

Seeking the Lost Luke 15

What is the most valuable thing you have lost? What was it like lose to lose it?

A bit of trouble

Read Luke 15:1-3.

Q: What prompts Jesus to tell this parable?

Q: Look back to Luke 5:27-32. Jesus has already been in trouble for exactly the same thing. What was his reaction the first time round?



Lost Sheep and Coins

Read the two parables from verse 3 to 10.

Q: What do the two stories have in common?

Q: How do these 2 stories answer the problem in verse 1-2?

Q: How are you/we in danger of thinking like the Pharisees??

Lost son

Now read the third parable... the story of the lost son. Read from verse 11 to 32. What is the main point of this parable?

Choose your own adventure... Pick a question!

- In the context of what's happening in Luke's gospel, who do the two sons represent?
- What can we learn from the younger son?
- What can we learn from the older Son?
- What can we learn from the Father?
- How might life be different if we really believed this parable?
- By the end of the story, which of the two sons is alienated from the father? What is the point of this?
- Why did the younger Son leave home? Why do people leave God today?
- "...he ran to his son, threw his arms around him and kissed him." Do you think God treats you like this? Why or why not?
- What do you think is the strongest emotion in this story?
- In this story who's reaction do you think is the most predictable? Why? Who's reaction is the least predictable? Why?
- Does God celebrate over you? Why?
- This story is called the '*prodigal son*'. *Prodigal* means '*wastefully extravagant*'. Who is the biggest prodigal in this story? Why is he like this?
- Can you see where both boys at some point see themselves as slaves not sons? Do we do this?
- If the older son had the heart of his father, how might he have reacted differently?
- Which son are you most like?

