

## Mark Moyer

### Introduction: Parable of the Lost Sheep

Actors in the story: **Jesus** (the Shepherd)

**Irreligious Sinners** (the lost) & **Pharisees** (ninety-nine)

#### I. Parable of the Lost Sheep (Luke 15:1-7)

- A. **Draw** sinners to Himself. (v. 1) Tax collectors and other notorious sinners often came to listen to Jesus teach.
- B. **Despised** by the religious for associating with sinners.  
(v. 2) This made the Pharisees and teachers of religious law complain that he was associating with such sinful people-even eating with them!
  - **Complain/Murmur** is the same word used in the Greek Old Testament for the repeated "murmuring" of the people against Moses and Aaron in the wilderness (Exodus 15:24; 16:2, 7-8; 17:3; Numbers 14:2; 16:11). It appears only twice in the New Testament, here and in Luke 19:7. **Both times it is in the mouth of Pharisees complaining against Jesus.**
- C. **Defines** who He is talking to. (v.3) He told **them** this story:
  - **Them** clearly refers to the scribes and Pharisees. Jesus was not talking to a general audience, **but rather to a very specific group of people** who were upset because he welcomed outcasts into full fellowship with himself.
- D. **Determined** to find the lost sheep. (v.4) Won't he leave the 99 others in the wilderness and go search for the one that is lost until he finds it?
  1. **Comfort**- He will go after the one who is lost until he finds it. (v.4)
  2. **Carry**- He will carry it on his shoulders. (v.5)
  3. **Celebrate**- He will celebrate with the "community" when he returns home with the lost sheep. (v.6)

#### II. Parable of the Lost Silver (Luke 15:8-10)

#### III. Parable of the Lost Son (Luke 15:11-32)

### Life Group Questions:

- What is something you learned from today's teaching you can apply to your life?
- What keeps us from interacting with the lost and hurting?
- Who do you surround yourself with (accountability/fellowship) to help keep you from "straying" away from God?