



**Jesus People Part 6—Seek and Save the Lost**  
**Pastor Joseph Zwanziger**  
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**USING THIS SERMON DISCUSSION GUIDE**

We have provided all the Scriptures references in the sermon and some discussion questions for you to use to discuss the weekend message.

This Sermon Discussion Guide is only a tool to aid you in meeting the needs of your group. For most groups, there are too many questions to answer in one session together. Give priority to the needs and pace of your group members.

While the questions are important, remember your group's goal is to create an atmosphere that will foster true friendships. Use the discussion questions as you see fit but emphasize the relationships.

**[John 13:15, ESV]**

**"For I have given you an example, that you also should do just as I have done to you."**

**[John 14:12, ESV]**

**"Truly, truly, I say to you, whoever believes in me will also do the works that I do; and greater works than these will he do, because I am going to the Father."**

**[1 John 2:6, ESV]**

**"Whoever says he abides in him ought to walk in the same way in which he walked."**

**[Luke 19:10, ESV]**

**"For the Son of Man came to seek and to save the lost."**

***People who are lost all around us are more open NOW than ever to hearing about the hope of Jesus.***

***The job description of Jesus People is clear in Scripture: Like Jesus, our purpose is to seek and save the Lost.***

**[Luke 15:3-7, ESV]**

<sup>3</sup> So he told them this parable: <sup>4</sup> “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? <sup>5</sup> And when he has found it, he lays it on his shoulders, rejoicing. <sup>6</sup> 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.’ <sup>7</sup> 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.”

**Lost Sheep = Those Who are Wandering**

***When we understand the heart of the Shepherd for the Sheep, we understand Jesus’ heart for the Lost. Because they are precious to God, they are precious to us!***

**GO AFTER and BRING BACK the lost sheep**

**[Luke 15:8-10, ESV]**

<sup>8</sup> “Or what woman, having ten silver coins, if she loses one coin, does not light a lamp and sweep the house and seek diligently until she finds it? <sup>9</sup> And when she has found it, she calls together her friends and neighbors, saying, ‘Rejoice with me, for I have found the coin that I had lost.’ <sup>10</sup> Just so, I tell you, there is joy before the angels of God over one sinner who repents.”

**Lost Coin = Those who don’t know they’re “lost”**

**SEARCH for the lost coin**

**[Luke 15:11-24, ESV]**

<sup>11</sup> And he said, “There was a man who had two sons. <sup>12</sup> And the younger of them said to his father, ‘Father, give me the share of property that is coming to me.’ And he divided his property between them. <sup>13</sup> Not many days later, the younger son gathered all he had and took a journey into a far country, and there he squandered his property in reckless living. <sup>14</sup> And when he had spent everything, a severe famine arose in that country, and he began to be in need. <sup>15</sup> So he went and hired himself out to one of the citizens of that country, who sent him into his fields to feed pigs. <sup>16</sup> And he was longing to be fed with the pods that the pigs ate, and no one gave him anything. <sup>17</sup> “But when he came to himself, he said, ‘How many of my father’s hired servants have more than enough bread, but I perish here with hunger! <sup>18</sup> I will arise and go to my father, and I will say to him, “Father, I have sinned against heaven and before you. <sup>19</sup> I am no longer worthy to be

called your son. Treat me as one of your hired servants.” ’ <sup>20</sup> And he arose and came to his father. But while he was still a long way off, his father saw him and felt compassion, and ran and embraced him and kissed him. <sup>21</sup> And the son said to him, ‘Father, I have sinned against heaven and before you. I am no longer worthy to be called your son.’ <sup>22</sup> But the father said to his servants, ‘Bring quickly the best robe, and put it on him, and put a ring on his hand, and shoes on his feet. <sup>23</sup> And bring the fattened calf and kill it, and let us eat and celebrate. <sup>24</sup> For this my son was dead, and is alive again; he was lost, and is found.’ And they began to celebrate.”

**The Lost Son = Those who *willingly* and *rebelliously* walked away from God**

### **RUN to the Lost Son**

***Let’s be like the Father, standing on the porch, waiting for the people who are turning back to God, ready to run to them.***

### **[Matthew 5:13–16, ESV]**

<sup>13</sup> “You are the salt of the earth, but if salt has lost its taste, how shall its saltiness be restored? It is no longer good for anything except to be thrown out and trampled under people’s feet. <sup>14</sup> “You are the light of the world. A city set on a hill cannot be hidden. <sup>15</sup> Nor do people light a lamp and put it under a basket, but on a stand, and it gives light to all in the house. <sup>16</sup> In the same way, let your light shine before others, so that they may see your good works and give glory to your Father who is in heaven.

***Being Jesus People and Seeking & Saving the Lost isn’t out of some personality driven determination, but out of prayer-filled compassion from the Father.***

***You are free to be weird in Jesus, not in religion: You are the salt of the world.  
You are to shine the light of Jesus.***

**Pray for God’s Eyes  
Pray for God’s Ears  
Pray for God’s Heart**

**... and partner with Jesus to Seek & Save the lost**

### **FOR MONDAY—**

1. Reread slowly the Parables in Luke 15 and put yourself in the narrative.
2. Either pray over a previous card, or start a new one, listing the “lost” for whom you will personally pray come to salvation. (put it in your Bible, your phone, etc.)

3. Pray for God's eyes so that we can see people the way that He sees them, pray for God's ears so that we can hear what's coming out of their hearts, and pray for God's heart so that we can have the heart of the Father before we can do what the Father did.

### TALK IT THROUGH

1. When was a time that you were lost? What was that experience like, and how did you feel in that situation? How were you eventually found, or how did you get back on-track?
2. Why do you think lost sheep (literal and spiritual) are susceptible to attack?
3. What do you think of the notion that Jesus said even "greater things we will do"?
4. How does the Parable of the Lost Sheep show us the Father's heart? Who do you need to go after and bring back?
5. Why was the one Lost Coin significant to the woman? What did it represent in society? How does that correlate to today's culture? What would it look like for you to search for the "lost coins" in your schools, workplaces, and communities?
6. Who are some Prodigals in your family or friend circle that you are contending will make a comeback?
7. Like the father in the story, what would it look like for you to see people coming from a long way off and to run to them?
8. How do we awaken to the reality of the Lost around us? In other words, how can you practically slow down enough to see the broken and hurting around us?
9. When you consider your life, how do you think God wants to use you? How can you shine your light in front of others?
10. In your faith journey, have you ever felt like you've lost your "saltiness"? How does God's compassion "bring the flavor back"?