

For The One: Week 1

March 30, 2025

Icebreaker Ideas

1. Did you go to college? Where and for what?
2. What did you want to be when you were a kid

WATCH VIDEO

Message Summary

This week, we kicked off *For The One*, a series about seeing people the way Jesus does—not as a crowd, but as individuals with eternal value. Jesus told three stories in Luke 15 to reveal God's heart for the one that is lost:

- A shepherd who leaves 99 sheep to find one that is missing.
- A woman who searches her whole house to find one lost coin.
- A father who runs to welcome home his lost son.

Each story ends in celebration. Why? Because heaven rejoices when one sinner repents and comes home. God's love isn't passive—it's persistent, intentional, and personal. Now, the question is: Who is your one?

Scripture for Discussion

Luke 15 (NLT) – Tax collectors and other notorious sinners often came to listen to Jesus teach. 2 This made the Pharisees and teachers of religious law complain that he was associating with such sinful people—even eating with them! 3 So Jesus told them this story: 4 “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? 5 And when he has found it, he will joyfully carry it home on his shoulders. 6 When he arrives, he will call together his friends and neighbors, saying, ‘Rejoice with me because I have found my lost sheep.’ 7 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!

Parable of the Lost Coin

8 “Or suppose a woman has ten silver coins and loses one. Won’t she light a lamp and sweep the entire house and search carefully until she finds it? 9 And when she finds it, she will call in her friends and neighbors and say, ‘Rejoice with me because I have found my lost coin.’ 10 In the same way, there is joy in the presence of God’s angels when even one sinner repents.”

Parable of the Lost Son

11 To illustrate the point further, Jesus told them this story: “A man had two sons. 12 The younger son told his father, ‘I want my share of your estate now before you die.’ So his father agreed to divide his wealth between his sons. 13 “A few days later this younger son packed all his belongings and moved to a distant land, and there he wasted all his money in wild living. 14 About the time his money ran out, a great famine swept over the land, and he began to starve. 15 He persuaded a local farmer to hire him, and the man sent him into his fields to feed the pigs. 16 The young man became so hungry that even the pods he was feeding the pigs looked good to him. But no one gave him anything. 17 “When he finally came to his senses, he said to himself, ‘At home even the hired servants have food enough to spare, and here I am dying of hunger! 18 I will go home to my father and say, “Father, I have sinned against both heaven and you, 19 and I am no longer worthy of being called your son. Please take me on as a hired servant.”’ 20 “So he returned home to his father. And while he was still a long way off, his father saw him coming. Filled with love and compassion, he ran to his son, embraced him, and kissed him. 21 His son said to him, ‘Father, I have sinned against both heaven and you, and I am no longer worthy of being called your son.’ 22 “But his father said to the servants, ‘Quick! Bring the finest robe in the house and put it on him. Get a ring for his finger and sandals for his feet. 23 And kill the calf we have been fattening. We must celebrate with a feast, 24 for this son of mine was dead and has now returned to life. He was lost, but now he is found.’ So the party began. 25 “Meanwhile, the older son was in the fields working. When he returned home, he heard music and dancing in the house, 26 and he asked one of the servants what was going on. 27 ‘Your brother is back,’ he was told, ‘and your father has killed the fattened calf. We are celebrating because of his safe return.’ 28 “The older brother was angry and wouldn’t go in. His father came out and begged him, 29 but he replied, ‘All these years I’ve slaved for you and never once refused to do a single thing you told me to. And in all that time you never gave me even one young goat for a feast with my friends. 30 Yet when this son of yours comes back after squandering your money on prostitutes, you celebrate by killing the fattened calf!’ 31 “His father said to him, ‘Look, dear son, you have always stayed by me, and everything I have is yours. 32 We had to celebrate this happy day. For your brother was dead and has come back to life! He was lost, but now he is found!’”

Discussion Questions

1. **What stood out to you most from the three parables in Luke 15?** Was it the shepherd, the woman, or the father—and why?
 2. **Jesus left the 99 to find the one.** What does that tell us about God's priorities? How does that challenge your own view of people around you?
 3. **Have you ever been 'the one'?** A time when you felt far from God or lost—and someone pursued you or prayed for you?
 4. **Think about your circle (family, work, school, community).** Who might be “your one”—someone who needs Jesus? What would it look like to intentionally pursue them in love?
 5. **How can your group help support each other in reaching their “one” this Easter?** (Prayer, encouragement, accountability, inviting together, etc.)
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Challenge for the Week

Take Action This Week:

- Name them.
- Pray for them daily.
- Invite them to Easter at church.
- Believe for their story to become one heaven rejoices over.