

Series: Kingdom Stories V

Text: Luke 15:1-10

**HI: God's joy resounds when the lost are found.**

Title: *Dinners with Sinners*

Date: 1.31.21

Purpose: To call sinners to know the joy of the Savior, and saints to share it.

FCF/COR: There are two responses to Jesus and one response from him in this text. The Pharisees and scribes grumble at his associations. The tax collectors and sinners gather to hear him. Jesus responds by clarifying that the gathering of sinners—as he finds the lost—is the reason he has come to earth, and it bring joy to heaven. We either know the joy of heaven or we don't. Jesus appeals to sinners in need of salvation. Jesus confronts those who think they see while they are actually blind. If you know the joy of salvation, you will understand the mission of Jesus, and you'll engage it yourself.

Christ Trajectory: // with Ezekiel 34: The shepherd has come to find his lost sheep. [Straight appeal for salvation in Christ] Jesus argues from lesser (two parables) to greater (God's mission through him for the lost). What man among you? What woman among you? These rhetorical questions are meant to be answered, "Every man, every woman!" Just as every one of us would search for something valuable that is lost, so God in Jesus came to seek and save the lost. Heaven's joy is God's joy at the salvation of sinners. He loves to do this. All of heaven reaches an expressive level of joy at sinners saved. This is Jesus' mission. This is Jesus' call for every sinner who has ears to hear.

Form: Deductive (drive it home from the beginning)

Outline:

**I. This crowd is suspect. (1-2)**

A. One of these things is not like the other.

B. These two groups have a single focus.

**II. This mission is urgent. (4, 8)**

A. That which is lost gets all the focus.

**III. This search is persistent. (4, 8)**

A. The search doesn't end until it's over.

**IV. This joy is consummate. (5-7, 9-10)**

A. Heaven rejoices at sinner's saved. (5, 7, 10)

**V. This call is evident. (2b, 4a, 6b, 9b)**

A. Sinners, know his joy.

## B. Saints, share his joy.

### **Main Idea:**

Subject: Why did the Pharisees misunderstand Jesus?

Complement: They were blind to his mission and the joy of the lost being found.

Exegetical Idea: The Pharisees misunderstood Jesus because they were blind to his mission and the joy of the lost being found.

Theological Idea: To understand Jesus, you must be aware of his mission and acquainted with the joy of the lost being found.

**Homiletical Idea: God's joy resounds when the lost are found.**

Luke 15:1-10

Now the tax collectors and sinners were all drawing near to hear him. And the Pharisees and the scribes grumbled, saying, "This man receives sinners and eats with them." So he told them this parable: "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. "Or what woman, having ten silver coins, if she loses one coin, does not light a lamp and sweep the house and seek diligently until she finds it? And when she has found it, she calls together her friends and neighbors, saying, 'Rejoice with me, for I have found the coin that I had lost.' Just so, I tell you, there is joy before the angels of God over one sinner who repents."

**Homiletical Idea: God's joy resounds when the lost are found.**

Luke 15:1-2

Now the tax collectors and sinners were all drawing near to hear him. And the Pharisees and the scribes grumbled, saying, "This man receives sinners and eats with them."

**I. This crowd is suspect. (1-2)**

**II. This mission is urgent. (4, 8)**

Luke 5:30-31

And Jesus answered them, "Those who are well have no need of a physician, but those who are sick. I have not come to call the righteous but sinners to repentance."

Luke 19:10

"For the Son of Man came to seek and to save the lost."

### **III. This search is persistent. (4, 8)**

Jn. 10:14-16

I am the good shepherd. I know my own and my own know me, just as the Father knows me and I know the Father; and I lay down my life for the sheep. And I have other sheep that are not of this fold. I must bring them also, and they will listen to my voice. So there will be one flock, one shepherd.

Jn. 10:28-29

I give them eternal life, and they will never perish, and no one will snatch them out of my hand. My Father, who has given them to me, is greater than all, and no one is able to snatch them out of the Father's hand.

J.C. Ryle: "He is far more willing to save sinners than sinners are to be saved."

Luke 15:5-7, 9-10

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. And when she has found it, she calls together her friends and neighbors, saying, 'Rejoice with me, for I have found the coin that I had lost.' Just so, I tell you, there is joy before the angels of God over one sinner who repents."

### **IV. This joy is consummate. (5-7, 9-10)**

### **V. This call is evident. (2b, 4a, 6b, 9b)**

## **HI: God's joy resounds when the lost are found.**

Ezekiel 34:1-2

The word of the LORD came to me: "Son of man, prophesy against the shepherds of Israel; prophesy, and say to them, even to the shepherds, Thus says the Lord GOD: Ah, shepherds of Israel who have been feeding yourselves! Should not shepherds feed the sheep?"

The Pharisees and the scribes—any of the religious leaders in Israel, were called to be undershepherds of the great God and Shepherd of his people. But, because of their own sin, they failed.

Ezekiel 34:4-6

The weak you have not strengthened, the sick you have not healed, the injured you have not bound up, the strayed you have not brought back, the lost you have not sought, and with force and harshness you have ruled them. So they were scattered, because there was no shepherd, and they became food for all the wild beasts. My sheep were scattered; they wandered over all the mountains and on every high hill. My sheep were scattered over all the face of the earth, with none to search or seek for them.

Ezekiel 34:10-12, 16

Thus says the Lord GOD, Behold, I am against the shepherds, and I will require my sheep at their hand and put a stop to their feeding the sheep. No longer shall the shepherds feed themselves. I will rescue my sheep from their mouths, that they may not be food for them. "For thus says the Lord GOD: Behold, I, I myself will search for my sheep and will seek them out. As a shepherd seeks out his flock when he is among his sheep that have been scattered, so will I seek out my sheep, and I will rescue them from all places where they have been scattered on a day of clouds and thick darkness....I will seek the lost, and I will bring back the strayed, and I will bind up the injured, and I will strengthen the weak, and the fat and the strong I will destroy. I will feed them in justice.

You see Jesus clearly when you know the joy of the lost being found.

You will never understand him until you know the joy of the lost being found.

Because... **God's joy resounds when the lost are found.**