

# Rejoice With Me: Seeking the Lost and Sharing God's Joy

## A Journey Through Luke 15

What if the path to salvation goes through a pigsty and not by living the perfect life? With the parables of Luke 15, Jesus rewrites our rules, revealing a God who welcomes the lost, celebrates the found, and turns our thinking on its head.

This year at Jackson Heights, we'll journey through Jesus' familiar parables of the Lost Sheep, the Lost Coin, and the Prodigal Son, but with fresh eyes. We'll uncover the shocking math of God's Kingdom, where seeking for one lost soul is worth more than guarding the ninety-nine who are in the field. We'll witness the relentless pursuit of a shepherd who refuses to give up on his lost sheep, a woman who turns her house upside down to find a missing coin, and an indifferent older brother who didn't do his duty.

But there's more to discover. We'll expose the lies we tell ourselves in our search for happiness. We'll observe the hidden struggles of the "good son" who stayed home but missed the party, and discover how even the messiest, most hopeless moments can become an unexpected encounter with grace.

So, if you're tired of playing by the rules and still feeling lost, or if you're the one who wandered off, chasing a dream that turned into a nightmare, this series is for you. Get ready to have your heart challenged, your assumptions upended, and your faith stirred.

1. **The Sinner's Jesus (vv. 1-2)** - Would the "sinners" of Jesus' day feel as welcomed with us as they did with Him? Discover what we may have forgotten about Jesus' radical welcome of sinners and how it can reshape our faith and our approach to proclaiming the gospel to others.
2. **Open Tables, Open Hearts (v. 2)** - Jesus associated openly with outcasts, showing us a better way to connect. Learn how to throw a party with a purpose and turn your table into a tool for transformation.
3. **1=99 (v. 4)** - Ready to have your priorities flipped? This message dives deep into the shocking math of God's Kingdom, where pursuing 1 lost sheep is just as important as preserving the 99.
4. **Until It's Found (vv. 4, 8)** - Lost keys? Lost phone? Annoying, right? Now imagine losing something far more precious... a soul. Witness the relentless pursuit of the lost, and find your place in the rescue mission.
5. **God's Uncontainable Joy (vv. 7, 10)** - Heaven's rejoicing isn't about angels – it's about the Father celebrating His lost children coming home - a joy so contagious it touches everything in heaven and on earth.
6. **Happiness According to the Prodigal (vv. 11-13)** - Ever chased a dream that turned into a nightmare? The prodigal son's story exposes the seductive lies we tell ourselves about happiness and its devastating consequences.

7. **Pigsty Epiphanies (vv. 14-17a)** - Sometimes it takes hitting rock bottom to discover the solid ground of God. Discover how even the messiest, most hopeless moments can become an unexpected encounter with God's call to come home.
8. **The Prodigal's Journey Home (vv. 17-24)** - He traded his inheritance for a one-way ticket to nowhere. The Prodigal thought he knew the path to happiness, but it led him to a pigsty. Witness the prodigal's stunning turnaround and find out how his journey home can rewrite your own story.
9. **Embraced by the Father (vv. 20a-24)** - Ever felt like you've messed up so badly that there's no coming back? The father of the Prodigal flips the script on forgiveness, revealing a love that rushes toward us, not away – it might change everything you thought you knew about God.
10. **The Not-So-Good Older Brother (vv. 25-30)** - He stayed home and followed the rules... but was he really any less lost? Uncover the surprising truth about the “good son” and discover a path to freedom you might not expect.
11. **The Keeper Who Didn't Keep** - The shepherd searched tirelessly. The woman turned her house upside down. But the older brother... he just stayed home. The older brother's negligence challenges us to step up and become keepers of those around us, even when it's difficult.
12. **The Father's Plea: Join My Party (vv. 31-32)** - The feast is ready, the music's playing, but the story isn't over yet. Will you join the celebration or stay outside in the cold? The Father's invitation is open to all, but the choice is yours.