

Please read Luke 15:8-10. What emotions do you feel when you find a valuable item that was lost?

What can you learn about God from this parable?

What can you learn about how God values people from this parable?

With what "lost coin" can you share God's love this week?

Thank God today for His patience and persistence with you. Thank Him for His amazing love. Please pray that God will be honored in the services this weekend and that we'll have many reasons to rejoice at "found coins."

Friday

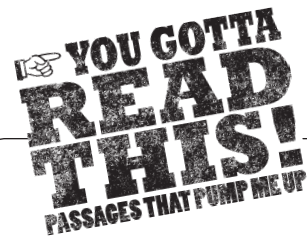
In summary of all these passages we've seen this week, how do these three parables answer the Pharisees' objection in Luke 15:2? What do they explain about why Jesus came to earth?

Today I would like to ask you to spend some extra time in prayer dedicating yourself to God's mission to "seek the lost." Talk to Him about your fears and hesitancy when it comes to sharing your faith and inviting people to church. Ask God to help you overcome those fears with a passion for the lost. Pray that the church will grow though the upcoming fall and Christmas seasons. Pray that we will have many reasons to say, "Let's have a feast and celebrate. For this son of mine was dead and is alive again; he was lost and is found."

Saturday

Please read Luke 15:3-7. How does this passage demonstrate God's care for each person? How have you experienced God's personal care and concern? Who can you encourage with this truth today?

Please pray for this weekend's services. Pray for Pastors Adrian and Charlie, that God will use them to grow and teach TLC. Pray that our church will be known for a heart for those who are lost and need to hear the Good News of God's amazing grace.



The Heart of God

Andy Lewis August 29 & 30, 2009

1. God deeply _____ about each _____

Then Jesus told them this parable: "Suppose one of you has a hundred sheep and loses one of them. Does he not leave the ninety-nine in the open country and go after the lost sheep until he finds it? And when he finds it, he joyfully puts it on his shoulders and goes home. Then he calls his friends and neighbors together and says, 'Rejoice with me; I have found my lost sheep.' I tell you that in the same way there will be more rejoicing in heaven over one sinner who repents than over ninety-nine righteous persons who do not need to repent." Luke 15:3-7 (NIV)

2. God thinks each person is _____ and _____

"Or suppose a woman has ten silver coins and loses one. Does she not light a lamp, sweep the house and search carefully until she finds it? And when she finds it, she calls her friends and neighbors together and says, 'Rejoice with me; I have found my lost coin.' In the same way, I tell you, there is rejoicing in the presence of the angels of God over one sinner who repents." Luke 15:8-10

3. God wants each person to be _____ and _____

"There was a man who had two sons. The younger one said to his father, 'Father, give me my share of the estate.' So he divided his property between them. Not long after that, the younger son got together all he had, set off for a distant country and there squandered his wealth in wild living." Luke 15:11-13

"When he came to his senses, he said... 'I will set out and go back to my father and say to him: Father, I have sinned against heaven and against you. I am no longer worthy to be called your son; make me like one of your hired men.'" Luke 15:17-19

"But while he was still a long way off, his father saw him and was filled with compassion for him; he ran to his son, threw his arms around him and kissed him. The son said to him, 'Father, I have sinned against heaven and against you. I am no longer worthy to be called your son.' But the father said to his servants, 'Quick! Bring the best robe and put it on him. Put a ring on his finger and sandals on his feet. Bring the fattened calf and kill it. Let's have a feast and celebrate. For this son of mine was dead and is alive again; he was lost and is found.'" Luke 15:20-24

"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.' The older brother became angry and refused to go in." Luke 15:25-28a

"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. But when this son of yours who has squandered your property with prostitutes comes home, you kill the fattened calf for him!' 'My son,' the father said, 'you are always with me, and everything I have is yours. But 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 15:28b-32

Daily Meditations

Take a few minutes every day to read Scripture, pray, and answer some thought-provoking questions pertaining to this week's topic.

Monday

What point of this weekend's message hit home for you?

Please read Luke 15:11-24. How did the younger son live when he was out on his own?

What happened to him there?

Why did the father call for a celebration?

How have you been like the prodigal son in this story?

What do the actions of the father represent?

Today, thank God for His amazing love for you! If you are a prodigal, now is the day to come home running into His arms! Thank God today for His forgiveness and His open arms.

Tuesday

Please read Luke 15:25-32. What complaints did the older brother bring to his father?

Why did the father want the older brother to be happy?

When have you been like the older brother? How do "church people" act like the older brother at times?

Read Luke 14:15-24. How would it feel to plan a big event and have no one attend?

How did the master ensure that the banquet would be full?

How does your responsibility to God correspond to the actions of the servant?

Pray that your heart will be full of joy as you see "prodigals" brought back to Christ. Ask God to give you a heart that is concerned for those who have wandered away from Christ or have never met Him! Pray for opportunities to show God's love and mercy.

Wednesday

In Luke 15:2, what were the leaders grumbling about?

In this parable, how might the sheep have gotten lost? How do you sometimes go astray?

How does a shepherd bring a lost sheep home (vs. 5)?

What does he do when he brings the sheep home?

Thank God today that He will go looking for you! Ask God to show you what you can do this week to help bring lost sheep home. Ask God to give you the courage to invite someone to church for the Hope Experience coming in September.



"For the Son of Man came to seek and to save what was lost."
Luke 19:10 (NIV)