

The Lost Sheep

TEXT: Luke 15:1-10

KEY VERSE: How think ye? if a man have an hundred sheep, and one of them be gone astray, doth he not leave the ninety and nine, and goeth into the mountains, and seeketh that which is gone astray?
— Matthew 18:12

Our text for this lesson reveals the love and compassion of Jesus. This is portrayed as the shepherd's seeking his one lost sheep and the woman's searching for her lost coin. It brings out the helplessness of some who are lost, as well as the needs of those who are lost and do not realize it. Jesus is seeking for both. He gave these parables to the scribes and Pharisees to show how much He loves and values even one soul, and to show the joy in Heaven when a sinner repents.

1. The scribes and Pharisees complained, saying that Jesus received sinners and ate with them. Why was this complaint inappropriate?

2. Who were the scribes and Pharisees (Matthew 23:1-7)? In what way did they fall short of Jesus' expectations of them?

3. In what respect are we all like sheep who have gone astray (Isaiah 53:6)? Explain your answer.

4. Who rejoices when a sinner is saved?

5. Think of your concern for a loved one who is unsaved, and list several things you could do to help bring that one to the Lord. How is the value of a lost soul shown in the parable of the Lost Coin?

6. How does the woman's reaction to finding her lost coin, coincide with the words of Christ in Luke 5:32?

7. Describe the differences in the awareness of the sheep and the coin in regard to their lost condition.

8. What is repentance? See 2 Corinthians 7:10.