**Psalm 32**

**Of David. A *maskil.*[[a](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=psalm+32&version=NIV" \l "fen-NIV-14357a" \o "See footnote a)]**

**1**Blessed is the one
    whose transgressions are forgiven,
    whose sins are covered.
**2**Blessed is the one
    whose sin the Lord does not count against them
    and in whose spirit is no deceit.

**3**When I kept silent,
    my bones wasted away
    through my groaning all day long.
**4**For day and night
    your hand was heavy on me;
my strength was sapped
    as in the heat of summer.[[b](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=psalm+32&version=NIV#fen-NIV-14360b)]

**5**Then I acknowledged my sin to you
    and did not cover up my iniquity.
I said, “I will confess
    my transgressions to the Lord.”
And you forgave
    the guilt of my sin.

**6**Therefore let all the faithful pray to you
    while you may be found;
surely the rising of the mighty waters
    will not reach them.
**7**You are my hiding place;
    you will protect me from trouble
    and surround me with songs of deliverance.

**8**I will instruct you and teach you in the way you should go;
    I will counsel you with my loving eye on you.

**9**Do not be like the horse or the mule,
    which have no understanding
but must be controlled by bit and bridle
    or they will not come to you.
**10**Many are the woes of the wicked,
    but the Lord’s unfailing love
    surrounds the one who trusts in him.

**11**Rejoice in the Lord and be glad, you righteous;
    sing, all you who are upright in heart!

**Old Testament Reading - Isaiah 12:1-6**

**Songs of Praise**

**12**In that day you will say:

“I will praise you, Lord.
    Although you were angry with me,
your anger has turned away
    and you have comforted me.
**2**Surely God is my salvation;
    I will trust and not be afraid.
The Lord, the Lord himself, is my strength and my defense[[a](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=isaiah+12&version=NIV#fen-NIV-17903a)];
    he has become my salvation.”
**3**With joy you will draw water
    from the wells of salvation.

**4**In that day you will say:

“Give praise to the Lord, proclaim his name;
    make known among the nations what he has done,
    and proclaim that his name is exalted.
**5**Sing to the Lord, for he has done glorious things;
    let this be known to all the world.
**6**Shout aloud and sing for joy, people of Zion,
    for great is the Holy One of Israel among you.”

**Epistle Reading - 2 Corinthians 5:16-21**

**16**So from now on we regard no one from a worldly point of view. Though we once regarded Christ in this way, we do so no longer. **17**Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, the new creation has come:[[a](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=2+Corinthians+5&version=NIV#fen-NIV-28895a)] The old has gone, the new is here! **18**All this is from God, who reconciled us to himself through Christ and gave us the ministry of reconciliation: **19**that God was reconciling the world to himself in Christ, not counting people’s sins against them. And he has committed to us the message of reconciliation. **20**We are therefore Christ’s ambassadors, as though God were making his appeal through us. We implore you on Christ’s behalf: Be reconciled to God. **21**God made him who had no sin to be sin[[b](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=2+Corinthians+5&version=NIV#fen-NIV-28899b)] for us, so that in him we might become the righteousness of God.

**Gospel Reading - Luke 15:1-3 & 11-32**

**The Parable of the Lost Son**

**15**Now the tax collectors and sinners were all gathering around to hear Jesus. **2**But the Pharisees and the teachers of the law muttered, “This man welcomes sinners and eats with them.”

**3**Then Jesus told them this parable: … **11**Jesus continued: “There was a man who had two sons. **12**The younger one said to his father, ‘Father, give me my share of the estate.’ So he divided his property between them.

**13**“Not long after that, the younger son got together all he had, set off for a distant country and there squandered his wealth in wild living. **14**After he had spent everything, there was a severe famine in that whole country, and he began to be in need. **15**So he went and hired himself out to a citizen of that country, who sent him to his fields to feed pigs. **16**He longed to fill his stomach with the pods that the pigs were eating, but no one gave him anything.

**17**“When he came to his senses, he said, ‘How many of my father’s hired servants have food to spare, and here I am starving to death! **18**I will set out and go back to my father and say to him: Father, I have sinned against heaven and against you. **19**I am no longer worthy to be called your son; make me like one of your hired servants.’ **20**So he got up and went to his father.

“But while he was still a long way off, his father saw him and was filled with compassion for him; he ran to his son, threw his arms around him and kissed him.

**21**“The son said to him, ‘Father, I have sinned against heaven and against you. I am no longer worthy to be called your son.’

**22**“But the father said to his servants, ‘Quick! Bring the best robe and put it on him. Put a ring on his finger and sandals on his feet. **23**Bring the fattened calf and kill it. Let’s have a feast and celebrate. **24**For this son of mine was dead and is alive again; he was lost and is found.’ So they began to celebrate.

**25**“Meanwhile, the older son was in the field. When he came near the house, he heard music and dancing. **26**So he called one of the servants and asked him what was going on. **27**‘Your brother has come,’ he replied, ‘and your father has killed the fattened calf because he has him back safe and sound.’

**28**“The older brother became angry and refused to go in. So his father went out and pleaded with him. **29**But he answered his father, ‘Look! All these years I’ve been slaving for you and never disobeyed your orders. Yet you never gave me even a young goat so I could celebrate with my friends. **30**But when this son of yours who has squandered your property with prostitutes comes home, you kill the fattened calf for him!’

**31**“‘My son,’ the father said, ‘you are always with me, and everything I have is yours. **32**But we had to celebrate and be glad, because this brother of yours was dead and is alive again; he was lost and is found.’”