Lost And Found

Terry Francis · Luke 15:1–32

INTRODUCTION

- The tax collectors and sinners were drawing near to Jesus.
- All three of these stories are pointing towards how God views sinners and how we view sinners.
- In this chapter, what I see are some reasons why people are lost, and I want us to understand why people are lost.

1 Some Are Lost Through Their Own Negligence

Luke 15:3–7; Hebrews 2:1–3; Luke 8:5–14

- Some are lost through their own negligence. That really is the first story.
- The sheep in this story wanders off on its own. The shepherd didn't send it off. Nobody forced it to go off on its own.
- Sometimes we leave the truth or we never come to the truth because we're negligent.
- Therefore we must pay closer attention to what we heard, lest we drift away from it.
- When they go on their way, they are choked by the cares and riches and pleasures of life.
- All those excuses, by the way, are signs of sheep that are wandering off because of their own negligence.

2 Those Who Are Lost in the Negligence of Others

Luke 15:8–10; Galatians 6:1–2

- There's another group here, and that's those who are lost in the negligence of others.
- I think there's a lot of people that are lost because Christians aren't doing their job. Because we're negligent towards people.
- If I've never asked him, they're not Christians because I'm negligent.
- You teach them the truth, and then you totally abandon them to themselves. They're lost and largely because of your negligence.
- Our job is to bear each other's burdens and to restore people and to love one another.

3 Some People Are Lost Because They Choose to Be

Luke 15:11–24

- But some people are lost because they choose to be.
- He chose to leave. And not only did he choose to leave, but he chose to waste his inheritance. And he chose to be separated from his father.
- I will arise and go to my father, and I will say to him, Father, I have sinned against heaven before you.
- For my son was dead and is alive. He was lost and is found.

- If you chose to be lost, you can always choose to be found.

4 Lost Because of Their Own Attitude

Luke 15:25–32; Matthew 6:14–15; Matthew 25

- The Pharisees were like that, so consumed in their own self-righteousness. They couldn't see.
- They're lost because of their own attitude.
- If you forgive others their trespasses, your heavenly father will forgive you.
- If someone says I love God and hates his brother, he's a liar.
- How you treat other people is a reflection of the relationship with God.
- The Pharisees' downfall was they couldn't see souls, they only saw sinners.

THE CHALLENGE

If you were lost, make the choice to come home.

MY NOTES