

LOST & FOUND: THE COIN

LUKE 15:8-10

SERMON NOTES:

NEXT STEPS:

1. This week, whenever I see a coin I will stop, pray, and look for an opportunity to love, serve, and share Jesus with others.
2. This week, I will write a note of encouragement to someone who is struggling and remind them of their value in the eyes of Jesus.
3. This week, I pray daily and give thanks to Jesus Christ for seeking and finding me when I lost and separated from Him.
4. Today, I will go to www.stepstopeace.org to learn more about making Jesus the Lord and Savior of my life.

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS:

LUKE 15:8-10

Open your group or time alone in prayer, and remember that this is only a guide. Feel free to discuss each of the provided questions and Next Steps above, or simply dive deeper into just one. Before you close with prayer, look over the three essential questions at the end.

1. Which of your possessions were recently lost? Recently found?
2. Looking at the setting of this passage (vv. 1-2) and seeing his audience and what he teaches...should Jesus' practice of associating with sinners be taken as a model for our own discipleship and mission? If so, how should it be applied in practice in our own social setting?
3. How do you picture the woman searching for her money (vv. 8-9)? What is Jesus' point here?
4. What does it mean for a person to be lost spiritually? Who do you know who is lost? How could you leverage your influence in their life to lead them to Jesus?
5. In verse 10, Jesus repeated the message of verse 7. A repentant "sinner" brings celebration and joy to heaven. The question lingers: Does it bring the same joy and celebration to you? Do you share God's feelings of love and pity and care for sinners. Is your heart so heavy for them that their repentance—their being found for the kingdom—swells your heart with joy?
6. When did heaven rejoice because you were the repentant sinner who was found? Share your story with others in your group or take time if studying alone to call someone and share your story.

THREE ESSENTIAL QUESTIONS

1. **What do you think?** How did this message challenge, change, or affirm your thinking? What point in this message was most impactful for you?
2. **What will you do?** How will you or your group put into practice what you've learned today?
3. **How can you help others in your group?** How can you encourage, affirm, pray for, or keep accountable the commitments they put into practice?

KIDS' GUIDE:

One day the Pharisees saw Jesus eating with some tax collectors and sinners. They couldn't believe their eyes. Jesus claimed to be the Messiah, yet he was eating with sinners. They thought that if Jesus was the Messiah then he would be much too good to be sitting next to those types of people. The Pharisees would never even go near a tax collector or sinner. But the Pharisees didn't really understand the Bible or Jesus.

Jesus told them a story about a woman who had ten coins, but one day she lost one of them. She was very upset. A house back in Bible times did not have floors like we have today. This woman's house probably had a dirt floor with straw on top. So, you see why she was so upset. It could take her a long time to find a coin in all that dust and straw. But she searched and searched for it. She even lit a candle so that she could see better. When she didn't see it with the candlelight, she got a broom and started gently sweeping the whole house.

When she finally found it, she was so happy that she called all her friends and told them about it. Jesus often told stories like these, but they were more than just stories. He liked to use everyday things and situations to explain what God was like. In this story, Jesus was telling the Pharisees that they should be like the woman in the story. They should be concerned about lost sinners. They should look for them, search them out, and lead them to Jesus.

Pastor David gave us three lessons we can learn from the parable of the lost coin:

1. Every person, just like the coin is valuable.
2. Every person, just like the coin is lost and cannot save themselves.
3. Every person, just like the coin needs someone who cares enough to seek them, find them, and celebrate them.

The woman in this parable felt very sad when she lost her coin. She kept looking for her coin. When she found the coin, she was so happy! The Bible tells us that God is very happy when a sinner repents and turns to Him. Read Luke 15:10, and remember this week to pray for people who do not know Jesus. Pray as a family and ask God to give each member of your family the opportunity to talk to someone about Jesus and share God's love with them.

KIDS' OBJECT LESSON:

Give your child a coin, a pencil and a piece of white paper. He or she can slip the coin under the paper and etch the coin with the side of the pencil. If pressed hard enough with the side of the pencil, the etching will show the coin.

Have your child write across the top of the paper: Luke 15:10 Rejoice with me! I have found my lost coin!