



THE REDEEMED CHRISTIAN CHURCH OF GOD

CHRIST THE LORD PARISH

1 – 5 ADMIRALTY ROAD, LEKKI PHASE 1, LAGOS

DIGGING DEEP

THEME: THE PARABLES OF JESUS

TUESDAY, 28TH OCTOBER, 2025

TOPIC: PARABLE OF THE LOST SHEEP, THE LOST COIN AND PRODIGAL SON

TEXT: LUKE 15:1 - 32

INTRODUCTION: The three parables were said on the same occasion in answer to the self-righteous pharisees and scribes who challenged his interaction with those they regarded as sinners; tax collectors and publicans.

Jesus used the publicans and sinners to illustrate God's mercy and to challenge religious pride. In answer to the murmuring of the Pharisees, Jesus told the three parables. The central theme of the three parables is the Father's yearning love for the lost and what should be our attitude towards the lost.

OUTLINE 1: PARABLE OF THE LOST SHEEP (Lk 15:1-7)

A. THE PARABLE - Lk 15:4-6

1. To illustrate their own hypocrisy and inconsistency, Jesus challenges them to consider whether they would do any different by starting out with: ***"What man of you..."***
2. Any one of them, with a hundred sheep, but one sheep having gone astray...
 - a. Would leave the ninety-nine and go after the lost one till he found it
 - b. Would bring it home rejoicing
 - c. And would invite others to rejoice over finding the sheep that was lost.

B. THE APPLICATION BY JESUS - Lk 15:7

1. Just as they would rejoice over finding one lost sheep...
2. So there is more joy in heaven:
 - a. Over one sinner who repents
 - b. Than over ninety-nine just persons in no need of repentance

The lesson from this parable is that God's love is seeking love. He is not waiting for the lost to find Him. He goes looking for them everywhere possible in order to save them. John 3:16. He has commissioned us to do the same. Matt 28:18-20, **Mk 16:15-16.**

OUTLINE 2: PARABLE OF THE LOST COIN (Lk 15:8-10)

A. AS TOLD BY JESUS...

1. Any woman, having ten silver coins, if she loses one coin...
 - a. Will light a lamp, sweep the house, and seek diligently until she finds it
 - b. Upon finding it will call her friends and neighbors together to rejoice with her
2. In similar fashion, there is joy in the presence of the angels of God over one sinner who repents – **Lk 15:258-10**
3. This parable reinforces the main point in the previous parable...

That there will be ***"more joy in heaven"*** over one sinner who repents - **Lk 15:7**

- The silver coin, was equivalent of a day's wage. It was precious. Finding a lost coin in the dark required effort. She swept all filth away in the bid to find the coin. She was meticulous in her search. There was value in that single coin. Never see anyone too lost for God to find.
- The candle or lamp represents the Word of God. The word of God illuminates the mind of the lost and brings him to the place of repentance. Psalm 119:105. The woman's careful search

This parable's theme is similar to the others in this chapter: **"The Father's yearning love for the lost"**. Such love is evident by the joy *"in heaven"* and *"in the presence of angels"* when just one sinner repents.

OUTLINE 3. PARABLE OF THE LOST SON. (Lk 15:11-32).

While it is commonly called **"The parable of the prodigal son"** it can rightfully be called the parable of **"The Loving Father"** It reveals more about the love of the father than of the sinfulness of the younger son

APPLYING THE PARABLE OF "THE PRODIGAL SON"

A. THE MAIN ELEMENTS ARE EASILY DISCERNED...

1. The father symbolizes our heavenly Father
2. The prodigal son in coming home represents the penitent sinner
3. The elder brother reflected the attitude of the self-righteous Pharisees and scribes - cf. **Lk 15:2**

B. THE KEY LESSONS SHOULD BE EVIDENT AS WELL..

1. Our heavenly Father loves His children
 - a. Even when they turn away from Him, His hearts yearns for them in love
 - b. But especially when they return with a penitent attitude
 1. There is ***"joy in heaven"*** - **Lk 15:7**
 2. There is ***"joy in the presence of the angels of God"*** - **Lk 15:10**
 3. It was right to ***"make merry and be glad"*** - **Lk 15:32.**
 - c. Faithful children of God need to understand the proper way to receive the erring child who returns to God, Not with any jealousy, but with joyous celebration. - **Lk 15:32**
 - d. With a strong reaffirmation of love:
 1. As illustrated by the father in the parable
 2. As Paul instructed the Corinthians in **CONCLUSION**

WHAT OUR ATTITUDE SHOULD BE TOWARD THE LOST...

There are four different attitudes one can assume toward the lost:

- i. **Hate them** (self-righteous individuals may have this attitude)
- ii. **Regard them with indifference** (some Christians have this attitude)
- iii. **Welcome them when they come to you** (the Pharisees and scribes considered Jesus guilty of this one)
- iv. **Seek them out.**

Our attitude should be one of both welcoming and seeking those who are lost. The loving father did not judge the prodigal son. He welcomed him home with an embrace and a party.

Our attitude when a sinner repents should be of immense joy and not indifference. We should not be judgmental or skeptical. Rather, we should be full of joy.