

THE GOSPEL ACCORDING TO LUKE // PART 13 (Ch. 15)

Roger Record, Youth Pastor | Damascus Road Community Church | Feb 29-Mar 1, 2020

SERMON NOTES:**The Lost Sheep**

“Suppose one of you had a hundred sheep and lost one. Wouldn’t you leave the ninety-nine in the wilderness and go after the lost one until you found it? When found, you can be sure you would put it across your shoulders, rejoicing, and when you got home call in your friends and neighbors, saying, ‘Celebrate with me! I’ve found my lost sheep!’”

~ *Luke 15:4-6 NIV*

The Lost Coin

“Or imagine a woman who has ten coins and loses one. Won’t she light a lamp and scour the house, looking in every nook and cranny until she finds it? And when she finds it you can be sure she’ll call her friends and neighbors: ‘Celebrate with me! I found my lost coin!’ Count on it—that’s the kind of party God’s angels throw every time one lost soul turns to God.”

~ *Luke 15:8 MSG*

The Lost Son

Cast of Characters:

1. the Younger Son
2. the Older Son
3. the Father

Notes: 1. the Younger Son

The younger said to his father, “Father, I want right now what’s coming to me.” (“What if he GOT what he deserved?”) ... It wasn’t long before the younger son packed his bags and left for a distant country. There, undisciplined and dissipated, he wasted everything he had...he began to hurt...He was so hungry he would have eaten the corncobs in the pig slop, but no one would give him any. That brought him to his senses. “I’m going back to my father. I’ll say to him, ‘Father, I’ve sinned against God, I’ve sinned before you; I don’t deserve to be called your son. Take me on as a hired hand.’”

He got right up and went home to his father.

Notes: 2. the Older Son

... “the older son was out in the field. When the day’s work was done he came in. As he approached the house, he heard the music and dancing. Calling over one of the houseboys, he asked what was going on. He told him, “Your brother came home. Your father has ordered a feast—barbecued beef!—because he has him home safe and sound.” **The older brother stalked off in an angry sulk and refused to join in.** His father came out and tried to talk to him, but he wouldn’t listen. The son said, “Look how many years I’ve stayed here serving you, never giving you one moment of grief, but have you ever thrown a party for me and my friends? Then this son of yours who has thrown away your money on whores shows up and you go all out with a feast!”

Notes: 3. the Father

- ...the father divided the property between them.
- **When he** (younger son) **was still a long way off, his father saw him.**
- ...heart pounding, **he ran out, embraced him** (the son), and kissed him.
- But the father wasn't listening (to the Son's work proposal). He was calling to the servants, "Quick. Bring a clean set of clothes and dress him. Put the family ring on his finger and sandals on his feet. Then get a grain-fed heifer and roast it. **We're going to feast! We're going to have a wonderful time! My son is here - given up for dead and now alive! Given up for lost and now found!**"
- To the older son...**His father came out and tried to talk to him,** but he (older son) wouldn't listen.
- His father said, "**Son, you don't understand. You're with me all the time, and everything that is mine is yours—but this is a wonderful time, and we had to celebrate. This brother of yours was dead, and he's alive! He was lost, and he's found!**"

“The difference between mercy and grace?
Mercy gave the Prodigal son a second chance.
Grace gave him a feast!”

~ Max Lucado

Notes:

SMALL GROUP RESOURCE PAGE

Each small group is different.
Feel free to adjust and use what best fits your group.

WARM UP:

- Watch this video of a “father” searching for his son - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=iYGoGdNxJds>
- Why does a father’s sacrifice and pursuit of his children resonate with us?

ENGAGE:

- What was most impactful to you from this weekend’s service?
- Read through Luke 15:11-32 and Ezekiel 34:11-16 (Message Version); Identify phrases that show specifically how God is running after you—how does that make you feel?

APPLY:

- As humans, we have the capacity to function as either brother: independent & self-directed or self-sufficient and entitled. How can you stay grounded in God for his overwhelming love and grace?
- Consider the following verses... 1 Thessalonians 5:16-18, 1 Chronicles 16:34, Psalms 1:9, Colossians 3:15, Revelation 22:17

PRAY:

- Pray Psalms 139:1-18 (Message Version)
- Pray for those who have decided to “Come” to the Father this weekend.
- Pray for opportunities to reach out to others to share God’s reckless love with them!

GOING DEEPER:

- Suggested resource – *Luke for Everyone* by N.T. Wright, pgs. 182-192
- Watch YouTube: Tim Keller’s “The Prodigal God”
- Put the “Holy Rain” Worship Event on your calendar—take a deep dive into a worship party Friday night, March 13th at 7pm.

This week’s message insert is available through the YouVersion Bible App. In the app, click on MORE, then EVENTS, and search for Damascus Road Community Church. Or scan this QR code to open the insert directly. Follow along and take notes all in the YouVersion app – and don’t forget to click on SAVE EVENT!

