



## PERSONAL STUDY GUIDE

JANUARY 13, 2019

### TAKEAWAY:

God is a missionary God who is concerned with and takes the initiative to reach the lost.

### WHY IT'S IMPORTANT:

We are called to intentionally and sacrificially reach out to the lost.

### GOSPEL CONNECTION:

The mission of God is about rescuing the least, last, lonely, and lost (Luke 5:31)!

### INTRODUCTION

- 1 Have you ever lost something and spent hours, day, or even weeks trying to locate it? What happened?
- 2 Why did you spend so much time looking for the item?

### ESSENTIAL QUESTIONS

> Read Luke 15:4.

4 *“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?”*

- How many sheep were in the herd? Why would it not make sense to many people to leave the rest of the herd in pursuit of one lost sheep?
- How long does the text say the shepherd searched for the sheep? Why is this significant?

> Read Luke 15:5.

5 *And when he finds it, he joyfully puts it on his shoulders*

- How did the sheep get back to safety? What does this tell us about the shepherd? What does it say about the sheep?
- How might this act remind us of God's strength in our weakness?

> Read Luke 15:6-7.

*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.*

- What does Jesus' emphasis on celebration teach us?
- How is God able to have unadulterated joy over the rescue of sinful people? How is payment made for their rejection of Him?

## **APPLICATION**

- 1 How does the example of the pursuit of the shepherd inform how we are to reach out to those around us?
- 2 In what ways can we reflect the all-inclusive rescue of God in our efforts to reach out to the lost?
- 3 How do this parable and the truth of the gospel change the way we must think of pursuing those who have rejected God?

## **THIS WEEK**

- Memorize Luke 15:7
- Read Luke 15:8-32 on Monday
- Read Luke 16:1-18 on Tuesday
- Read Luke 16:19-31 on Wednesday
- Read Luke 17:1-19 on Thursday
- Read Luke 17:20-37 on Friday
- Read Luke 18:1-43 on Saturday