

I'm In - Vision

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Craig Smith • August 30, 2026 • Vision

The context - Jesus is spending time with “sinners”...

Now the tax collectors and “sinners” were all gathering around to hear Him. But the Pharisees and the teachers of the law muttered, “This man welcomes sinners and eats with them.” (Luke 15:1-2)

The three parables - Jesus illustrates His mission...

• **Something of great value is lost** - “Suppose one of you has a hundred sheep and loses one of them... Or suppose a woman has ten silver coins and loses one... The younger son got together all he had, set off for a distant country and there squandered his wealth in wild living.” (Luke 15:4a, 8a, 13)

There is no difference..., for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God. (Rom. 3:22b-23)

• **There is an all-out search to find it** - “Does he not leave the ninety-nine in the open country and go after the lost sheep until he finds it?... Does she not light a lamp, sweep the house and search carefully until she finds it?” (Luke 15:4b, 8b)

For the Son of Man came to seek and to save what was lost. (Luke 19:10)

• **There is a great celebration when it's found** - “And when he

finds it, he joyfully puts it on his shoulders and goes home. Then he calls his friends and neighbors together and says, 'Rejoice with me; I have found my lost sheep'... And when she finds it, she calls her friends and neighbors together and says, 'Rejoice with me; I have found my lost coin.'... 'Bring the fattened calf and kill it. Let's have a feast and celebrate. For this son of mine was dead and is alive again; he was lost and is found.'" (**Luke 15:5-6, 9, 23-24**)

The point - Heaven's joy at recovering the spiritually lost...

"I tell you that in the same way there will be more rejoicing in heaven over one sinner who repents than over ninety-nine righteous persons who do not need to repent... In the same way, I tell you, there is rejoicing in the presence of the angels of God over one sinner who repents." (**Luke 15:7, 10**)

The application - make Jesus' mission your mission...

When He saw the crowds, He had compassion on them, because they were harassed and helpless, like sheep without a shepherd. Then He said to His disciples, "The harvest is plentiful but the workers are few. Ask the Lord of the harvest, therefore, to send out workers into His harvest field." (**Matt. 9:36-38**)