When the Pharisees complained that Jesus sat down and ate a meal with ungodly people, Jesus told this story:
“A man had two sons and they both worked together on their father’s land. Someday the two sons would inherit all their father’s money.
One day the youngest son said, “Father give me the money I will inherit when you die. I want to see the world and have a good time, now.”
The father gave the youngest son his share of the inheritance money, praying that his son would spend it wisely and live a good life.
But the son had wild parties to impress his new friends. Everyone wanted to be his best friend because he paid for everything.
Soon the money had all gone. When the landlord came to get the rent money he couldn’t pay. His new friends disappeared and now he had to leave.
There was a famine in the land and the young son was homeless and hungry. A farmer gave him a job looking after his pigs and he wanted to eat the pig food.
“My father feeds his servants well,” he thought. “I will go home and be his servant.”
His father saw him in the distance and was overjoyed. He ran to meet his lost son.”