

Go After Lost Sheep

Have you ever felt totally lost? What happens when we end up so off the beaten path that we can't find the way back home? There's only one man who showed the Way, and that man is Jesus. His life is the pattern we are meant to follow—to do what he did. Some didn't understand Jesus or his path, but he made it obvious in Luke 15 what he came to do. He came to go after lost sheep like you and I.

- I. "Sinners" came near, the "Righteous" turned away
 - A. Sinners drew _____ to him, to hear him. Is this what we want? (Luke 15.1)
 1. What was it about Jesus? What was his methodology?
 2. He invited them along a new journey with him, and came alongside them.
 - a) Matthew 9.9. "_____ me."
 - b) Matthew 9.10-13. Shortly, they are having _____.
 - B. The Pharisees and scribes _____. (Luke 15.2)
 1. What are the Pharisee's goals and how does Jesus' misalign with theirs?
 2. They _____ God's word by their tradition.
Mark 7.13
- II. How Jesus Changed the World
 - A. "Doesn't he leave the _____?" (Luke 15.4)
 1. This is about a mission—priorities and sacrifice.
 2. Jesus' life is this lesson. He is the good shepherd. He left comfort and safety and made himself vulnerable to go after lost sheep. (John 10)
 - a) John 10.11, he lays down his _____ for them.
Intention.
 - b) John 10.14, he _____ his people, and they know him. Relationship.
 - B. Finding joy in helping people to Heaven. (Luke 15.5-7)
 1. v.5 "He lays it on his shoulders, rejoicing." The joy of a restored soul.
 2. v.6 "Celebrating with friends and neighbors." Sharing the joy with others.
 - C. There will be "more joy in heaven over _____ sinner." (Luke 15.7)
- III. A 99 -> 1 Lifestyle
 1. Personally commit to the harvest. (Matthew 9.37-38)
 - a) _____ prayer.
 - b) Seek help from others. Laborers, plural.
 - c) Look for people who are seeking. "Plentiful harvest."
 2. Invite people into your life, come alongside them.
 3. Help people know what it means to learn and live God's Word.

Jesus' life on earth had one purpose and it's the same purpose we've been given. We are here to honor God, and to help others know God. It might mean leaving the

comfort of the ninety-nine to go to the one. Are you ready to step into Christ's mission for your life?

Scripture

Luke 15.1-7

Blanks

Near

Follow

Dinner

Grumbled

Nullify

Ninety-Nine

Life

Knows

One

Earnest

Questions

What was Jesus' core mission on earth?

Why did sinners spend time with Jesus?

Why did Jesus spend time with sinners?

What was Jesus' method for changing lives?

How can we adopt Jesus' mission in our own context?