15:1-2 – Jesus is spending time with and ministering to tax collectors and sinners. This causes the Pharisees and scribes to ___________________________. Why?

15:3-32 – Because the religious leaders obviously do not see any benefit in Jesus spending time with the sinners, Jesus begins teaching a series of ___________________________________.

The purpose of parables:
1. A parable is designed to teach a ________________________________ ;
2. A parable is a story that could be true but is not necessarily ______________________ ;
3. A parable is designed to reveal truth to believers and hide truth from ______________________________ .

15:4-7 – The parable of the __________________________________________

Major themes:
1. The value of the ________________________________
2. The joy in heaven over recovering one who is ________________
3. The joy for the one who ________________

15:8-10 – The parable of the _________________________________________

Major themes:
1. The value of the ________________________________
2. The joy among angels over recovering one who is ________________
3. The joy for the one who ________________

15:11-32 – The parable of the ________________________________

Major themes:
1. The son chose of his own accord to ________________________________________
2. A person may not realize they are spiritually lost until they hit ________________________________
3. The father was always looking for ________________________________________
4. There was great celebration when ________________________________________
5. The fact is that the lost son squandered his inheritance; ________________________________

Question: How is God speaking to you through His word today?