

Lost and Found

Big Idea: You matter to the one who matters most

Luke 15:1-7

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Luke 15:1-2

Now the tax collectors and sinners were all drawing near to hear him. 2 And the Pharisees and the scribes grumbled, saying, "This man receives sinners and eats with them."

1. People Matter to Jesus.

Historical Background: Psalm 23, Ezekiel 34, John 10:1-22.

John 10:11

11 "I am the good shepherd. The good shepherd sacrifices his life for the sheep.

Luke 15:4

4 "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?

2. Jesus Seeks the One Who is Lost

1 Samuel 17:34-36

34 But David said to Saul, "Your servant used to keep sheep for his father. And when there came a lion, or a bear, and took a lamb from the flock, 35 I went after him and struck him and delivered it out of his mouth. And if he arose against me, I caught him by his beard and struck him and killed him. 36 Your servant has struck down both lions and bears,

Luke 15:5-6

5 And when he has found it, he lays it on his shoulders, rejoicing. 6 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.'

3. Jesus Celebrates the One Who is Found

Luke 15:7

7 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.

Application:

1. Seek the One: This parable requires us to focus on "the one". Too busy entertaining Christians. 99 strengthens the one.as a local church if we fail to focus on the one we will fail.

2. Celebrate the One: the Pharisees and the tax collectors, the religious elite, the lowly, and the outcasts, and when anyone of them is found there is an eruption of celebration. The rejoicing that take place when a lost soul is saved is intense. Why isn't this the case for us in the church?