

Opening questions

Have you ever lost something at home or somewhere else? Did you look for it? How extensively? How did you feel when you found it (or are you still looking for it)?

Introduction

For the next three weeks we will be looking at stories around the theme “Lost and Found”

Luke is putting together three stories to express Jesus mission, and therefore ours, and his response to grumbling religious leaders.

At the start of the chapter, we learn that tax collectors and sinners were gathering around Jesus, but the religious leaders were mumbling (read Luke 15: 1-2). They were angry that Jesus didn’t separate Himself from them and said “This man receives sinners and eats with them.”

So Jesus tells them three stories: the parable of the lost sheep (15:1-7), the parable of the lost coin (15:8-10) and the parable of the lost son(s) (15: 11-32)

We will look at each parable for the next three weeks and will start with the parable of the lost coin.

Read Luke 15: 8-10.

If you can, look at the painting from James Tissot “the lost drachma.” Share what you see.



The resounding message the painter is telling is that this woman is determined to find that lost coin no matter what. The woman is so desperate that she is down on her hands and knees doing whatever it takes to find it.

While an ancient drachma was not worth much, the woman does not consider that and her search is urgent and focused. This woman will not stop searching until she finds it.

After she finds the coin, she throws a party and spends more money on the party than what the coin is worth, because to her this insignificant little coin was worth everything.

The woman represents the heart of God:

What does it tell you about God’s care for you and for his world?

The coin represents the lost that needs to be found:

You might want to share how God has found you.

Maybe you feel a little bit lost, forgotten and in the dirt. How does the story encourage you today?

The KEY POINT is no matter what it cost, or how long it takes, Jesus is set on finding you, picking you up and keeping you close. But coins have two sides: If saving the lost is everything to Jesus, is it also everything to us?

Sharing our faith is not easy. What are some of the obstacles you have encountered?

Sometimes we stop sharing our faith because we have been hurt, rejected or we say we are just too busy.

How can you recapture the passion and love of God for the lost?

How can you grow in confidence in sharing our faith around you?

Here are two practical opportunities to do something about reaching out to our friends and neighbours who need to hear about God’s love

1. Bring someone along to church and especially to our New Comers Special Service on Sunday the 29th of September
2. Commit to the 6 practical video based course that will inspire you to share your faith. Starting at Trull Church Community Centre starting on Tuesday 1st October 2019, 7.30pm – 9.00pm.