

What is the Good News?

The Prodigal 'West' is Returning
Home

The Water Diviner Movie | Official Clip | Water Divining



https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=QG5Z1z_HUMk

The Parable of the Lost Son

Jesus continued: "There was a man who had two sons. The younger one said to his father, 'Father, give me my share of the estate.' So, he divided his property between them.

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. After he had spent everything, there was a severe famine in that whole country, and he began to be in need. So, he went and hired himself out to a citizen of that country, who sent him to his fields to feed pigs. He longed to fill his stomach with the pods that the pigs were eating, but no one gave him anything.

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!

I will set out and go back to my father and say to him:

Father, I have sinned against heaven and against you.

I am no longer worthy to be called your son;

make me like one of your hired servants.'

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.

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

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. Bring the fattened calf and kill it. Let's have a feast and celebrate. For this son of mine was dead and is alive again; he was lost and is found.' So, they began to celebrate.

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

The older brother became angry and refused to go in. So, his father went out and pleaded with him. 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. But when this son of yours who has squandered your property with prostitutes comes home, you kill the fattened calf for him!'

'My son,' the father said, 'you are always with me, and everything I have is yours. 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.'"

larrysangar.org co-founder Wikipedia

How a Skeptical Philosopher Becomes a Christian

February 5, 2025

It is finally time for me to confess and explain, fully and publicly, that I am a Christian. Followers of this blog have probably guessed this, but it is past time to share my testimony properly. I am called to "Go ye into all the world, and preach the gospel to every creature."¹ One of the most effective ways to do so is to tell your conversion story. So, here is mine.

Dazed and Discoursed: Why are so many young people looking for God?

In this week's episode, we're joined by editorial director Ted Stansfield to unpack what's drawing young adults to faith and spirituality, the reasons behind the striking gender divide and more

Life & Culture May 06, 2025



The Spectator: Church attendance in London is higher than it was 40 years ago

The Times: Gen Z is now half as likely to be an atheist as their parents

The Economist: after years of steady decline - the Christian population in US has levelled off, and the shift in part is by young people 'seeking solace in religion again.'

CBN: France has experienced a 31 per cent spike in adult baptisms

12,000 French baptisms Easter 2024
up 45 per cent in 2025 of which 36 per cent 18-25 year olds

New York Times: In Finland in the last 8 years, 15-29 year old men baptised has doubled from 33 per cent to 66 per cent into church of finland

Barna Group: the US 77 per cent 2004-2011, down to 2019-2021 54 percent, rising year on year to 66 per cent Christ is still important, including age range - gen Z and millenials

Bible Society: 4 per cent of 18-24 year olds attended church at least monthly 2018 rose to 16 per cent, men 4 to 21 per cent, women 3-12 per cent; Over 2 million more people attending church (Roman Catholicism and Pentecostalism) than there were 6 years ago; almost half of young black people in UK 18-34 go to church monthly; Bible sales up 87 per cent

In Australia 2026-2021 785,000 people became Christians, 'to feel a spiritual connection or feel a divine presence.'

McKindle survey: 75 per cent of millenials in Australia 'I am a Christian' 30 per cent (34 per cent Gen Z) said they would go to church if invited

YouGov survey: adult British people who believe in God has overtaken atheists 18-24 year olds starting to uptick in 2022

Dazed and discorsed podcast: 2019 22 per cent of 18 - 24 year olds said they believed in God; by early 2025 that number doubled to 45 per cent; Pew Research A similar trend in the US 46 per cent of Gen Z identify as Christian

Grimes

Russell Brand

Andrew Huberman

Tom Holland

Aayan Hirsi Ali

Nala Ray

Joe Rogan with Wesley Huff

Nick Cave

Larry Sanger

Niall Ferguson: 'I have lost my faith in atheism'

The Sea of Faith

Was once, too, at the full, and round earth's
shore

Lay like the folds of a bright girdle furled.

But now I only hear

Its melancholy, long, withdrawing roar,

Retreating, to the breath

Of the night-wind, down the vast edges drear

And naked shingles of the world.

Matthew Arnold Dover Beach

Is it political?

Is it cultural?

Is it spiritual?

YES!

To the hungry even the bitter tastes sweet. Proverbs 27.7

Political /Cultural:

Alliance of Responsible Citizens



The 'prodigal' returns to the Father for what he can get from him, rather than for him

And the Father still runs to him, welcomes him with open arms, and throws a party

Spiritual:

There is a renewed hunger for
God

The Workers Are Few / The Sending of the Twelve

Jesus went through all the towns and villages, teaching in their synagogues, proclaiming the good news of the kingdom and healing every disease and sickness. When he saw the crowds, he had compassion on them, because they were harassed and helpless, like sheep without a shepherd. Then he said to his disciples, "The harvest is plentiful, but the workers are few. Ask the Lord of the harvest, therefore, to send out workers into his harvest field." Matthew 9

Jesus called his twelve disciples to him and gave them authority to drive out impure spirits and to heal every disease and sickness.
Matthew 10

Jesus is Lord

Pray in unity for workers

Be ready to be sent