



# FINDING THE LOST AMONGST THE FOUND

Luke 15:11-32

Luke: The Gospel to the Gentiles –  
Message 50

# Review

The Pharisees and scribes were murmuring about Jesus' practice of eating with and receiving "sinners" into His presence! (Luke 15:1-2)



Jesus responded by telling three parables:

1. The Lost Sheep (Luke 15:3-7)
2. The Lost Coin (Luke 15:8-10)
3. The Lost Son (Luke 15:11-24)



# The Prodigal Son.

We all know one, have been one,  
or are waiting for one to come home.



## I. The Dynamics of a Departure

Luke 15:12-13

# I. The Dynamics of a Departure (15:11-12)

- Selfishness
- Entitlement
- Facilitation
- Blaming Others
- Foolishness

# PRODIGAL.

“...and took his journey into a far country, and there wasted his substance with riotous living.” - Luke 15:13.

- Wasted – from verb, “to scatter” or “to squander.”
- Riotous - Ashton's “...without saving, dissolutely. Used of debauched and profligate living (TDNT).”

# II. The Path to Prodigality (15:13-16)

- Decline
- Disillusion
  - ▣ Easy come, easy go
  - ▣ We call this **SOWING AND REAPING!**
- Desperation

# III. The Awakening (15:17-20a)

- ▣ “He came to himself” – Luke 15:17
- ▣ *QUESTION: What does it take to awake?*



# III. The Awakening (15:17-20a)

- A. An Acceptance of Reality
- B. An Attitude of Repentance
  - ▣ An accurate view of self
  - ▣ An accurate view of sin
  - ▣ A willingness and commitment to do right



# IV. The Reconciliation (15:20b-24)

The son  
made  
the  
move!

The father  
was ready  
to  
reconcile!



# IV. The Reconciliation (15:20b-24)

- A. There was acceptance
- B. There was forgiveness
- C. There was restoration
  - ▣ It was a new day!
  - ▣ It was a new beginning!

# V. The Other Lost Son (15:25-30)

“And he was angry, and would not go in: therefore came his father out, and intreated him.” - *Luke 15:28.*

- ❑ The most difficult people to deal with are those who don't see their own need!
- ❑ This brother had a false assessment – both sons were given their inheritance!
- ❑ While he hadn't acted out as the prodigal son, he had the same feelings of selfishness and

# VI. The Point (15:31-32)

“And he said unto him, Son, thou art ever with me, and all that I have is thine.” - Luke 15:31.

- The other son thought his obedience deemed special treatment!
- Was he serving his father because he loved him?
- Or did he merely serve for his own benefit? (see verse 29)

# Conclusion

“It was meet that we should make merry, and be glad: for this thy brother was dead, and is alive again; and was **LOST**, and is **FOUND**.” - Luke 15:32.

- These three parables all end with a statement like this!
- The lost sheep - 15:6 — “rejoice with me, for I have **FOUND** my sheep which was **LOST**.”
- The lost coin - 15:9 — “And when she hath found it, she calleth her friends and her neighbours together, saying, Rejoice with me; for I have **FOUND** the piece which I had **LOST**.”

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“It was meet that we should make merry, and be glad: for this thy brother was dead, and is alive again; and was **LOST**, and is **FOUND**.” - Luke 15:32.

- ❑ The son who was **LOST** was **FOUND!**
- ❑ The son who **THOUGHT** he was **FOUND** was **LOST!**
- ❑ Remember back in Luke 15:1-2?
- ❑ These last 8 verses speak to them!
- ❑ REMEMBER THIS: GOD SAVES SINNERS; **God Only**

# Conclusion

“It was meet that we should make merry, and be glad: for this thy brother was dead, and is alive again; and was **LOST**, and is **FOUND**.” - Luke 15:32.

- Samuel Chadwick:
- The younger son broke the Father’s heart...
- ...the elder son was out of fellowship...
- ***...and the third Son is the One who uttered the parable.***

# Conclusion

- *Who do you identify with in this parable?*
  - ✓ *The Prodigal?*
  - ✓ *The Father?*
  - ✓ *The brother?*
- *Are you excited when people make life-changing choices to serve God?*
- *There are LOST amongst the FOUND!*



