

Lost and Found
Profound Stories – Part 5
Life Church St. Louis – November 24, 2019
Lead Pastor – Dr. Dan Walker
Message Videos – www.lcstl.org/messages

Romans 3:23 (ESV) for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God,

Luke 19:10 (ESV) For the Son of Man came to seek and to save the lost.

2 Peter 3:9 (ESV) The Lord is not slow to fulfill his promise as some count slowness, but is patient toward you, not wishing that any should perish, but that all should reach repentance.

Philippians 2:15 (ESV) that you may be blameless and innocent, children of God without blemish in the midst of a crooked and twisted generation, among whom you shine as lights in the world,

1. Search for those who _____

Luke 15:1-2 (ESV) Now the tax collectors and sinners were all drawing near to hear him. And the Pharisees and the scribes grumbled, saying, "This man receives sinners and eats with them."

1A. Show God's _____ to the lost

Luke 15:3-4 (ESV) So he told them this parable: "What man of you, having a hundred sheep, if he has lost one of them, does not leave the ninety-nine in the open country, and go after the one that is lost, until he finds it?"

1B. Make the lost a _____

Luke 15:5-6 (ESV) And when he has found it, he lays it on his shoulders, rejoicing. And when he comes home, he calls together his friends and his neighbors, saying to them, 'Rejoice with me, for I have found my sheep that was lost.'

Luke 15:7 (ESV) Just so, I tell you, there will be more joy in heaven over one sinner who repents than over ninety-nine righteous persons who need no repentance.

2. Seek those God _____

2A. _____ search for the lost

Luke 15:8 (ESV) "Or what woman, having ten silver coins, if she loses one coin, does not light a lamp and sweep the house and seek diligently until she finds it?"

2B. _____ when the lost are found

Luke 15:9-10 (ESV) And when she has found it, she calls together her friends and neighbors, saying, 'Rejoice with me, for I have found the coin that I had lost.' Just so, I tell you, there is joy before the angels of God over one sinner who repents."

3. Pray for those who _____

Luke 15:11-13 (ESV) And he said, "There was a man who had two sons. And the younger of them said to his father, 'Father, give me the share of property that is coming to me.' And he divided his property between them. Not many days later, the younger son gathered all he had and took a journey into a far country, and there he squandered his property in reckless living.

3A. Being lost brings _____

Luke 15:14-16 (ESV) And when he had spent everything, a severe famine arose in that country, and he began to be in need. So he went and hired himself out to one of the citizens of that country, who sent him into his fields to feed pigs. And he was longing to be fed with the pods that the pigs ate, and no one gave him anything.

3B. _____ brings the lost into God's family

Luke 15:17-19 (ESV) "But when he came to himself, he said, 'How many of my father's hired servants have more than enough bread, but I perish here with hunger! I will arise and go to my father, and I will say to him, "Father, I have sinned against heaven and before you. I am no longer worthy to be called your son. Treat me as one of your hired servants.'"

Luke 15:20, 24 (ESV) And he arose and came to his father. But while he was still a long way off, his father saw him and felt compassion, and ran and embraced him and kissed him. ... For this my son was dead, and is alive again; he was lost, and is found.' And they began to celebrate.

Action Plan for This Week

Have a daily time of Bible reading & prayer (Luke 15)
 Mon Tue Wed Thu Fri Sat Sun

Invite a friend to the service next Sunday.

How will I obey God's Word this week? _____

Lost and Found Study Guide

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Intro. How would you explain to someone that everyone needs to be found (Romans 3:23)?

Intro. What was Jesus main purpose in coming to the earth (Luke 19:10)?

Intro. Why hasn't Jesus returned to earth yet (2 Peter 3:9)?

Intro. How are we to follow Jesus' example toward the lost (Philippians 2:15)?

1A. Why did the Jews of Jesus' day hold such a low opinion of tax collectors (Luke 15:1-2)?

1B. Why do some Christians look down on those who are lost?

1C. How can this story instruct us regarding the concern Christ wants us to have for those who are lost (Luke 15:3-7)?

1D. How does the image of a lost sheep relate to people lost in sin?

2A. How does the loss of one coin in a collection relate to lost people today (Luke 15:8)?

2B. What does the rejoicing of the woman, her friends and the angels tell us about the value of the lost (Luke 15:9-10)?

2C. If we truly appreciate the value of a lost person, what impact would that have on our seeking for them to be found?

3A. In what ways did the son rebel against his father (Luke 15:11-13)?

3B. What does the son's journey to a far country tell us about the effects of sin on our relationship with God?

3C. How does sin and being lost always bring misery to a person (Luke 15:14-16)?

3D. How does this passage show what every sinner needs to do in order to experience salvation (Luke 15:17-19)?

3E. What does this story tell us about how God views the lost, as well as how we should view them (Luke 15:20-24)?

3F. In what ways is prayer vital in reaching the lost?