

# LUKE 15:1-7

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**15 Then all the tax collectors and the sinners drew near to Him to hear Him.**

**2 And the Pharisees and scribes complained, saying, "This Man receives sinners and eats with them."**

**3 So He spoke this parable to them, saying:**

**4 "What man of you, having a hundred sheep, if he loses one of them, does not leave the ninety-nine in the wilderness, and go after the one which is lost until he finds it?**

**5 And when he has found it, he lays it on his shoulders, rejoicing. 6 And when he comes home, he calls together his friends and neighbors, saying to them, 'Rejoice with me, for I have found my sheep which was lost!'**

**7 I say to you that likewise there will be more joy in heaven over one sinner who repents than over ninety-nine just persons who need no repentance.**

## Luke 15:8-10

- **8 "Or what woman, having ten silver coins,\* if she loses one coin, does not light a lamp, sweep the house, and search carefully until she finds *it*?**
- ***9 And when she has found it, she calls her friends and neighbors together, saying, 'Rejoice with me, for I have found the piece which I lost!'***
- ***10 Likewise, I say to you, there is joy in the presence of the angels of God over one sinner who repents.'***

## Luke 15:11-16

- **11** Then He said: "A certain man had two sons. **12** And the younger of them said to *his father*, '*Father, give me the portion of goods that falls to me.*' So he divided to them his livelihood. **13** And not many days after, the younger son gathered all together, journeyed to a far country, and there wasted his possessions with prodigal living. **14** But when he had spent all, there arose a severe famine in that land, and he began to be in want. **15** Then he went and joined himself to a citizen of that country, and he sent him into his fields to feed swine. **16** And he would gladly have filled his stomach with the pods that the swine ate, and no one gave him anything.

# Luke 15:17-24

- **17 "But when he came to himself, he said, 'How many of my father's hired servants have bread enough and to spare, and I perish with hunger! 18 I will arise and go to my father, and will say to him, "Father, I have sinned against heaven and before you, 19 and I am no longer worthy to be called your son. Make me like one of your hired servants."'"**
- **20 "And he arose and came to his father. But when he was still a great way off, his father saw him and had compassion, and ran and fell on his neck and kissed him. 21 And the son said to him, 'Father, I have sinned against heaven and in your sight, and am no longer worthy to be called your son.'**
- **22 "But the father said to his servants, 'Bring\* out the best robe and put *it on him, and put a ring on his hand and sandals on his feet. 23 And bring the fatted calf here and kill it, and let us eat and be merry; 24 for this my son was dead and is alive again; he was lost and is found.'* And they began to be merry.**

# Luke 15:25-32

- <sup>25</sup> "Now his older son was in the field. And as he came and drew near to the house, he heard music and dancing. <sup>26</sup> So he called one of the servants and asked what these things meant. <sup>27</sup> And he said to him, 'Your brother has come, and because he has received him safe and sound, your father has killed the fatted calf.'
- <sup>28</sup> "But he was angry and would not go in. Therefore his father came out and pleaded with him. <sup>29</sup> So he answered and said to *his father*, 'Lo, these many years I have been serving you; I never transgressed your commandment at any time; and yet you never gave me a young goat, that I might make merry with my friends. <sup>30</sup> But as soon as this son of yours came, who has devoured your livelihood with harlots, you killed the fatted calf for him.'
- <sup>31</sup> "And he said to him, 'Son, you are always with me, and all that I have is yours. <sup>32</sup> It was right that we should make merry and be glad, for your brother was dead and is alive again, and was lost and is found.''

# Luke 15- Parable of Lost Things

Jesus answers the charge of the Pharisees in Luke 15:2- “this man receives sinners and eats with them...”

Lost Sheep- tendency of sheep to wander off and the value of just one of them from the standpoint of the Shepherd. Souls are valuable and the Shepherd is not willing to lose any of His sheep. Love and compassion for souls!

Lost Coin- The value of a soul and the urgency to find it and put it back in play so that it can do its part .

Lost Son- The difference between two sons (both sinned). Jesus is showing the Pharisees themselves in the second son's attitude toward his brother. A LESSON IN COMPASSION, MERCY, PARDON, GRACE AND FORGIVENESS!  
Condemnation of sanctimony , false pride and arrogance!

# Tax Collectors And Sinners

- Mark 2:15- possibly friends of Matthew the publican. The sick need a physician Jesus came to call the sinners to repentance. The healthy do not need a doctor, but the sick do.
- Luke 19:10 – Jesus came to seek and to save that which was lost.
- Examples- Jn 4:27-speaks with Samaritan woman at well. Zacchaeus (Luk. 19); touches a leper- Luke 5.

# **Three Parables How people are Lost**

## **Luke 15**

- ❖ Lost Sheep-wandering departure- pursuit of value**
- ❖ Lost Coin – carelessness loss- diligent search**
- ❖ Lost Son-purposeful loss-willingly, planned-took it all and went a long way away.**
- ❖ ALL WERE LOST!**

# URGENCY AND VALUE

- Notice in all three instances of Luke 15 and the lost things- there was urgency to find and restore.
- There was celebration and joy upon finding them and making things whole.
- There was sadness and longing until full restoration was realized.
- Never a time when lost things were not on mind of ones searching.
- While they were lost they were deeply missed
- They had chosen to be alone and there was no effort to leave and go participate with them. While they were away from fold- they were alone and were left to feel that loneliness. This is one thing that caused the prodigal to “come to himself”. He had to experience helplessness and hopelessness and hunger- had to reach bottom in pig farm.

## PROVERBS 14:12

- “ There is a way which seemeth right unto a man, but the end thereof are the ways of death.

# The Prodigal Sons And The Loving, Forgiving Father

- The first son- 11-13a- wants what is due him of his inheritance (1/3) Oldest son received a double portion (Deut. 23:17). The younger son would receive 1/3 as there were only two sons.
- He is impatient and does not realize how good things are at home. Knows he can't live as he intends at his Father's house. Wants his portion now.

## His Life With His “Friends”

- Lk. 15:13b-19- With wasteful, extravagant living he soon depletes all he was given.
- His friends are with him while they can get something from him, but when he is too much work and has nothing to provide them, they are done with him.
- In desperation he hires himself out to feed pigs. He suffers from great hunger and desires to eat the slop he is feeding the pigs.

# The First Son Comes To Himself

- He begins to think and reflect:
- On how good he had it. His father's servants were better fed than he was.
- On how foolish he had been
- He swallows his pride and decides to do the right thing get his life right.
- He develops a plan- I will get up and go to my Father and say to him, I have sinned against heaven and you, I am no longer worthy to be called your son. He is humble- the first step to returning.
- He doesn't just make a plan he follows through.

# The Reconciliation

- The first son returns.
- His father is looking for him to return. He has always had hope he would, but could not make him. It had to be his decision.
- The father sees the son and runs to him and hugs him, places a ring on his finger and kills the fattened calf.
- The son does not take advantage, but follows through on his confession of wrong to his father.
- Joy is the ensuing result

# The Other Prodigal Son

- Never left home.
- Everything left was his. There were consequences to the behavior of the son who left. Sin costs us sometimes in scars that although healed are still visible.
- He was unforgiving, unmerciful and lacked humility. He had a false impression of himself and was resentful of his father's treatment of his brother (who the son called "your son").
- The father is willing and ready to receive those who come to .  
Mt. 11:28-30.

## I. What Others can do to help The PRODIGAL Return

“Brethren, if a man is overtaken in any trespass, you who are spiritual restore such a one in a spirit of gentleness, considering yourself lest you also be tempted.” **Gal. 6:1**

# Pray For Them

**And the Lord said, "Simon, Simon! Indeed, Satan has asked for you, that he may sift you as wheat.**

**32 "But I have prayed for you, that your faith should not fail; and when you have returned to Me, strengthen your brethren." Luke 22:31-32**

# Try to Restore

## Gal. 6:1

- ❖ Go in a spirit of Humility
- ❖ Make sure your life is right
- ❖ Speak to them about their soul

# Why They Became Unfaithful

**Not fully converted = Teach them**

**Offended = Who or What**

**Lost Faith = Christian Evidences**

**Worldly Pleasures = 1Jn. 2:15-17**

**Christians failed = Responsibility**

**Weak = Influenced by good**

## I. What Others can do to help The Backslider Return

**Brethren, if anyone among you wanders from the truth, and someone turns him back, let him know that he who turns a sinner from the error of his way will save a soul from death and cover a multitude of sins. **Jas. 5:19-20****

# What Must I Do to be Restored ?

Cleansed  
**1 Jn. 1:9**

  
Forgiven

  
Pray – **Acts 8:22**

  
Confess sins – **1 Jn.1:9**

  
Repent of sins – **Acts 8:22**

### III. Oh, Prodigal Return

**“Seek the LORD while He may be found, Call upon Him while He is near. Let the wicked forsake his way, And the unrighteous man his thoughts; Let him return to the LORD, And He will have mercy on him; And to our God, For He will abundantly pardon.”** **Isa. 55:6-7**



**WELCOME HOME SON !**

**God is calling the prodigal-  
come without delay!**

The Prodigal Son by Harold Copping