

Discussion Questions Course 212–3

Large Group

1. If you were here for the previous lessons, why did Chris's friend Aaron want to live in Chris's tree house?
2. In Luke 15:7, do you think God is angry or happy when sinners repent and return to Him?

Small Group

Teaching

Signpost #1

1. Why would a picture of a pig represent being lost?

Prayer

1. How does it make you feel to know that when you sin, God wants you to come to Him?

Additional Activities

Sandal Game

1. The Prodigal Son was ashamed of the decision he had made to leave home. He had wasted all of his inheritance and felt like he wasn't worthy to be his father's son. Do you remember what he was going to ask his father when he returned home?

Object Lesson

1. Have you ever lost something that was valuable to you?
2. During your search for the lost item, did you return to a place, like church or school, where you used the item, and ask if anyone had found it?
3. Display the lost and found box. Did they have something like this?
4. How did you feel when you started to look through the lost items—were you excited and hopeful?

Coloring Activity

1. If you saw the video in our first lesson, how did Gizmo get tangled up with Rebel, the lost sheep?
2. Why did the boy leave his other sheep to look for Rebel?
3. Who does Jesus' parable compare a lost sheep to?
4. Who was the lost sinner in our Bible story?
5. If you were the older brother who had stayed home and worked for his father the entire time, would you be jealous to see your dad give your younger brother presents and a party after he had run away and spent his inheritance?
6. What did the father want the older brother to know in the story?
7. What does our SuperTruth say happens in heaven when a lost sinner turns to God and repents of his sin?

Bible Study

Luke 15:25–29; 31–32

1. Why was the older brother so angry with his father? Why would he not take part in the celebration?
2. What does it feel like to see someone get the same reward as you, even if they did a lot less than you, or if they disobeyed the rules?
3. Do you think the father should have punished the younger son or made him work as a servant to pay him back some of the money he wasted?
4. The older son complained that his father never had a celebration feast for him even though he had obeyed and worked for his dad for years. How did the father respond?
5. God is our heavenly Father and we are His children. Do you think there are some blessings we haven't asked God for, that He would love to give us? What are some of those blessings?

Romans 12:15

1. How can we apply this verse to our story?
2. Is it hard to sympathize with someone going through a difficult time? Why?
3. Is it hard to be happy with someone when they get something that we don't have? Why?
4. Why was it hard for the older brother to be happy when his brother came back home?

Ephesians 2:8–9

1. Look at verse 9. How can we apply this verse to the older brother?
2. How can we apply this to the younger son and father?
3. Have you even felt like you needed to earn God's love and acceptance?
4. Does this parable change your view of salvation—how?

Luke 15:1–2

1. What character in Jesus' parable do you think is represented by the religious leaders?
2. Do you sometimes have a hard time believing that God loves some people—or that He would spend time with them?
3. Do you think the religious leaders were any better than the people they called sinners?
4. Do you think that Jesus considered the actual religious leaders as lost, and needing to turn to God and repent?