

Three Parables

Luke 15

Dogwood Kids

September 13, 2020

Home Edition

In Luke 19, Jesus went after Zacchaeus, a chief tax collector. Zacchaeus was not well liked, but his interaction with Jesus led him to repent of his wrongdoing. Jesus said to him, “The Son of Man has come to seek and to save the lost” (Luke 19:10).

Who are “the lost”? What does it mean to be lost? In Luke 15, Jesus told three parables to the crowd of tax collectors, sinners, Pharisees, and scribes. Jesus’ teaching brought gospel truth to the tax collectors and sinners—those whose unrighteousness separated them from God—and to the Pharisees and scribes—those whose relied on their own righteous efforts for salvation.

The first two parables are similar. In one, a man loses a sheep. He leaves his flock to find the missing sheep, and he rejoices when it is found. In the second, a woman loses a silver coin. The woman carefully searches until she finds it. Then she calls her neighbors and friends to celebrate with her. Heaven rejoices when even one sinner repents. Finally, Jesus told a parable about two sons. The younger son asked for his inheritance, wasted his money on immoral living, and decided to return to his father. Rather than rejecting his wayward son, the father embraced him. The older son, who had always been obedient to his father, reacted with anger.

Jesus taught what God is like. He seeks sinners who have wandered far from Him, and He seeks sinners who try to earn salvation by their good works. As you teach, help your kids understand that being lost means not knowing Jesus as Lord and Savior. God loves us, and He actively seeks to bring sinners to Himself.

Journal Page



- What does this story teach me about God or the gospel?
- What does this story teach me about myself?
- Are there any commands in this story to obey? How are they for God's glory and my good?
- Are there any promises in this story to remember? How do they help me trust and love God?
- How does this story help me to live on mission better?

FAMILY DISCUSSION STARTERS

- Who are you most like—the younger brother who breaks the rules or the older brother who thinks rules can save him?
- How is the gospel good news for both rule breakers and rule followers?
- Pray as a family for someone you know who is far from God.

Three Parables

Luke 15

STORY POINT: JESUS CAME TO SEEK AND SAVE THE LOST.

Jesus told the religious leaders three parables to teach about God. Jesus said, "If a man has 100 sheep and loses one, he leaves the 99 sheep and searches for the lost sheep until he finds it." Jesus also said, "If a woman has 10 silver coins and loses one of them, she lights a lamp, sweeps the house, and searches carefully until she finds it."

Jesus told a third story. "A man had two sons. The younger son said, 'Father, give me my inheritance today.' So the father did. The younger son left home. He wasted his money and lived foolishly. The younger son decided to go back to his father and admit he was wrong. He would ask to work for his father like the servants.

"His father ran to him, threw his arms around him, and kissed him. The son began to apologize.

"But the father told his servants, 'Let's celebrate with a feast! This son of mine was lost, and now he is found!'

"At this time, the older son came from the fields. 'What's going on?' he asked one of the servants.

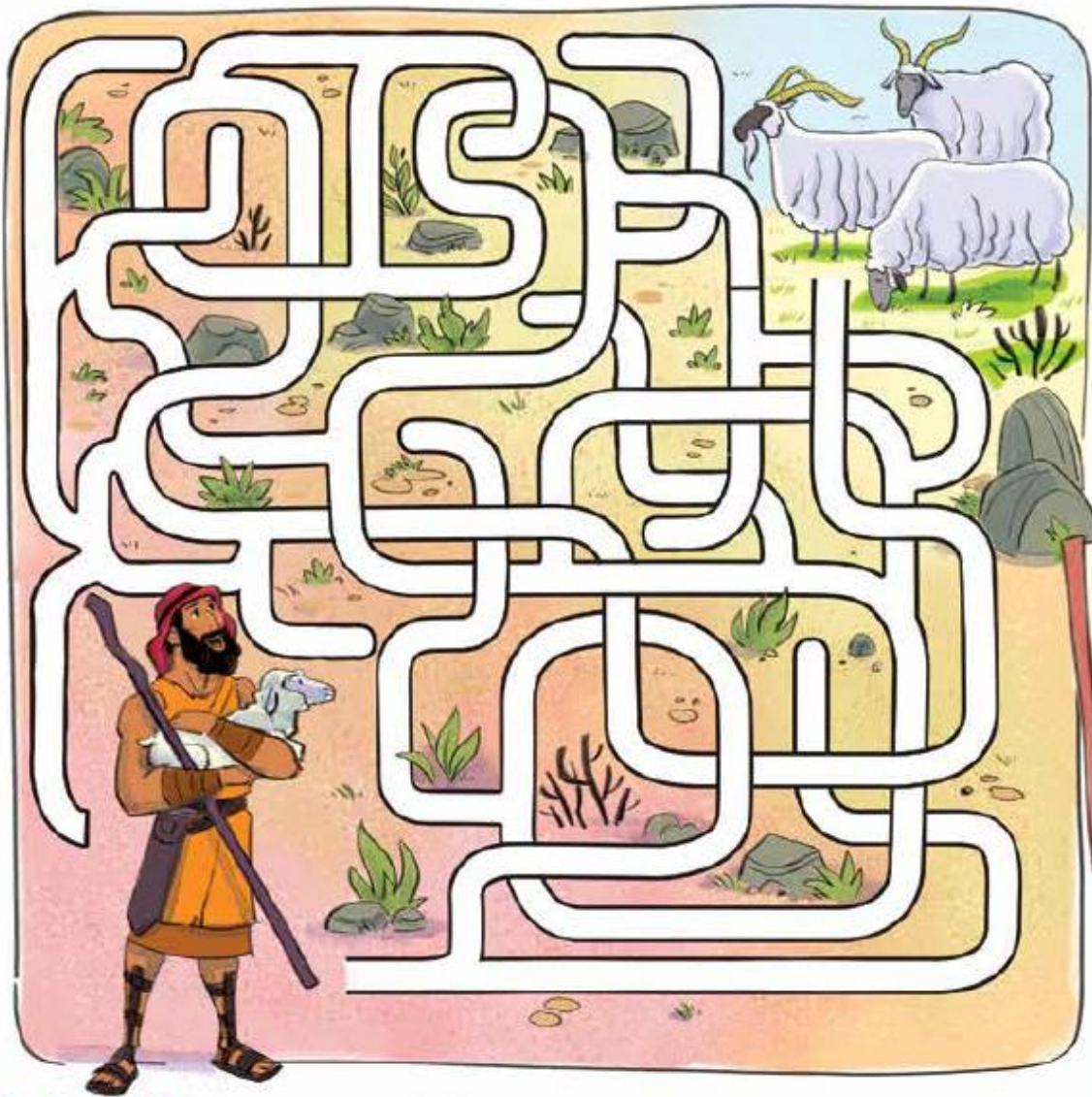
"Your brother is here,' the servant said. 'Your father is celebrating.'

"The older brother was angry!

"Son,' the father said, 'everything I have is yours. We have to celebrate. Your brother was lost and is found.'"



Christ Connection: The religious leaders complained that Jesus welcomed sinners. Jesus told these parables to teach about God's forgiveness. God sent Jesus so sinners can be forgiven. As Savior, Jesus seeks sinners. He paid the ultimate price—His own life—to save people from sin.



Going Home

Find the path from the shepherd and his sheep to the flock of sheep.

Storyboard Scenes

Look up each reference in the Bible. Draw a picture from each scene.

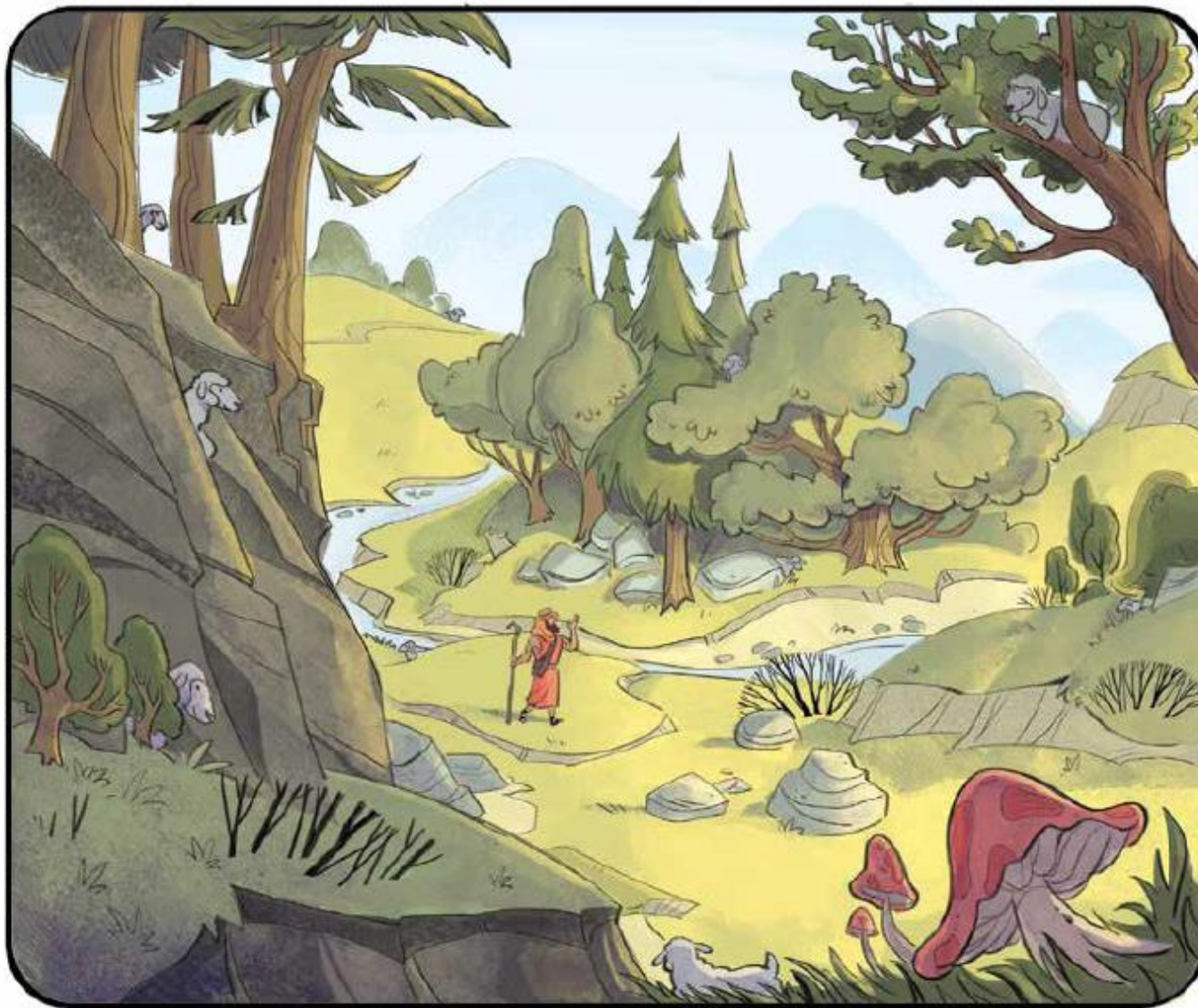
Luke 15:11-19

Luke 15:20-24

Luke 15:25-32

Shepherd's Roundup

INSTRUCTIONS: Find and circle 10 sheep hidden in the picture below.



Younger Kids Activity Pages
Unit 25 • Session 2
Three Parables

BIBLE STORY SUMMARY:

- Jesus told stories to explain God's love for sinners.
- God is like a shepherd who leaves 99 sheep to find one lost sheep.
- God is like a father who welcomes his runaway son home.
- Jesus came to seek and save the lost.

KEY PASSAGE: Colossians 1:13-14

BIG PICTURE QUESTION:

- How does God care for His creation? God loves and rules over His creation according to His perfect plan.

FAMILY DISCUSSION STARTERS:

- What does it mean to be lost?
- How do you feel about Jesus, knowing that He loves sinners?
- How should we treat those we think may be lost?

FAMILY ACTIVITY:

- Play a game of hide-and-seek with your kids. Discuss the ways our sin leads us away from God. Remind kids that Jesus is like the seeker.
- Help your kids make a list of people they know who may be lost. Set aside time each night to pray for the people on each list.

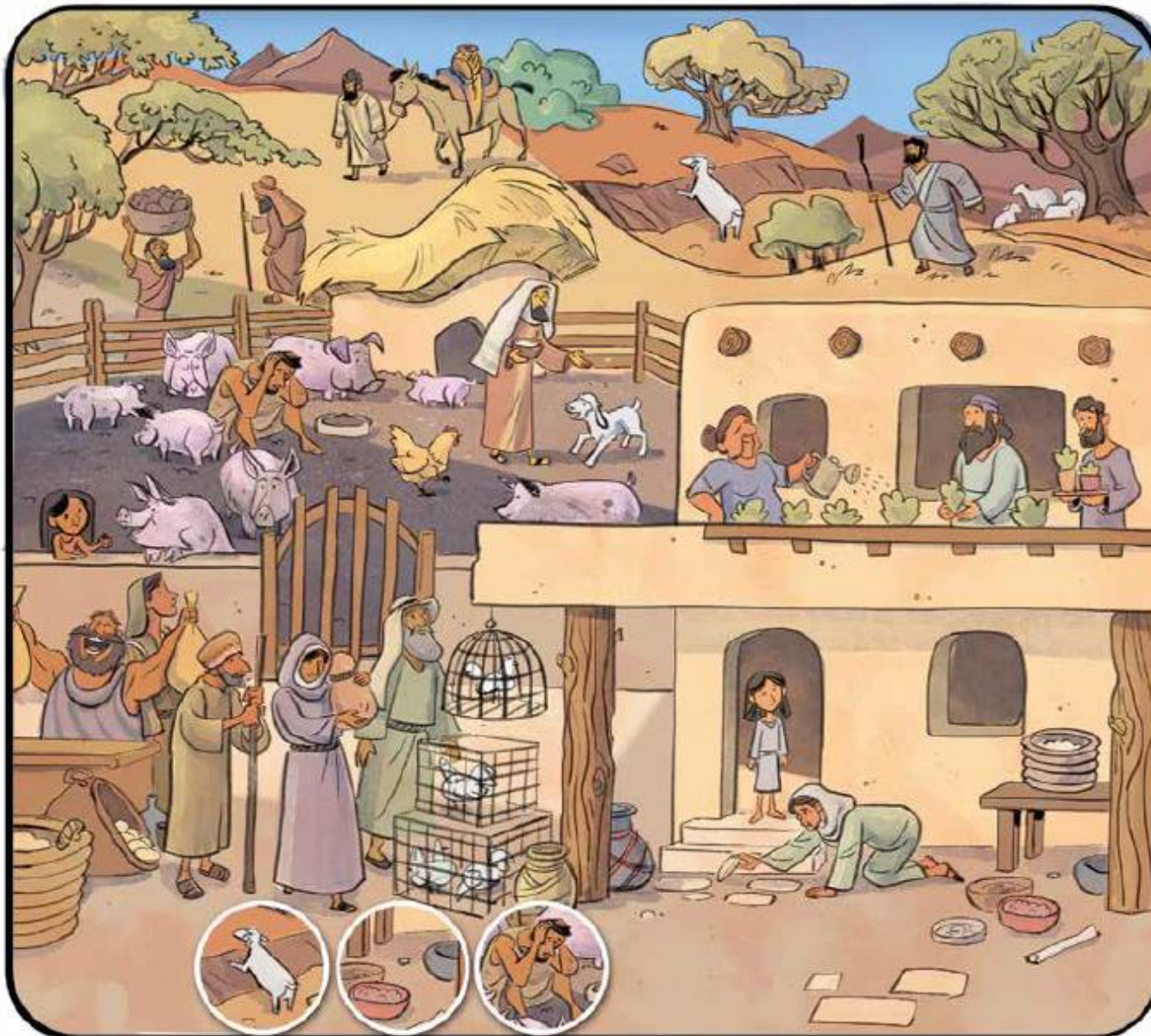


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Find What's Lost

INSTRUCTIONS: Use the key to find and circle the three lost items.



Preschool Activity Pages
Unit 25 • Session 2
Three Parables

BIBLE STORY SUMMARY:

- Jesus told three stories about people who were looking for things that were lost.
- Jesus told these stories to teach about Himself.
- Jesus came to save people who do not know Him.

KEY PASSAGE: Colossians 1:13

BIG PICTURE QUESTION:

- How does God care for His creation? God loves and rules over all He made.

FAMILY DISCUSSION STARTERS:

- What do these stories teach us about God's love for people?
- What is the difference between something being lost and someone being lost spiritually?
- What happens in heaven when someone is sorry for his sin and turns to God?

FAMILY ACTIVITY:

- Hide a coin for your family to find. Celebrate when the coin is found. Talk about how God looks for people who do not know Him.
- Name people you know who do not know God, who are lost. Pray as a family for God to save them.



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**He has rescued us from
the domain of darkness
and transferred us into the
kingdom of the Son he loves. In
him we have redemption, the
forgiveness of sins.**

Colossians 1:13-14





**He has rescued us ...
and transferred us
into the kingdom
of the Son he loves.**
Colossians 1:13

