

**Connect Lesson April 9-10, 2022**  
**Pastor Paul Daugherty**  
**“Holy Week”**

**Message Recap**

- I. John 3:16 is the essence of the Gospel message, relaying the message of God’s love through Jesus for the whole world. On this Holy Week, as we celebrate Easter, let us be reminded that God is always pursuing us, even in our sinful state. In Luke 15, Jesus gave three distinct examples of the lengths that God goes through in order to save even one individual and how joyful that makes Him when it happens.

**II.**

The 3 Parables:

1. The Lost Sheep (Luke 15:3-7)

In this story, Jesus highlights the importance of going after one who is in danger, even though there are countless others that are not. And when He finds the sheep, He *joyfully* puts the sheep on His shoulders. This shows us that our rescue is not an inconvenience for God, but rather a joyful occasion for each one He saves. The owner of the sheep invites everyone to come and celebrate the occasion.

2. The Lost Coin (Luke 15:8-10)

This parable is much like the first and additionally points out that we are of great value, like a silver coin. Just because the woman had nine other silver coins, it did not diminish the value of the tenth coin, nor her joy when she found it. Once again, she invites everyone to celebrate with her.

3. The Prodigal (Luke 15:11-32)

This parable is one of the most famous in all of the Bible. The father in this parable, even after his son basically tells him he wishes he were dead, embraces him as he returns home and restores him back to sonship. This is a powerful reminder that no matter how far we run, God is always looking for us and running after us with His love. Some of us may be like the older brother, too, who is angry that the father is celebrating the younger son’s return. God wants us to understand that we are *His* heirs, and everything He has belongs to us when we become a part of His family.

**Read and Discuss**

**Read Luke 15:3-10**

1. Have you ever been a lost sheep or coin? Share your story.
2. How do you know that you have value?

**Read Luke 15:11-32**

1. Do you align more with the prodigal or the older brother?
2. Has there been a time when you felt like a prodigal in your life? What did God do to show you He was running to meet you, even in that time?

## Scripture Reading

### Luke 15

15 Now the tax collectors and sinners were all gathering around to hear Jesus. 2 But the Pharisees and the teachers of the law muttered, “This man welcomes sinners and eats with them.”

3 Then Jesus told them this parable: 4 “Suppose one of you has a hundred sheep and loses one of them. Doesn’t he leave the ninety-nine in the open country and go after the lost sheep until he finds it? 5 And when he finds it, he joyfully puts it on his shoulders 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.

### The Parable of the Lost Coin

8 “Or suppose a woman has ten silver coins[a] and loses one. Doesn’t she light a lamp, sweep the house and search carefully until she finds it? 9 And when she finds it, she calls her friends and neighbors together and says, ‘Rejoice with me; I have found my lost coin.’ 10 In the same way, I tell you, there is rejoicing in the presence of the angels of God over one sinner who repents.”

### The Parable of the Lost Son

11 Jesus continued: “There was a man who had two sons. 12 The younger one said to his father, ‘Father, give me my share of the estate.’ So he divided his property between them.

13 “Not long after that, the younger son got together all he had, set off for a distant country and there squandered his wealth in wild living. 14 After he had spent everything, there was a severe famine in that whole country, and he began to be in need. 15 So he went and hired himself out to a citizen of that country, who sent him to his fields to feed pigs. 16 He longed to fill his stomach with the pods that the pigs were eating, but no one gave him anything.

17 “When he came to his senses, he said, ‘How many of my father’s hired servants have food to spare, and here I am starving to death! 18 I will set out and go back to my father and say to him: Father, I have sinned against heaven and against you. 19 I am no longer worthy to be called your son; make me like one of your hired servants.’ 20 So he got up and went to his father.

“But while he was still a long way off, his father saw him and was filled with compassion for him; he ran to his son, threw his arms around him and kissed him.

**21 “The son said to him, ‘Father, I have sinned against heaven and against you. I am no longer worthy to be called your son.’**

**22 “But the father said to his servants, ‘Quick! Bring the best robe and put it on him. Put a ring on his finger and sandals on his feet. 23 Bring the fattened calf and kill it. Let’s have a feast and celebrate. 24 For this son of mine was dead and is alive again; he was lost and is found.’ So they began to celebrate.**

**25 “Meanwhile, the older son was in the field. When he came near the house, he heard music and dancing. 26 So he called one of the servants and asked him what was going on. 27 ‘Your brother has come,’ he replied, ‘and your father has killed the fattened calf because he has him back safe and sound.’**

**28 “The older brother became angry and refused to go in. So his father went out and pleaded with him. 29 But he answered his father, ‘Look! All these years I’ve been slaving for you and never disobeyed your orders. Yet you never gave me even a young goat so I could celebrate with my friends. 30 But when this son of yours who has squandered your property with prostitutes comes home, you kill the fattened calf for him!’**

**31 “‘My son,’ the father said, ‘you are always with me, and everything I have is yours. 32 But we had to celebrate and be glad, because this brother of yours was dead and is alive again; he was lost and is found.’”**