



The Storyteller: Lost Sheep & Coin

LUKE 15:1-10 | NOVEMBER 14 & 15, 2015

This week we move into the first two of three “lost” parables. We will focus on the lost sheep and the lost coin. Next week we will turn to the story of the Prodigal Son (the lost son). In all the stories, the one consistent element is searching love (God’s) that rejoices when that which is lost gets returned. This is not “oh good” rejoicing...this is “OH MY GOSH! Let’s throw a party!” rejoicing.

WITH THE GROUP



LEARNING | BEGINNING TO CONNECT WITH THE TOPIC

Each person can answer one of the two questions. Either describe a time you got or gave good news. How did it feel? Who did you tell? OR Describe a time you lost something and searched hard for it. Did you find it? How did you feel?



LEARNING | GETTING CLEAR ON WHAT WAS TAUGHT

Compare and contrast the parables of the lost sheep and the lost coin. What are the similarities? What are the differences?

What is meant by the word “repent” when used in the parables of Luke 15:1-10? What do you think of this word? Do you use it much today (outside of using it in a bible study or church contexts)?



LOVING | GROWING OUR HEART FOR A LOVING GOD

What part of the sermon or the passage this week most challenged you, inspired you or caused you to think in a new way about God and His love?

How does the “looking” image fit your ideas about God? Does this change our role in the lives of “his sheep”?



LIVING | STARTING TO LIVE LIKE JESUS DAILY

Identify the demographic groups in your community who, as a whole, are presently “lost” to Christian faith. Who in your community should be responsible to reach out to them? Who is their “neighbor”? What are you or your church doing to reach them?

What is the “good” in the Good News? Is it good to you? Do you ever share it? If so, how...if not, why not?

DIGGING DEEPER

Consider sheep and shepherd imagery/passages from the Bible. What is being communicated through the various passages you discover? How do these shape your understanding of God and his love? (Perhaps you can start with Psalm 23.)

GRADUATE LEVEL

Look through the book of Luke. Who are some of the “unlovely people” that Jesus spends time with and cares for in the gospel? Who are the “unlovely” people you are spending time with? What about your life, your words, your wisdom or your way may be drawing them into life with Jesus? Is there anything you do that may be pushing them away?