

Parables

Discussion Guide

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The Parable of the Lost Sheep

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Main Idea

A parable is a story that runs parallel to a deeper spiritual truth. Jesus, in His wisdom - and with a profound understanding of the way the human heart and mind comprehend truth, chose to speak in parables. For spiritual lessons to connect, sometimes an earthly lesson was needed. Parables, ancient as they may be, are still relevant right now.

Anchor Verse:

But the Advocate, the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in my name, will teach you all things and will remind you of everything I have said to you. (John 14:26, NIV)

Read Luke 15:1-7

Sheep Aren't Cheap

Each sheep has tremendous value to the shepherd. This parable shows the shepherd's willingness to leave the ninety-nine to search for the one, and underscores the immense worth placed on every soul.

In light of how the shepherd sees his sheep, how do you think God see you? Do you see yourself as worthy of God's love?

The Fight To Find

The shepherd's relentless search for the lost sheep highlights God's unwavering commitment to pursuing and restoring those who are lost.

What were the circumstances in your life when Jesus found you?

Are you fighting for you desire to find?

People Are His Passion

If you're passionate about Jesus, you're passionate about what He's passionate about. If people matter to God, then they should matter to us.

What brings you the greatest joy? How are you sharing that joy with others?

SUMMARY

This weekend I pray that you would fully embrace your value in God's eyes, trust in His pursuit, and participate in the joyful mission of bringing others to Him.

CALL TO ACTION

1. Read through Luke 15:1-7 again, and imagine yourself as that lost sheep. Realize how God sees you and loves you.
2. Take a moment to reflect on the circumstances in which God found you and fought for you. Thank Him for how he rescued you and how far He has brought you.
3. Consider the ways that you can make people your passion by joining [Dream Team](#), [leading a Group](#) and disciple others along the way, or participating in a [serve project](#).

GROUP LEADER RESOURCE

Game: Names in a Hat

Names in a Hat is a fun guessing game where colleagues must guess a specific name following clues and hints from players.

1. Give each player three slips of paper.
2. The participants will write a name on each slip of paper and fold them. For example, players can write the names of movie or cartoon characters.
3. Toss all the paper slips into a hat, and pass it around.
4. Each player will pick a slip of paper from the hat and take turns describing the characters without giving the name away.
5. Set a timer for ten seconds.
6. The players must attempt to guess the name before the timer runs out.
7. If a player guesses correctly, then they win a point.

8. The game will continue in this manner until all the players get a turn.
9. The player with the most points at the end of the game wins.

To make this game even more engaging, the players can use the names of fellow workers or celebrities. The players can then act or imitate these characters for other team members to guess.