

## Three Parables: Lost Sheep, Lost Coin, Lost Son

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### ➤ Intro:

- **Lk. 15:** three parables about God, sinners, kingdom – lost sheep, lost coin, lost son
  - lessons from these parables that **apply to ourselves**
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### Review the parables

- **Lk. 15:3-7** story: parable of lost sheep – relate to a share of Berkshire Hathaway (Buffett) worth \$147k each a few months ago now worth about 70k
  - **Lk. 15:8-10** story: parable of lost coin (about days wages) – relate to lost cell phone or PDA (Smart Phone) or iPod
  - **Lk. 15:11-32** story: parable of prodigal son
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### ➤ God deeply cares for each person – lost or saved

- **Lk. 15:4, 8** illus.: effort to save one lost sheep or find lost coin
    - illus.: #520 Seeking The Lost, review chorus
  - - **1 Jn. 4:9-10; Rom. 5:6-10** love: what God has done, and continues to do, for us through His Son
    - **1 Tim. 2:4** God wants everyone to be saved
    - **2 Pet. 3:9** God wants everyone to repent, not perish
  - Do you care as much about your own soul, as much as God cares?
    - Do you care as much for other peoples' souls, as much as God cares? - brethren, family, friends, lost
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### ➤ God is sorrowful when one person leaves the fold and returns to the world

- **Lk. 15:4** illus.: one sheep lost (no longer in fold), leaves the 99 to go and find
- **Eph. 4:30** God grieves, we grieve the Holy Spirit with whom we've been sealed, by ripping off the seal
  - context: brethren in sin who did not repent
- - **Heb. 10:26-27, 29** sin willfully, how badly it hurts God: trample Christ, regard blood unclean, insult Spirit
  - that's why it's important that we faithfully assemble together to encourage one another (**Heb. 10:24-25**)
- Do you grieve when you, or others, turn away from God?
  - What do you do to try and bring them back – bring them back to the fold?

➤ **God never gives up on us – on people who are lost**

- **illus.:** looked for sheep and coin till found

- God never gives up

- **illus.:** father of prodigal son, received him back joyously, immediately upon his repentance

- God never gives up

- **we should never give up ourselves, or other people**

- **illus.:** older men baptized later in life (Tommy Farler, man in Kissimmee)

- **illus.:** manage, McDonalds, young man not popular and failed frequently, with me started to succeed, he said because I believed in him

- **2 Th. 3:14-15** even when disciple Christian, still admonish as brother – **never give up**

- **Is there anyone you've given up on?**

- **If there is, what should you do?**

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➤ **God wants us to repent when we sin – father, prodigal son**

- **Lk. 15:21** repentant attitude: not worth to be Christian, child of God

- affect it has on us knowing God wants us to come home – makes us want to go

- affect it has on us when God takes us back, redeemed by Christ's blood – changed life

- **we want people who are in sin to repent**

- **1 Cor. 13:6-7** love does **not rejoice in unrighteousness**, but **rejoices with the truth**; bears all things, believes all things, **hopes all things**, endures all things – God wants. . . . / we want. . . .

- **How is God's desire for you to repent affecting your life?**

- eager to repent - or waiting and hesitating

- glad when others repent

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➤ **Heaven (God, Jesus, HS, angels) rejoices when we repent**

- **Lk. 15:6-7, 9-10, 32** rejoice, joy in heaven, because was dead but now is alive

- **Lk. 15:20** rejoice because compassionate

- **we want to repent**, knowing God's attitude when we repent

- **we want others to repent**

- **we rejoice with God when a sinner repents** – **illus.:** paint pic of rejoicing in heaven

- **illus.:** someone declared dead, lost at sea, all of a sudden shows up and is ok

- rejoicing of wife, children, family, friends

- **When we repent and submit to God, He restores us as we were before** – righteous, sins forgiven
    - **Lk. 15:22-24 illus.: father restored son** to position he had before left
    - **God cleanses us / makes us new / restores us and makes us righteous / sins forgiven / made alive**
      - **new start**
      - **Jn. 1:12-13; 3:5-6 (unbeliever)** born again, baptized into Christ, new creature (**rf - 1 Pet. 1:3**)
      - **1 Jn. 1:7-9 (Christian)** blood of Christ again applied to your soul, cleansed, renewed, made whole again
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➤ **Summary / Inv.**

- **Do you need a new start?**
  - God wants to give it to you – repent
- **What does it mean to repent?** turn from sin and obey God – **no obedience = no repentance**
  - **if you're not a Christian. . . .**
  - **if you are a Christian. . . .** sin / or just need to do better
- **inv.**