

LOST & FOUND
GOD'S RESCUE MISSION AT CHRISTMAS
December 4, 2022

Jesus: "I have come to SEEK and to SAVE those who are LOST." Luke 19:10

Jesus told 3 stories to explain what he meant:

"The Lost Sheep" (Luke 15:1-7)

"The Lost Coin" (Luke 15:8-10)

"The Lost Son" (Luke 15:11-31)

WHAT DO I LOSE WHEN I'M "LOST"?

Like a LOST SHEEP...

1. I LOSE MY DIRECTION.

"All of us have strayed away just like lost sheep. We've all left God's path to follow our own ways." Isaiah 53:6

2. I LOSE GOD'S PROTECTION.

"My people are wandering like lost sheep, without a shepherd to protect and guide them." Zechariah 10:2

Like a LOST COIN...

3. I LOSE MY POTENTIAL.

"No one has ever seen or heard or even imagined the wonderful things God has prepared and arranged for those who love him." 1 Corinthians 2:9

"God can do anything, you know—far more than you could ever imagine or guess or request in your wildest dreams! He does it not by pushing us around but by his power working within us." Ephesians 3:20

Like a LOST SON...

4. I LOSE MY HAPPINESS.

"The younger son wasted all he'd been given and eventually he became miserable and lonely." Luke 15:14

Our wandering nature separates us from God

Our circumstances can separate us from God

Our choices separate us from God

5. I LOSE MY HOME IN HEAVEN.

"What good is it for a man to gain the whole world, if he loses his soul?" Luke 9:25

BUT I DON'T LOSE MY VALUE

“God loved the world so much that he gave his one and only Son so that whoever believes in him may not be lost, but have eternal life.” John 3:16

Christmas is *God's mission to save us!*

“The angel announced: ‘Don't be afraid! I bring you good news that will be a great joy to ALL people: Today a SAVIOR has been born FOR YOU! He is Jesus Christ the Lord.’” Luke 2:10b-11

WHAT DOES IT MEAN TO BE “SAVED”?

Like the Shepherd going after his lost sheep...

1. JESUS CAME TO RESCUE ME.

“Jesus is the only one who can bring us to God. He became a human and gave himself to rescue all of us.” 1 Tim. 2:5

“Trust me in your times of trouble, and I will rescue you, and you will give me glory.” Psalm 50:15

Like the Woman searching for her lost coin...

2. JESUS CAME TO RECOVER ME.

Jesus: “Come to me, all you who are weary and worn out from carrying too much. Learn to trust and rest in me and you'll recover your life.” Matt. 11:28

“I will give you back what you lost in the years when the locusts ate all your crops.” Joel 2:25

Like the Father running out to greet his lost son...

3. JESUS CAME TO RECONNECT ME.

“Anyone who connects to Christ becomes a new person. The past is forgotten, and everything becomes new. God has done it all! He sent Christ to make peace between himself and us.” 2 Cor. 5:17-18

“We throw open our doors to God and discover at the same moment that he has already thrown open his door to us!” Rom. 5:2

“Right now God is ready to welcome you. Today he is ready to save you!” 2 Cor. 6:2