

RL GROUPS

Grace | God-sized Vision | For Every Generation

Luke 15:1-7

The Parable of the Lost Sheep

1 Now the tax collectors and sinners were all gathering around to hear Jesus. 2 But the Pharisees and the teachers of the law muttered, "This man welcomes sinners and eats with them."

3 Then Jesus told them this parable: 4 "Suppose one of you has a hundred sheep and loses one of them. Doesn't he leave the ninety-nine in the open country and go after the lost sheep until he finds it? 5 And when he finds it, he joyfully puts it on his shoulders 6 and goes home. Then he calls his friends and neighbors together and says, 'Rejoice with me; I have found my lost sheep.' 7 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.



Questions for Discussion

1. What's the most important thing you've lost or misplaced? Did you find it again? How did losing it / finding it make you feel?
2. Why do you think that Jesus spent so much of his time with sinners? Do you think the Pharisees were justified in their concerns?
3. In the parable of the lost sheep, the shepherd leaves the 99 in an open field to search for the lost sheep. Does that make him a good shepherd? Why or why not?
4. What does it mean for you to join in God's mission of seeking out and rescuing the lost? What might you have to let go of to join in on that mission?
5. What "next step" will you take this week toward being a follower of Jesus and not just a fan? Who is someone who could keep you accountable toward taking that step?

As you close your time together, have each person share a word that represents a step that God is asking them to take this week and lift those words up to God during a time of prayer.