initiating love

1) Initiating love

- For the younger brother: “...his father...ran...” (v. 20)

1) Initiating love

- For the younger brother: “...his father...ran...” (v. 20)
- For the elder brother: “His father came out and entreated him...” (v. 28)

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- 1) Initiating love
 - 2) Prodigal grace

Prodigal: spending money or resources freely and recklessly; wastefully extravagant.

1) Initiating love

2) Prodigal grace

- For the younger brother: A ring (authority), sandals (freedom and wealth), a robe (royalty) (v. 22)

1) Initiating love

2) Prodigal grace

- For the younger brother: A ring (authority), sandals (freedom and wealth), a robe (royalty) (v. 22)
- For the elder brother: “All that is mine is yours...” (v. 31)

*Profile of the perfect
Elder Brother...*

*When you and I say
“yes” to Jesus, the
Father welcomes us
home.*