Praying for Prodigals

Luke 15:11-32

What is a Prodigal?
A prodigal is someone who was a born-again Christian … and served God, but walked away from Him.

Strategies for Prayer:

Approach the Father in that positional place of covenant that the prodigal has with Him.
Remind the Lord that the prodigal is one of His children, and that He is the Father of the Lost. Ask the Lord to go rescue him/her as a shepherd rescues a lamb that strays from the flock.

Pray for supernatural love.
Pray for a love that would be open and warm to the prodigal even when they are still in sin. Love does not mean condoning their actions, however. Pray from the position of love, and not the position of judgment and anger.

Pray for the mercy and grace to let go of the prodigal.
The prodigal's father let the son go. He didn't lay a religious guilt trip or bash with the Bible, but let the prodigal go. Pray for people not to lay judgment on the prodigals. Pray for God's mercy and grace to keep our mouths *closed* and our hearts *open* with love and compassion.

Pray for grace and endurance to pray for the prodigal.
It can take years to see the fruit of intercession for the prodigal.

Pray for famine.
Pray that whatever or whoever the prodigal is placing their trust in, outside of Jesus or that which is unbiblical, would dry up. Pray for disillusionment towards the very things that draws them and holds them captive. Pray that what once brought them pleasure would be dry, barren, and undesirable to them. Pray that the novelty will wear off.

Pray for holy hunger or holy homesickness.
"Oh I remember what it was like to be in fellowship with God, the sweetness of our relationship." Pray that they would long for the cleansing relationship they once had with the Father.

Pray he/she would come to himself/herself.
Pray he/she would realize something is wrong. Pray for his/her eyes to be open to the truth of his/her situation, and pray against the delusion that the enemy would try to bring him/her.

Pray for gifts of repentance.
"I will arise and go to my Father." Repentance is a gift. It brings life and freedom. Repentance is breakthrough and deliverance.

Pray that the prodigal will have the ability to receive the love and forgiveness of God.
Pray that the prodigal would be able to receive the Father's love and forgiveness. Some of the prodigals may have lived very immoral lives and they can't imagine the Father ever wanting them back. They feel they have crossed the line of complete acceptance and that the Lord would not be able to bless them again. Pray that the prodigal is restored in Christ.

Pray that the Lord will pour out His riches when the prodigal returns.
Ask the Lord to pour on him/her blessings of every kind. Pray that the Lord would lavish His love on the prodigal. Pray that when he/she returns that the prodigal will receive blessings upon blessings … spiritually, emotionally, physically, and financially.

Pray for the elder son.
The Church (the Elder brother) will need the Lord to prepare their hearts to receive the prodigals back. Pray that when the prodigals come home, judgmental attitudes toward them would be gone. Pray against jealousy and envy as God's blessings pour on the prodigal. Pray for grace that when the prodigals are blessed that those in the Church would not hold envy, but feel excited. Pray for spiritual and natural blessings upon them, and that they would lead many to the Lord. God does not show partiality. If the blessings come to the prodigal, it can come to the other children too!

Pray for those raised in Church.
Pray that they will have the grace to accept those who are not quite so polished. Pray that the prodigals who have literally lived on the streets would be loved, even with their momentarily bad manners, rough edges, and other poor attributes until they come into a total wholeness in Christ.