Seeking the Lost

Ken Chapman · Luke 15:1–32

INTRODUCTION

- This quarter we want to talk about those who aren't here, who aren't active, who aren't participating as a family member should.
- Our greater plea is that they come back to the Lord, because that's where the salvation resides.
- It is possible that you could have a hundred percent attendance and still not be in a right relationship with God.

1 Christ and the Father's Deep Care for the Lost

- These parables illustrate Christ and the Father's deep care and love and concern for the lost.
- All three stories show God's and heaven's concern and love for the lost. Because God views us as valuable.
- Why God would see me as valuable enough to go seek and to search, to look for and to welcome back home. But he does.
- A child is to be like their parent. We're to be like our father.
- If we're his children, we'll have that same care as well.
- He says, your son. But the father said, your brother. Emphasizing that relationship that we should emulate.

2 Heaven's Exuberant Joy Over One Lost Soul

Luke 15:7; Luke 15:10; Luke 15:32

- All three of these parables show the exuberant joy that heaven, that God, Jesus Christ, and the angels have over the salvation of one lost soul.
- There will be more joy in heaven over one sinner who repents than over 99 just persons who need no repentance.
- There is joy in the presence of the angels of God over one sinner who repents.
- It was right that we should make merry and be glad. For your brother was dead and is alive again and was lost and is found.
- When we talk about restoring, loving our fallen brothers and restoring them, there should be no need for greater motivation.
- I want heaven to stop what it's doing and rejoice and celebrate.

3 The Contrast Between God's Attitude and the Pharisees'

Galatians 6:1

- The pouting older brother, who, by the way, was just as lost, if not more so, than the brother who went and wasted his inheritance in riotous living.

- Which side will I find myself on? What's my attitude toward those who were erring?
- The elder brother demonstrates the absolute wrong attitude that the scribes and the Pharisees had.
- All three of these stories talk about restoring someone back to the fold. Back to the collection, back to the family.
- If you're spiritual, you restore such a one. In a spirit of gentleness, considering yourself, lest you also be tempted.

> THE CHALLENGE
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> **Why not come back today? The Father is waiting to embrace you and to welcome you back, not as a hired servant, but as a child of God.**

MY NOTES