

CONNECT GROUP NOTES Sunday 26.03.2023

"The Lost Coin"

Preacher

Pastor Cameron Hall

Scripture

"Or suppose a woman has ten silver coins and loses one. Doesn't she light a lamp, sweep the house and search carefully until she finds it? 9 And when she finds it, she calls her friends and neighbours together and says, 'Rejoice with me; I have found my lost coin.' 10 In the same way, I tell you, there is rejoicing in the presence of the angels of God over one sinner who repents." Luke 15:8-10

Thought

Jesus presents the parable of the lost coin in the middle of three parables. The commonality between these parables is that they all involve something which was lost, and the heart of Jesus to find, to rescue, and to rejoice when that which was lost is found again. They're all both a picture of repentance and a reflection of the heart of Jesus.

In the parable of the lost coin, we don't know how the coin was lost - but we do know that there is a sense of urgency to find it. A lost coin has inherent value, and it's this value that drives the woman in the story to search for it. This is a beautiful reminder of the grace of the Lord, Jesus. He knows and identifies the value within is, and is willing to remain in the search until we are brought home.



Yet there are two positions we can find ourselves in. The first is that we're lost and don't realise it. The second is that we're found, but have forgotten the joy that comes with that.

Paul (who was known as Saul) was a pharisee. He was faultless when it came to the law - but he had an incredible encounter with Jesus, and in this moment realised that he was indeed lost and needed God's grace.

We can be lost in the safest, nicest, cleanest environment, but we're still lost. It takes the sweeping of the gospel and the illumination of the Holy Spirit to bring us to the point of realising that we need to be found in Him.

Sometimes we lose the joy that comes with being found. We settle into a status quo and stop living in the posture of being truly found by a loving and life-giving God. Ephesians 1:18 reminds us to know the hope to which He has called us.

So today, may we truly know Christ as the one who seeks and saves the lost. He lifts us from the miry clay and places our feet upon a rock. He steps into the midst of the sin, the shame and circumstances of this world and places us on a solid, unshakable foundation where we are found and secure again.

We, who were dead in sin, are now alive in Christ. May we truly celebrate the joy of our salvation as we are made perfect only by His grace.

Discussion Points

1. What does the parable of the lost coin reveal to you about the nature of Jesus?

2. Thinking about your own faith journey, what do you most resonate with from the parable?

3. Looking outward to those around you - whether your workplace, study place, or those you do life with along the way - what does this parable mean for them, and does it give more clarity and meaning to how you see them?



Personal application + Prayer

Jesus,

Thank You that You came to seek and save the lost. Thank you, Holy Spirit, that you illuminate the darkest places to find me. Thank you, Father, that you embrace me into your family with open arms. May I always be found in You, may You set my feet upon a solid rock, may You restore unto me the joy of my salvation, and may I, in turn, extend Your grace, peace and love to the world.

Amen