

*LESSON 9*  
***LOST AND FOUND***  
*LUKE 15:1—17:37*

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**1** What is the most valuable possession you've ever lost?

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**2** What did you do to try to find it?

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Read Luke 15:1—17:37 and the following notes:

☐ 15:2   ☐ 15:3–6   ☐ 15:4, 5   ☐ 15:8–10   ☐ 15:20   ☐ 15:24   ☐ 15:25–31  
☐ 15:30   ☐ 15:32

**3** What would a shepherd do when one of his sheep strayed away (15:4)?

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**4** What would he do after he found it (15:5, 6)?

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5 What would a woman do if she lost a silver coin (15:8)?

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6 What would she do when she found it (15:9)?

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7 What did the father do when his son returned home (15:11–32)?

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8 What has God done to find sinners (16:27–31)?

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9 At what point will God stop seeking sinners (17:22–37)?

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10 Why do you think Jesus told the three parables in chapter 15?

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In their desire to remain pure and holy, the Pharisees wanted nothing to do with “sinners.” They thought that religious people who observed all the Pharisees’ traditions should not associate with ungodly people (those who did not observe these traditions). What the Pharisees did not know or did not care about was that God seeks out sinners. Through these three parables, Jesus pointed out that the Pharisees lacked a key element of God’s heart—compassion for people who do not know God. God wants everyone to come to him. Those who truly know God desire the same thing.

**11** How can a person become spiritually lost?

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**12** What might cause a Christian to develop a callous attitude toward those who do not know God?

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**13** Whom do you know that is lost?

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**14** What can you do to help bring them to the Father?

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**15** How can you avoid becoming exclusive about your relationship with God, like the older brother in the parable of the lost son?

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**16** Name the lost people for whom you can pray regularly.

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**A** How did the shrewd manager protect himself against his employer (16:1–8)? How does your use of money reflect your commitment to God?

**MORE**  
for studying  
other themes  
in this section

**B** How can a Christian use money and possessions to help bring people to the Father (16:9)? What reward awaits the Christian who does this? How can you use your money and possessions to “make friends”?

**C** Why is it important to be faithful or trustworthy in small matters (16:10–13)? What has God entrusted to you? How can you be faithful (or responsible) in these areas?

**D** How do some people try to serve “both God and money” (16:10–13)? Why is this impossible? How can money come between a person and God?

**E** Why did the Pharisees scoff at Jesus’ teaching on money (16:14, 15)? In what areas are you tempted to rationalize your disobedience of God’s law?

**F** Why would the story of the rich man and Lazarus have upset the Pharisees (16:19–31)? Why did the rich man long for paradise?

**G** How did Jesus answer the disciples’ request for more faith (17:5–10)? What are you tempted to put off for lack of faith? What is your simple duty in that area?

**H** Why did the one leper return to thank Jesus (17:11–19)? What good things has God done for you? Why is it important to remember to thank God? What can you thank God for today?

**I** Why will many people not be ready for Christ’s return (17:20–37)? How can a person get ready? What do you need to do now to prepare?