

God in Hot Pursuit

Luke 15:1-7

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Read Luke 15:1-2

Who would represent the Pharisees in our society today?

Who would represent the sinners and tax collectors in our society today?

What were the Pharisees complaining about?

Read verses 3-6 As Jesus often did, He skipped the direct attack and told a story. Why do that? What's the value of a parable? (The key to understanding a parable is to realize it has one main point. They're not allegories in which everything is a symbol.)

Why is the shepherd not content with just having 99 of his sheep safe?

What does this story teach us about the character of God and His desire for the lost?

How can you have this same determination for the lost? How can Christians fight the mindset of leaving it up to the lost to seek God?

Luke 15:7 gives us a glimpse into the priorities of heaven. What are some barriers that keep believers from having an attitude of evangelism?

Who is doing the rejoicing by the way?

What does this story suggest about how Jesus would feel if you were to repent?

Who do you know that needs to be gone after, searched for, and found? How could you help them meet Jesus?

The purpose of the story is to answer the question implied by the mutterers, "Why do you hang out with losers?" In light of what we have just studied, what is your answer to that question?

"GOSPEL" means good news. Here's the shockingly good news: God loves losers. He loves to show mercy. He delights to restore broken people. He rejoices to forgive. He takes joy in ending estrangement