

Retreat - The Prodigal Son

Via Zoom

Retreat leaders

Sue & Chris Monckton-Rickett

Date

Wednesday 29 March 2023, 10am - 4.15pm; 5.25 CPD hours

Cost

ACC members: £15; non-members: £20

Booking

Please click [here](#) to book for the retreat.

About the retreat

“God is looking into the distance for me, trying to find me, and longing to bring me home” - Henri Nouwen

“The Parable of the Prodigal Son” is one of the most familiar and well-loved of all of Christ’s parables. It has been called “the greatest short story in the world”. In the Eastern Church, however, it is known as the “The Parable of the Loving Father” and by looking at it from this perspective we can concentrate not so much on the *depth* of the *lostness* of the sons, but experience the *depth* of the *love* of the father.

We will draw in part upon Henri Nouwen’s book “The Return of the Prodigal Son” and his writings about his fascination with Rembrandt’s painting of the same name to help us explore the various aspects of the parable - homecoming, forgiveness, affirmation, and reconciliation and how the love of Father (God) transforms us into His likeness.

The day will include some led teaching, Biblical meditations, music, relaxation, and reflective exercises. In each session there will also be time for private reflection perhaps using meditative exercises that will be provided silence, reading or even just resting.

This is about time for you, a time for God to run to meet you, to be refreshed and receive so choose what you do and perhaps try something new.

Just bring yourself, that is all you need.

Learning outcome

To spend time reflecting, relaxing and being with ourselves and God.

Retreat leaders bio



Sue and Chris lead WINGS (Wholeness In God's Son), an organisation, which seeks to bring wholeness to the lives of individuals, families and communities, through counselling, prayer ministry, retreat leading and training.

They are both ACC Registered Accredited Counsellors with over 25 years of counselling experience and experienced trainers for both counselling and pastoral care and speakers at events such as Spring Harvest.

An important part of their work has been with people in Christian ministry and those in caring professions, including leading many retreats.

Timetable

9:45 - 10:00	Zoom open and informal welcome
10:00 - 12:45	<p>Three separate sessions, each with some teaching, led reflection and personal reflection time:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Introduction to the theme: "The Return of the Prodigal Son" painting; reflections on the whole parable; mediation on the parable • Reflecting on the parable as the "Older Son" • Reflecting on the parable as the "Younger Son"
12:45 - 13:15	Closing morning reflection
13:15 - 14:15	Lunch
14:15 - 15:45	Reflecting on the parable as the "Father"
15:45 - 16:15	Closing reflection

Please note there are no set breaks, but within the personal reflection time you are of course free to get refreshments, etc.