

Jesus: The Good News

The Lost Son

Sermon Discussion Guide for the week of October 21, 2015

Main Point: You can run from God, but you can't outrun God.

Luke 14: 1-32

CONNECT

Share a time when you received some great news. Who did you share the news with first? How many people did you tell?

Share a time when you received some heartbreaking news. Who did you share the news with first? How many people did you tell?

Have you ever been there for others when they received crushing news? How did you respond to their hurt?

LEARN

Have a volunteer read Luke 15:1-10.

What are the similarities between the two parables in Luke 15:3-10?

Why do you think tax collectors and sinners gathered to hear Jesus while the Pharisees criticized Him?

How does Jesus' parable of the sheep relate to the complaining of the Pharisees?

Why do you think some people complain about the condition or preferences of other people who are coming to hear about Jesus?

What are the implications of these two parables for us today?

What does it mean for a person to be lost spiritually?

How long has it been since you shared with someone how to be a follower of Christ?

How active are you in searching for those who are spiritually lost?

Have a volunteer read Luke 15:11-32.

Put yourself in the place of the father in this story. How would you have felt? What would you have done in response to your son's request?

What was the son saying about how he valued his father?

Why do you think the father gave his son what he asked for?

In your spiritual journey, what do you identify as your time in a "far country"?

Where are you right now in your spiritual journey?

Why did the father respond the way he did when the younger son returns? What does this teach us about God?

What does God do with those who are spiritually lost?

SERVE

In what area of your life are you most likely to need restoration? Why?

What did love require in each of these parables? What does that teach us about God's love for us?

How can an understanding of the depth of God's love and grace affect the way that you pray? What is something that our group can pray about for you this week?

Who in your life is lost? How can God use you to share with them how to be a follower of Christ?

PRAYER

Close your time in prayer, praising God for His grace that He has given to us. Thank God that He graciously gives what we cannot earn or work for. Pray that God would continually remind you of His love and grace, so that you may trust Him more. Pray that God and His grace would be your hope.