



Leaving the 99

“The Story of the Lost Sheep”

Text: Luke 11:1-7

Introduction: The substance of this parable is found in both Matthew and Luke. The occasion for the parable in Matthew came as a result of a question asked by the disciples in regard to who was the greatest in the kingdom of heaven. The parable in Matthew led Jesus into a lengthy discussion where he took a little child and set him in their midst and taught about faith (**Matthew 18:3**). Jesus used this opportunity in Luke to show them how to have love for the lost by giving a parable about a lost sheep, coin, and boy. Let’s consider this parable together . . .

Discussion:

I. THE LOST SHEEP TEACHES US ABOUT RELATIONSHIPS WITH OTHERS

Luke 15:4, John 10:14, Psalm 139:1-2, II Timothy 2:19

II. THE LOST SHEEP TEACHES US TO LOVE OTHERS

Luke 15:4, II Peter 3:9, Isaiah 53:6, Hebrews 2:1

III. THE LOST SHEEP TEACHES US TO BE CONCERNED ABOUT OTHERS

Luke 15:4, Luke 19:10, Hebrews 6:6

IV. THE LOST SHEEP TEACHES US PUT OTHERS BEFORE OURSELVES

Luke 15:4, John 3:16, Romans 5:7-8, Luke 23:39-42

V. THE LOST SHEEP TEACHES US TO REJOICE OVER THE SAVED

Luke 15:5, Colossians 2:5, Philippians 1:25-26, Acts 8:39, Acts 16, Luke 15:6-7, 10

Conclusion: This is such a wonderful parable! It teaches us about compassion and love but it also connects us to the mind of God. God loves you and He can’t stand the thought of spending eternity without you. He’s sacrificed His one and only Son for you. And when you are lost, or can’t find your way, He will take your hand and lead you home!