**What do you believe is the main theme Jesus is communicating?**

The main theme of that Jesus is communicating is about his love and sacrifices for his believers. He intends to assure his followers that he will always be there for their guidance and forgiveness without any discrimination or segregation. Also, in Parable of Prodigal Son, he is communicating about the free will as well as the ability to repent of the human beings. Jesus is trying to explain that even though man is prone to evil because of their free will, but they also have the ability to repent and ask for forgiveness. And in such a case, Jesus will always be there for forgiveness and guidance of his followers.

**Explain the three principal characters. Who do you identify with the most, and why?**

The three principal characters of this parable include the Father, and his two sons. The father is the primary character of this parable who is all forgiving and cherisher of the life on earth. In the parable, Jesus explains himself to be with god in terms of his nature and attitude i.e. loving, caring, guiding and all-forgiving. By relating him with god or the father, Jesus want to explain his loving and forgiving nature.

The second character is the ‘young son’. The young son is described as the lost son who is also a sinner and has deviated away from the righteous path. By giving the example of this lost or prodigal son, Jesus explains how god forgives and recovers the sinning son with great joy, affection and celebration – instead of punishing him for his sins for which he feels regret and repentance.

The third character is the elder son who is the righteous son. This character is shown to explain the merits of being loyal and devoted to god and harnesses all the divine blessings.

I believe that I can associate myself with both the young and the older son. The reason is that being human beings we are all prone to evil and wrong doing – sometimes deliberately and sometimes non-deliberately. However, I have the ability to realize my faults quickly and seek forgiveness and feel resentful for them.