

DIGGING DEEPER GUIDE

BIG IDEA: EVERY PERSON IS IMPORTANT TO GOD

Getting Started

Share an example of a possession that was lost and found or a time when you were lost in a new location and how you found your way.

Reflection/Discussion Questions

1. How does Jesus' parable of the lost sheep relate to the muttering of the Pharisees? What is Jesus trying to communicate?
2. How do you picture the woman searching for her money? Why is it so important?
3. How do these stories make you feel about your value to God?
4. Have you ever wandered away in your relationship with Christ? Why? How did God bring you back?
5. How could these stories affect your relationship with those you know who wander from the faith?
6. What was Jesus trying to teach the people about his mission? How do we carry on that mission?
7. What are the prayer requests on your mind today?

Prayer: Jesus, thank you for using stories to help us to see spiritual truth. Thank you for investing in people and showing us the heart of God. May we be diligent to pray for people who seem far from you these days. Amen.

Going Deeper: Read Luke 15:11-32, the rest of the chapter. Jesus uses three parables here to convey the same truth. What does he want the people to understand about the heart of God with these examples?

FOCUS SCRIPTURES:

"Now the tax collectors and 'sinners' were all gathering around to hear him. But the Pharisees and the teachers of the law muttered... Then Jesus told them this parable: 'Suppose one of you has a hundred sheep and loses one of them. Does he not leave the ninety-nine in the open country and go after the lost sheep until he finds it? And when he finds it, he joyfully puts it on his shoulders and goes home. Then he calls his friends and neighbors together and says, 'Rejoice with me; I have found my lost sheep.' 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 15:1-7