

## **Rejoicing in Recovery** **Luke 15**

### **I. Jesus and Lost Sinners – 15:1-2**

1. Sinful people came to hear Jesus – 1  
Publicans were considered sinners by Jews  
Word “sinners” often referred to immoral people  
Jesus welcomed & ate with those seeking Him
2. Religious leaders denounced Jesus – 2  
Accused Him of eating with sinners  
Word “eating” meant fellowshiping with them
3. Jesus used 3 parables to answer them

### **II. Recovery of a Lost Sheep – 3-7**

1. Addressed to leaders & hearers – 3-4  
He says “What man of you”  
What would you do in the following situation?
2. If you had 100 sheep & 1 was lost – 4  
Would you not leave the 99 & seek the 1?
3. Finding it, how would you respond? – 5  
Would you not carry it home rejoicing?
4. Would you not celebrate with friends – 6  
Inviting them to rejoice with you
5. Heaven rejoices over 1 repenting sinner - 7

### **III. Recovery of a Lost Coin – 8-10**

1. This parable is directed to women – 8  
She has lost something of great value  
10 coins may have been her dowry  
She has lost 1 of the 10  
Will she not search her house for it?
2. Finding it what will be her response – 9  
She will invite her friends to share her joy
3. God’s angels join in rejoicing -10  
When 1 sinner repents sinner
4. It is natural to rejoice when lost is found

### **IV. Recovery of a Lost Son – 11-24**

1. Jesus raises the value in this parable  
Lost is not just an animal or a thing but a son
2. A man had two sons – 11
3. Younger son request his inheritance – 12  
His father divided the inheritance  
Giving one share to his younger son
4. Short time later this son left home – 13  
Took his inheritance & went to a far country  
Was far removed from home & his father  
He wasted his money with wild living
5. This son came on “hard times” – 14  
He spent all his money  
There was a great famine where he was  
He began to be in want
6. Joined with a citizen of that country – 15-16  
He was put to work feeding pigs  
He was not even allowed to eat what pigs ate
7. He came to realize his situation – 17

My father’s hired servants are better off

They have more than enough to eat  
He was perishing with hunger

8. He made a decision – 18-19  
I will return to my father –  
I will confess my sin against God & father  
Had violated command to honor his father  
I will confess “I am not worthy to be your son”  
Would you permit me to be your hired servant
9. Father’s response to son’s return 20-21  
The son did return home – 20  
Father joyfully ran to meet him with kisses – 20  
Son made his confession to his father – 21
10. Father celebrates his return – 22-24  
Clothed him with the best robe  
Put a ring on his finger & shoes on his feet  
Restored him to position of a son

### **V. Response of Older Son – 25-32**

1. He heard of his father’s celebration -25-27  
As he neared the house he heard music & dancing  
Asked a servant what was going on  
Your brother has returned  
Your father is celebrating his safe return
2. Older brother is angry – 28-30  
He would not join the celebration  
Even after his father urged him to do so  
Rather he rebuked his father for the celebration  
I have faithfully served you as obedient son  
Yet you never had a celebration for me & my friends  
But now you celebrate with this son  
Who spent your money with harlots  
Yet for him you kill the fatted calf
3. Father’s response – 31-32  
Reminded him of their relationship  
You are my son  
You are ever with me  
Reminded him of his position  
All that I have is yours  
Celebration is appropriate  
We should make merry and be glad  
Your brother was dead and is alive again  
He was lost and is found