

SEEKING THE LOST • LUKE 15

Read Luke 15

1. Reread 15:1-7. What is the basic question that prompts the telling of these three stories?
2. From a logical perspective, what is somewhat strange about what the shepherd does?
3. Do you think Jesus is saying the 99 have no need to repent, or that they don't see their need to repent?
4. How does this answer the question that was being asked? And how does it also relate to Luke 14:34?

Read Luke 15:7-10

5. What kept the religious leaders from rejoicing at the salvation of sinners? What did they want God to do?
6. In what ways do you demonstrate justice in your relationships, where God would desire mercy?

Read Luke 15:11-31

7. How is this story different from the others?

8. In what way can you identify with the son who ran away? Who does he represent in the story?

9. Does the older son, in your mind, have a good reason to be upset?

10. The father, in the story, obviously represents God. Does he seem fair, gracious, or both?

11. What lesson is Jesus trying to communicate through the son that stayed home?

12. Write down some of the words and phrases in these stories that paint a picture of God's passion for lost people.

13. Write down a list of people who are close to you that you would describe as lost.

14. In 15:8, the woman "searches intently" looking for her coin. How can you help God to "sweep and search intently" in order to find these people who are lost?

Memory Verse

Luke 15:10 "In the same way, I tell you, there is rejoicing in the presence of the angels of God over one sinner who repents."