



## Family Time

### Main Idea: Lost and Found



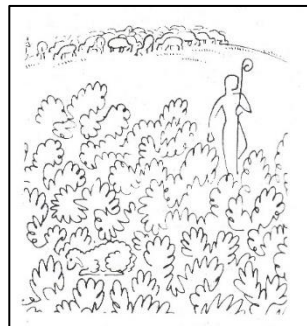
#### Key Verse: Luke 15:4-7

*<sup>4</sup> “What man among you, who has a hundred sheep and loses one of them, does not leave the ninety-nine in the open field and go after the lost one until he finds it? <sup>5</sup> When he has found it, he joyfully puts it on his shoulders, <sup>6</sup> and coming home, he calls his friends and neighbors together, saying to them, ‘Rejoice with me, because I have found my lost sheep!’ <sup>7</sup> I tell you, in the same way, there will be more joy in heaven over one sinner who repents than over ninety-nine righteous people who don’t need repentance.”*

#### Set it up:

Before family devotion, gather paper, pens, and colored pencils or crayons. Ask the family to imagine that they have a pet who is lost, or if you have a pet, ask them to imagine that your pet is lost. Then ask them to create a poster you might hang up in the neighborhood to find him or her. Explain that in the next part of the story, you will hear Jesus tell a story about something that was lost, then found, then celebrated.

**Read:** Luke 15:4-7 above.



#### Explain:

In Jesus’ story, one of the sheep was lost. Perhaps the man who owned the sheep might have thought, I still have 99 sheep; it’s not that big of a deal that I’ve lost one. But that would not be the attitude of a Good Shepherd. And the shepherd in Jesus’ story was a good one. This shepherd set out to find the one sheep rather than waiting and hoping the sheep would come home. And when he found him, the shepherd threw the sheep on his back and carried him home. And if that wasn’t enough, he threw a huge celebration when the sheep was returned.

The point of Jesus’ story was to show us just how intent God is on rescuing people. He did not wait for people to come to Him but instead sent His own Son, the Good Shepherd, to seek out those who were lost and bring them home. Jesus is still seeking sinners out, and every time He brings one back into the right relationship with God, there is a huge heavenly celebration. This is how much God values each person. This is how much each person matters.

#### Reflect:

1. Summarize Jesus’ story in your own words.
2. Why do you think Jesus told this story?
3. What does this story teach us about God?

#### Pray:

*You are calling us, Lord Jesus, to follow you. Help us not to look back at what we leave behind but instead, keep our eyes fixed on you.*