

"Suppose one of you has a hundred sheep and loses one of them. Does he not leave the ninety-nine in the open country and go after the lost sheep until he finds it? And when he finds it, he joyfully puts it on his shoulders and goes home. Then he calls his friends and neighbors together and says, 'Rejoice with me; I have found my lost sheep.' I tell you that in the same way there will be more rejoicing in heaven over one sinner who repents than over ninety-nine righteous persons who do not need to repent.

Luke 15:4-7 (NIV)

You Rescued Me

You were lost and without hope in the world. You were on your own. You were all by yourself. You thought you were strong. You thought you were self-sufficient. You were independent and stubborn and strong willed. You thought you could handle whatever life brought your way. You did not want help. You didn't need anyone's advice. You lived for your own comfort. You sought your own pleasure. You were on a dark and lonely path. You were walking away from me. Yes, I was walking away from you.

Life was not good for you. You experienced the pain that comes from the kind of life you were living. You were weary. You were worn out. You were bruised and battered and broken by life. You hurt others. Others hurt you. You were wounded and in need of healing. Yes, I was in great pain. I wanted something else. I needed something more. I was looking for something different. I needed and wanted you. I didn't know that at the time. All I knew is that I was empty inside. I ached all over. I know that I cried out to you. I asked you for your help. **Yes, you did cry out to me. It was more like a scream.** Yes, it was. **You asked me to show myself to you, if I was real.** Yes, that was my scream. Did you accept that as my prayer? **Yes, I did.**

Did I show myself to you? Yes, you showed yourself to me. **Did I seek you out? Did I pursue you in your pain? Wasn't I your Good Shepherd? Weren't you one of my lost sheep?** Yes, you pursued me. Yes, you sought me out. You responded to my cry. You came to me. You took me out of the muck and mire that was my life. You set my feet on solid ground. You forgave all my sin. You cleansed me of all my unrighteousness. You healed my bruised and battered and broken life. You carried me. You calmed me. You brought me to a place where you could revive, refresh and restore my soul. Now, you are my Savior and Lord. Now I am on the path of life walking with you. **Yes, you are.** I am so thankful that you rescued me.

Lord, I was off by myself, stubbornly wandering in a life of sin. My life was a mess. I was bruised and battered. You left heaven to find and save me. Thank you for healing and rescuing me and giving me a new life of following you. Amen

Identity*My Lost Sheep*

"Suppose one of you has a hundred sheep and loses one of them. Does he not leave the ninety-nine in the open country and go after the lost sheep until he finds it? And when he finds it, he joyfully puts it on his shoulders and goes home. Then he calls his friends and neighbors together and says, 'Rejoice with me; I have found my lost sheep.' I tell you that in the same way there will be more rejoicing in heaven over one sinner who repents than over ninety-nine righteous persons who do not need to repent.

NIV

Luke 15:4-7

Identity*My Lost Sheep*

"If a man has a hundred sheep and one of them gets lost, what will he do? Won't he leave the ninety-nine others in the wilderness and go to search for the one that is lost until he finds it? And when he has found it, he will joyfully carry it home on his shoulders. When he arrives, he will call together his friends and neighbors, saying, 'Rejoice with me because I have found my lost sheep.' In the same way, there is more joy in heaven over one lost sinner who repents and returns to God than over ninety-nine others who are righteous and haven't strayed away!

NLT

Luke 15:4-7

Identity*My Sheep That Was Lost*

"Which one of you, having a hundred sheep and losing one of them, does not leave the ninety-nine in the wilderness and go after the one that is lost until he finds it? When he has found it, he lays it on his shoulders and rejoices. And when he comes home, he calls together his friends and neighbors, saying to them, 'Rejoice with me, for I have found my sheep that was lost.' Just so, I tell you, there will be more joy in heaven over one sinner who repents than over ninety-nine righteous persons who need no repentance.

NRSV

Luke 15:4-7

Identity*My Sheep Which Was Lost*

What man of you, if he has a hundred sheep and should lose one of them, does not leave the ninety-nine in the wilderness (desert) and go after the one that is lost until he finds it? And when he has found it, he lays it on his [own] shoulders, rejoicing. And when he gets home, he summons together [his] friends and [his] neighbors, saying to them, 'Rejoice with me, because I have found my sheep which was lost. Thus, I tell you, there will be more joy in heaven over one [especially] wicked person who repents (changes his mind, abhorring his errors and misdeeds, and determines to enter upon a better course of life) than over ninety-nine righteous persons who have no need of repentance.

AMP

Luke 15:4-7

Identity*My Sheep Which Was Lost*

"What man among you, if he has a hundred sheep and has lost one of them, does not leave the ninety-nine in the open pasture and go after the one which is lost until he finds it? "When he has found it, he lays it on his shoulders, rejoicing. "And when he comes home, he calls together his friends and his neighbors, saying to them, 'Rejoice with me, for I have found my sheep which was lost!' "I tell you that in the same way, there will be more joy in heaven over one sinner who repents than over ninety-nine righteous persons who need no repentance.

NASB

Luke 15:4-7

Identity*My Sheep That Was Lost*

"What man of you, having a hundred sheep, if he has lost one of them, does not leave the ninety-nine in the open country, and go after the one that is lost, until he finds it? And when he has found it, he lays it on his shoulders, rejoicing. And when he comes home, he calls together his friends and his neighbors, saying to them, 'Rejoice with me, for I have found my sheep that was lost.' Just so, I tell you, there will be more joy in heaven over one sinner who repents than over ninety-nine righteous persons who need no repentance.

ESV

Luke 15:4-7

Identity*My Sheep Which Was Lost*

"What man of you, having a hundred sheep, if he loses one of them, does not leave the ninety-nine in the wilderness, and go after the one which is lost until he finds it? And when he has found it, he lays it on his shoulders, rejoicing. And when he comes home, he calls together his friends and neighbors, saying to them, 'Rejoice with me, for I have found my sheep which was lost!' I say to you that likewise there will be more joy in heaven over one sinner who repents than over ninety-nine just persons who need no repentance.

NKJV

Luke 15:4-7

Identity*My Lost Sheep*

"Suppose one of you had a hundred sheep and lost one. Wouldn't you leave the ninety-nine in the wilderness and go after the lost one until you found it? When found, you can be sure you would put it across your shoulders, rejoicing, and when you got home call in your friends and neighbors, saying, 'Celebrate with me! I've found my lost sheep!' Count on it—there's more joy in heaven over one sinner's rescued life than over ninety-nine good people in no need of rescue.

MSG

Luke 15:4-7

Identity*Your Lost Sheep*

"If you had a hundred sheep and one of them strayed away and was lost in the wilderness, wouldn't you leave the ninety-nine others to go and search for the lost one until you found it? And then you would joyfully carry it home on your shoulders. When you arrived you would call together your friends and neighbors to rejoice with you because your lost sheep was found. "Well, in the same way heaven will be happier over one lost sinner who returns to God than over ninety-nine others who haven't strayed away!

TLB

Luke 15:4-7

Identity*My Lost Sheep*

"Suppose one of you has a hundred sheep but loses one of them. Then he will leave the other ninety-nine sheep in the open field and go out and look for the lost sheep until he finds it. And when he finds it, he happily puts it on his shoulders and goes home. He calls to his friends and neighbors and says, 'Be happy with me because I found my lost sheep.' In the same way, I tell you there is more joy in heaven over one sinner who changes his heart and life, than over ninety-nine good people who don't need to change.

NCV

Luke 15:4-7

My Lost Sheep

Year ____ Week ____ Day ____ Date ____

Identity – Luke 15:4-7

In Context: *Read Luke 15*

Begin With Prayer:

Here I am Lord. I Am Listening.

Meditating On God's Word: ***(What is God speaking to your heart?)***

"Suppose one of you has a hundred sheep and loses one of them. Does he not leave the ninety-nine in the open country and go after the lost sheep until he finds it? And when he finds it, he joyfully puts it on his shoulders and goes home. Then he calls his friends and neighbors together and says, 'Rejoice with me; I have found my lost sheep.' I tell you that in the same way there will be more rejoicing in heaven over one sinner who repents than over ninety-nine righteous persons who do not need to repent. Luke 15:4-7

Considering The Words: ***(What words speak to your heart?)***

"Suppose one of you | has a hundred sheep | and loses one | of them. | Does he not | leave the ninety-nine | in the open country | and | go after | the lost sheep | until | he finds it? | And when | he finds it, | he joyfully | puts it | on | his shoulders | and | goes home. | Then he calls | his friends | and | neighbors | together | and says, | 'Rejoice with me; | I have found | my lost sheep.' | I tell you that | in the same way | there will be | more rejoicing | in heaven | over one sinner | who repents | than over | ninety-nine | righteous persons | who | do not need | to repent. Luke 15:4-7

Praying The Scripture: ***(What prayer from your heart will you write?)***

Lord, I was off by myself, stubbornly wandering in a life of sin. My life was a mess. I was bruised and battered. You left heaven to find and save me. Thank you for healing and rescuing me and giving me a new life of following you. Amen

What It Means: ***(What questions speak to your heart?)*** *(Suggested questions for small group discussion are in bold)*

When have you been stubborn and independent like a lost sheep?

When has your independent and wandering nature led you away from the Lord?

How are you weak like a defenseless sheep against attacks from predators?

When has life left you like a bruised and battered and wounded sheep in need of the Shepherds care?

How do you feel knowing that it was the Good Shepherd who sought you and brought you to him?

What happened in heaven when you turned away from your sinful and broken life to follow Christ?

How has the Good Shepherd carried you and healed your life as you have followed and served Him?

Living It Out: ***(What action step is God guiding your heart to take?)***

Turn away from your old sinful life to follow Christ in the new life He has for you.

Seeing It Happen: ***(What are you trusting God for in our heart?)***

Have faith that your Good Shepherd came into this world to rescue you and give you a new with Him.

Get Ready To Share: ***(What can you share with others from your heart?)***

Share with another person or your small group how the Good Shepherd rescued you from a life without Him.

Close With Prayer:

Quiet Yourself Before The Lord

Pause And Offer Prayers Of...

With An Attitude Of Faith Listen To What The Lord Wants To Say To You

Adoration... _____

Thanksgiving... _____

Confession... _____

Intercession... _____

Petition... _____

Journal

As You Quiet Yourself Before The Lord

What Do You Want To Say To Me Lord?

What Prayers Are You Praying Today?

Prayer Of Blessing

(What Prayer Of Blessing Can You Pray For Another?)

May you follow your Good Shepherd as He leads you through life.

Prayer To Carry

(What Prayer Would You Like To Carry Throughout Your Day?)

Lord, I will follow you as you lead me through life.

What Do You Want To Remember About Today?

A Question To Ask God

(What Would You Like To Ask God?)

Lord, where will you lead me as I follow you today?
