



Schedule of Services

Sunday

Bible Study 9:30 AM

Worship 10:30 AM

Worship 6:00 PM

Wednesday

Bible Study 1:30 PM

7:00 PM

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For from you the word of the Lord has sounded forth... in every place. (1 Thessalonians 1:8)

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Parables of the Lost Sheep, Coin, and Son

When reading the parables of Jesus, it is important to remember why Jesus told the parables. In the case of these three parables, the Pharisees and scribes were murmuring against Jesus because he received and ate with sinners (Luke 15:2). To teach the Pharisees and scribes valuable lessons, Jesus expounds on these three parables. What are the lessons Jesus wanted the Pharisees and scribes to know?

1. Lost people are lost: The sheep was lost because it wandered away from the flock. The coin was in the possession of the woman, and the woman lost the coin. The son willingly left the comforts of his father's house and was lost. The method of being lost is not the focus, but the focus is at one point they were safe and now are lost.

2. The lost must be found: The shepherd left the ninety-nine to seek the lost sheep. The woman who lost the coin used everything at her disposal to find it. The parable of the lost son is different because the father does not seek after the son, but he patiently awaits his arrival and relies on the son coming to his senses.

3. When the lost are found there must be rejoicing: When the shepherd returned with the lost sheep, there was rejoicing. He called his friends and neighbors to rejoice with him. When the woman located the lost coin, she rejoiced along with her friends and neighbors. When the son came home, the father and servants rejoiced, but the elder brother did not.

4. Repentance is necessary: No matter how one is lost, to properly return to God there must be repentance (Luke 15:7,10, 17).

Jesus wanted the Pharisees and scribes to know they needed to be restoring the publicans and sinners rather than criticizing Jesus for doing it. When the lost repent, there should be rejoicing. They should have been rejoicing that sinners and publicans were gathering to hear Jesus (Luke 15:1). We must never become like those religious leaders and criticize those who are doing the work of restoring the lost. We all need to be more like Jesus who spent his time among the lost to help restore them. —K.A. Pugh

I remember playing hide and seek as a young boy. On warm summer evenings several of us in the neighborhood would play often. It was especially fun late in the evening as dusk approached. I preferred the hiding to the seeking.

Asa, the king of Judah was a good and righteous king who sought the Lord. There is a difference in seeking Jehovah, however. He wants to be found. He is not hiding to keep us from finding Him. He wants us to find Him. Asa was told, The LORD is with you while you are with him. If you seek him, he will be found by you, but if you forsake him, he will forsake you. 2 Chron 15:2-3 ESV

As you begin your day, know that Jehovah will be with you, too, if you are with Him. Seek Him out and He will be found. You can accomplish much, you and Jehovah together. -TLM

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