

# The Two Sons

*Matthew 21:28-32*

## The Parable

The context: The chief priest and elders were questioning Jesus.

Jesus replied with a question of his own and this parable.

The parable: Two sons were told by their father to work  
One says he will work but never goes  
One refuses to work but later goes  
Which one obeyed?

## Application:

Primary application:

The hypocritical son represents the Jews who claimed religion but rejected the Messiah.

The repentant son represents those who turn from their sins to obey God.

Present day applications

Those who abide in a denomination vs. Those who obey the simple truth. Matthew 15:8-9, Galatians 1:6-10, Jeremiah 10:23

Those who "go" to church vs. Those who "are" the church, Luke 10:25-37, 2 Timothy 4:10

Those who volunteer but do not work vs. those who help out at every opportunity, Acts 6 (deacons chosen) Apostles (position vs. service)

## Lessons:

Each of us has an individual responsibility to God  
2 Corinthians 5:10, Galatians 6:5

God will never force us to obey him  
Matthew 11:28-30, Revelation 22:17

All people today have the same directive from God  
Acts 17:30, Acts 2:38

Each one of us today should work in the vineyard  
1 Corinthians 3:9, Matthew 20:1-16