



Week One

Opening Prayer

God, thank you for meeting us here. Help this time together be life-giving to each of us as a group of friends and as individuals. We want to say 'yes' to what you have for us here.

Talk It Over

This week we looked at the Parable of the Lost Sheep, Coin and Son laid out in Luke 15.

- Do you have a natural sense of direction or do you find yourself unsure of where to go often? Tell us how this skill or lack of skill plays out in your normal life.
- Share about memorable time you were physically lost or you lost something important of yours.
- If you are a parent or have a child in your life you care for (i.e younger sibling, nieces, nephew, student, etc.), have you ever lost sight of your child? What was that experience like for you?

Divide out the following next three sections of the Luke story. Between each section of the reading, answer the following questions:

- What key details in this section of the story sound important to you? Why do they matter to you?
- What jumped out to you in this section of reading?

Read Luke 15:1-7

Read Luke 15: 8-10

Read Luke 15:11-24

Our first big take-away from these three stories is an important one: Jesus is all about turning the lost into the found. God cares deeply about seeking after the lost. And this is good news for all of us because while we might like to see ourselves as someone "saved" and found, it's important to remember: **We can all be lost.**

- Without sharing names or details that could be seen as gossip, have you ever seen someone walk away from their faith or start acting in ways that felt lost? What sorts of steps did you see this person take? If this is a part of your own story, we'd love to hear from you here.
- Why do you think it's important that "saved" and found people remember they too can be lost?

Disclaimer: As we go about this conversation, it's important we remember and know that salvation is a done deal once we say 'yes' to Jesus. In other words, we may be "saved" and "found" yet still act or behave in lost ways.

Read Luke 15:4, Luke 15:8, and Luke 15:20

In all three of the stories, the thing that's lost is never forgotten. The shepherd never forgets about his sheep, the woman never forgets about her coin, and the father never forgets about his son. That's the second crucial lesson from these stories: **We are all sought.**

(Content continued on the next page.)

- Why do you think it's important to remember that all people are sought?
- In what ways have you felt sought after by God? These can be details from your current life or from other parts of your story.

Read Luke 15:4-7, Luke 15:8-10, Luke 15:21-24

Whether you associate yourself this season with the son who left home or the father awaiting the return of someone you love and lost, these stories remind us: **We can all be found.**

- If you went to service this week, whose name did you write on your "Found" coin? Tell us why this person matters to you. If you didn't go to service, here is the question: is there someone in your life that's lost right now? Maybe that person is just a little off track or maybe that person seems hopelessly lost in the high weeds. Tell us why this person matters to you.
- What is your hope and prayer for this person? What do you want them to learn, discover, or find?

A big idea we looked at today was that found people find people. If you've been lost and then been found, you are uniquely equipped to go find people. There's nobody better qualified than you.

- Looking back at a time in your life that you felt spiritually lost or were spiritually lost but unaware:
 - What do you wish people would have told you or done for you during that time ?
 - What caused you to be lost in the first place?
 - What helped you be found?

This week we were challenged to keep our "Found" coin with us and to pray the following two things when we see the coin:

1. That God would use you to help that person to be found and find their way back.
2. And that you would be bold and courageous to invite that person to join you for Easter services at EastLake Church.

- What did this week's challenge stir up in you?
- Are you committing to the challenge?

Closing Prayer

God, you know the details of our story — you know the best of us and the worst of us — and you love us. You love us so much you seek us. Help us to live aware of the simple truth that we are all sought and we can all be found. Help us to love those far from you in a way that helps them sense your love and warmth. Amen.

How To Use this Discussion Guide

The guide is meant to serve you and your group as you intentionally create space to grow in friendship and faith. Use the guide as a tool to help your unique group connect in friendship and grow faith.

With that in mind, consider reviewing the guide before your group to see if some content or questions might resonate more or less with your group. Don't feel pressure to read all the content or to hit all the questions. The guide is not meant to be something you power through for the sake of completing. Pick the content from the guide you feel will help foster friendship and faith in your specific group.

Spend some time praying for your group, preparing your heart, and asking God for wisdom and guidance regarding your specific group.