



FOR THE **OUTCAST**

## LOST AND FOUND

Luke 15

October 15, 2023

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### MESSAGE NOTES

**We reflect the heart of God when we:**

*"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? 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.' 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."*

— Luke 15:4 – 7 (ESV)

- **Risk love**

*"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?"* — Luke 15:4 (ESV)

— **Only the risky love of God will leave ninety-nine in the wilderness to find the one.**

— **The wilderness is the place we find ourselves in where we have to trust God to provide for us and protect us.**

- **Pursue people**

*"Or suppose a woman has ten silver coins and loses one. Won't she light a lamp and sweep the entire house and search carefully until she finds it? And when she finds it, she will call in her friends and neighbors and say, 'Rejoice with me because I have found my lost coin.' In the same way, there is joy in the presence of God's angels when even one sinner repents."* — Luke 15:8 – 10 (NLT)

*"Just so, I tell you, there is joy before the angels of God over one sinner who repents."* — Luke 15:10 (ESV)

- **Celebrate new life**

*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."*

— Luke 15:11-12 (ESV)

*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.* — Luke 15:13 (ESV)

*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 15:18 – 19 (ESV)

# Jesus.

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*But the father said to his servants, 'Bring quickly the best robe, and put it on him, and put a ring on his hand, and shoes on his feet. And bring the fattened calf and kill it, and let us eat and celebrate. For this my son was dead, and is alive again; he was lost, and is found.' And they began to celebrate. – Luke 15:22 – 24 (ESV)*

*"And he said to him, 'Son, you are always with me, and all that is mine is yours. It was fitting to celebrate and be glad, for this your brother was dead, and is alive; he was lost, and is found.'" – Luke 15:31 – 32 (ESV)*

**"Each One Reach One"**

## **DISCUSSION QUESTIONS**

- Discussion starter: share a story about something you lost but then you found and how you felt about it.
- What are the three different stories that Jesus tells in John 15 and who are the two different groups in His audience?
- Why is it important to know that only the risky love of God will leave the 99 in the wilderness to find the one?
- Biblically speaking, the wilderness is the place we find ourselves in where we have to trust God to provide for us and protect us. How do some of the other wilderness stories of the Bible teach us that same principle?
- Why does sharing the love and hope of Christ sometimes require us to leave our comfort zones and normal routines?
- Read Luke 15:10. Have a few people briefly share the moment they made heaven rejoice when they came to know Christ as Savior.
- What is God speaking to you about from this passage?
- What are some of the ways God pursues people with His love and message of hope?
- Remind one another who the Father, the younger brother and the older brother represent in the story of the prodigal son. Discuss why each character is significant to what God is teaching us? Hint: The real "lost" son in the story is the older brother who stays home and appears to do the right thing but doesn't understand grace and forgiveness. (Luke 15:11 – 32)
- Who is someone you could invite to our ALL TOGETHER event Sunday, November 5th at 10am?
- Pray for our "Each One Reach One" prayer initiative and lift up some of your friends who do not know Christ yet.