

Meanwhile, the older son was in the fields working. When he returned home, he heard music and dancing in the house, and he asked one of the servants what was going on. "Your brother is back," he was told, "and your father has killed the fattened calf. We are celebrating because of his safe return." The older brother was angry and wouldn't go in.

His father came out and begged him, but he replied, "All these years I've slaved for you and never once refused to do a single thing you told me to. And in all that time you never gave me even one young goat for a feast with my friends. Yet when this son of yours comes back after squandering your money on prostitutes, you celebrate by killing the fattened calf!"

His father said to him, "Look, dear son, you have always stayed by me, and everything I have is yours. We had to celebrate this happy day. For your brother was dead and has come back to life! He was lost, but now he is found!" **Luke 15:25-32 (NLT)**

How to recognize an older brother spirit

1. HE IS _____

The older brother was angry and wouldn't go in.

2. HE FEELS _____

Yet when this son of yours comes back after squandering your money on prostitutes, you celebrate by killing the fattened calf!

3. HE HAS JOYLESS, FEAR BASED _____

All these years I've slaved for you and never once refused to do a single thing you told me to.

4. HE LACKS _____ OF THE FATHERS LOVE

And in all that time you never gave me even one young goat for a feast with my friends.

God is coming to save you. And when he comes, he will open the eyes of the blind and unplug the ears of the deaf. The lame will leap like a deer, and those who cannot speak will sing for joy! Springs will gush forth in the wilderness, and streams will water the wasteland. Those who have been ransomed by the Lord will return. They will enter Jerusalem singing, crowned with everlasting joy. Sorrow and mourning will disappear, and they will be filled with joy and gladness. **Isaiah 35:4-6, 10 (NLT)**