

*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."*

**Luke 15:25-27**

*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.”*

**Luke 15:25-27**

*“But when this son of yours who has squandered your property with prostitutes comes home, you kill the fattened calf for him!”*

**Luke 15:25-27**

# **Signs of Toxic Faith**

**Sign #1:  
A Preoccupation with Rule-keeping  
and Performance**



# Signs of Toxic Faith

## Sign #1: A Preoccupation with Rule-keeping and Performance

*...All these years I've been slaving  
for you and never  
disobeyed your orders...*

**Luke 15:29**

# **Signs of Toxic Faith**

## **Sign #1:**

**A Preoccupation with Rule-keeping  
and Performance**

## **Antidote:**

**Focus on loving God  
rather than on keeping rules**



*...teaches us to say “No” to ungodliness  
and worldly passions and to live  
self-controlled, upright and godly lives  
in this present age...*

**Titus 2:12**



# **Signs of Toxic Faith**

## **Sign #2: A Self-righteous Attitude**






# **Signs of Toxic Faith**

## **Sign #2: A Self-righteous Attitude**

**Antidote:  
Remind yourself regularly  
of where you'd be  
without God's grace**



# **Signs of Toxic Faith**

**Sign #3:  
A Judgmental and Condemning  
spirit towards others.**



# **Signs of Toxic Faith**

## **Sign #3:**

**A Judgmental and Condemning  
spirit towards others.**

## **Antidote:**

**Balance the truth with grace**



*...Mercy triumphs over judgment.*

**James 2:13**



*“Brothers and sisters,  
if someone is caught in a sin,  
you who are spiritual  
should restore him gently.*

*But watch yourself,  
or you also may be tempted.”*

**Galatians 6:1**



# **Signs of Toxic Faith**

## **Sign #4:**

**A Joyless, Somber form of Religion**



# **Signs of Toxic Faith**

## **Sign #4:**

**A Joyless, Somber form of Religion**

## **Antidote:**

**Cultivate a spirit of celebration  
for God's grace**



*...we had to celebrate and be glad,  
because this brother of yours was dead  
and is alive again; he was lost  
and is found.*

**Luke 15:32**

