

Sunday March 24th, 2024

The Two Sons


Intro

- Losing Passport in Rwanda: Lost..Found..Celebration

What Should My Heart Be Towards the Lost?

Care About the Lost and Seek Them Out.

- Eternities are at stake! Life of joy & celebration

Lost → Found → Celebration 

- Define Parable: “to throw alongside.” using everyday life to create one big point

1. The Set-Up (15:1-2)


Now the tax collectors and sinners were all gathering around to hear Jesus. But the Pharisees and the teachers of the law muttered, “This man welcomes sinners and eats with them.” -Luke 15:1-2

- Do people want to hear what you have to say?
- **Are you repelling or are you attracting? Magnet**

2. The Lost Sheep (15:3-7)


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. -Luke 15:3-7

Lost → Found → Celebration 

3. The Lost Coin (15:8-10)

8 "Or suppose a woman has ten silver coins and loses one. Doesn't she light a lamp, sweep the house and search carefully until she finds it? 9 And when she finds it, she calls her friends and neighbors together and says, 'Rejoice with me; I have found my lost coin.' 10 In the same way, I tell you, there is rejoicing in the presence of the angels of God over one sinner who repents." -Luke 15:8-10

Lost → Found → Celebration 

4. The Two Sons (15:11-32)

Prodigal (Latin: *Prodigus*)

Characterized by profuse or wasteful expenditure

-Webster's Dictionary

a. Rebellion (11-16)

11 Jesus continued: "There was a man who had two sons. 12 The younger one said to his father, 'Father, give me my share of the estate.' So he divided his property between them.

13 “Not long after that, the younger son got together all he had, set off for a distant country and there squandered his wealth in wild living. 14 After he had spent everything, there was a severe famine in that whole country, and he began to be in need. 15 So he went and hired himself out to a citizen of that country, who sent him to his fields to feed pigs. 16 He longed to fill his stomach with the pods that the pigs were eating, but no one gave him anything.

- *Rock Bottom-what has that looked like for you? Are you there now?*
 - In the throes of addiction to drugs, pornography? In adultery?
 - Have you lost everything? Money..friends..hope
 - *Jesus wants to meet you where you are at*

b. Repentance (17-19)

μετάνοια

Change of Mind, Repentance

-Lexham Research Lexicon of the Greek New Testament

17 “When he came to his senses, he said, ‘How many of my father’s hired servants have food to spare, and here I am starving to death! 18 I will set out and go back to my father and say to him: Father, I have sinned against heaven and against you. 19 I am no longer worthy to be called your son; make me like one of your hired servants.’ 20 So he got up and went to his father.

- *Have you been far from God? Weary, burdened, broken? Come home today!*

C. Rejoicing (20-24)

“But while he was still a long way off, his father saw him and was filled with compassion for him; he ran to his son, threw his arms around him and kissed him.

σπλαγχνίζομαι

to be deeply moved (bowels) — to be affected deeply in one’s inner being, especially in that aspect (the bowels) characterized by sympathy and compassion.

-Lexham Research Lexicon of the Greek New Testament

21 “The son said to him, ‘Father, I have sinned against heaven and against you. I am no longer worthy to be called your son.’

22 “But the father said to his servants, ‘Quick! Bring the best robe and put it on him. Put a ring on his finger and sandals on his feet. 23 Bring the fattened calf and kill it. Let’s have a feast and celebrate. 24 For this son of mine was dead and is alive again; he was lost and is found.’ So they began to celebrate.

- This is the Gospel!
- **We come with our rehearsed script, degrading ourselves, and God shreds it and gives us our true script**
- Just as He replaces our tattered rags with royal robes

d. Rejection (25-32)

25 “Meanwhile, the older son was in the field. When he came near the house, he heard music and dancing. 26 So he called one of the servants and asked him what was going on. 27 ‘Your brother has come,’ he replied, ‘and your father has killed the fattened calf because he has him back safe and sound.’

28 “The older brother became angry and refused to go in. So his father went out and pleaded with him. 29 But he answered his father, ‘Look! All these years I’ve been slaving for you and never disobeyed your orders. Yet you never gave me even a young goat so I could celebrate with my friends. 30 But when this son of yours who has squandered your property with prostitutes comes home, you kill the fattened calf for him!’

“Neither son loved the father for himself. They both were using the father for their own self-centered ends rather than loving, enjoying, and serving him for his own sake. This means that you can rebel against God and be alienated from him either by breaking his rules or by keeping all of them diligently. It's a shocking message: Careful obedience to God's law may serve as a strategy for rebelling against God.”

-Tim Keller, *Prodigal God*

- *Are you missing out on the celebration?*
- *Imagine your team wins the Super Bowl and you're sitting on the sidelines..*

“For the Son of Man came to seek and to save the lost.”

-Luke 19:10

31 “‘My son,’ the father said, ‘you are always with me, and everything I have is yours. 32 But we had to celebrate and be glad, because this brother of yours was dead and is alive again; he was lost and is found.’”

NEXT STEPS

- *Do you have a child who is lost? Write on the prayer card*
- *Are you lost?*

Want to talk more about Jesus?

Text MORE to 928-634-8166

- *Who in your life who is lost can you bring to Jesus?*



This week, I will invite _____ to Easter Sunday

Conclusion

- Immense value of what is lost - more than a passport
- Lost...Found...Rejoice.
- Let's go on a rescue mission, let's bring people to Jesus, and let's rejoice over the one who comes to Him

Connect Card: new here, love to meet and greet you

Prayer Team + Prayer Card: lost child, or you're lost, or for someone you know

Talk It Over

Stories That Stick

Week 3 The Two Sons

SMALL TALK

1. Share a time when you lost something valuable and found it.

VIEWPOINT

2. **Read Luke 10:25-37.** What does compassion look like in this parable?
3. **Read Luke 18:9-14.** What can we learn here about self-righteousness?
4. **Read Luke 19:1-10.** How does Jesus seek and save the lost here?

GETTING PERSONAL

5. Can you relate more to the younger brother or the older brother in Luke 15?

MAKING PROGRESS (THIS WEEK)

6. Who can you invite to Easter Sunday? Be specific about when and how you're going to do this.