

THE CHURCH IN NEW YORK CITY
CHILDREN'S MEETING LESSON (Pre-K & K)

Lesson #66

DATE:

SUBJECT: Parables – The Lost Sheep (Good Shepherd) – The Lost Coin

SCRIPTURE: Luke 15:4-10 (John 10:1-16)

AIM: To show the children that the Lord cares for each and every one of them.

MEMORY VERSE: John 10:11 “I am the Good Shepherd: The good shepherd gives his life for the sheep.”

SONGS: 38, 7, 140, 118

Review:

Can any of you remember any of the special things the Lord Jesus did? We call them miracles. What was the first special thing the Lord did? (He turned water into wine) Anything else? - Yes, He healed lots and lots of people. Probably the biggest special thing the Lord Jesus did was to make dead people live again. We also heard the story about His friend Lazarus. Last week we heard the Lord Jesus was on the small boat with the disciples going to the other side of the Sea of Galilee. There was a great storm and the little boat was tossing back and forth. And our Lord Jesus was so calm and asleep on a cushion in the back of the boat. The disciples were afraid and have no faith. Eventually the Lord calm down the storm.

Introduction:

Usually the Lord was with His friend – the disciples. (Remember how He picked special friends like Peter, Andrew, James, John, etc. – 12 altogether.) The disciples were with the Lord Jesus most of the time. They were there whenever the Lord did one of these special things – miracles. But, the Lord didn't just do these special things with his friends, the disciples, He did regular things with them all the time. He walked and talked with them; He ate with them, and slept with them. A lot of times when the Lord was walking and talking with His disciples (remember they had no cars – they either walked or took a boat to where they wanted to go.) A lot of times the Lord taught His disciples things as they were walking and talking. He taught them how to live, how to love God and how God loved them, what was the right thing to do and what was the wrong thing. Sometimes when the Lord had important things to tell the disciples – He told them a story with a lesson in it. This is called a parable. Most of the people who followed the Lord around didn't understand the stories the Lord told. Sometimes even the disciples didn't understand and the Lord had to explain what the story meant.

Content:

One time a lot of people came to hear the Lord. Most of them were not very good people. Then the good people who were supposed to know about God and love God. (the Pharisees and scribes) grumbled. They complained and asked why the Lord would eat with these bad people or even talk to

them. Well, the Lord told them a story – Right – A PARABLE! It was a “what if” story. The Lord asked them – which one of you if you had a 100 sheep and one sheep got lost – wouldn’t you leave the 99 sheep that didn’t get lost and try to find the one who got lost? Anybody would do that – right? He would probably even go into the wilderness (desert) to try to find his sheep – he’d keep looking till he found it. Once he found the sheep he would put it on his shoulder and carry it home. He’d be very happy he found his sheep. When he got home he’d call his friends and neighbors to be happy with him because he found the one sheep that was lost. The Lord said that’s how happy everyone is in heaven when one bad person is sorry and comes to the Lord. God is much more happy about that than about all the good people who never feel sorry about anything.

At the same time the Lord told a story about a lady who had ten pieces of silver (money) and lost one. Wouldn’t the lady light a candle (get a flashlight, turn on the lights) and sweep the house carefully till she found it? She’d call her friends and neighbors too to be happy with her that she found the money. The Lord said that even the angels are happy when one person is sorry for his sins.

Application:

What do you think is the lesson in this story – this parable? Allow the children to participate – since we already mentioned the point of the parable – actually)

Maybe we wouldn’t bother going after one sheep if we had 100. But to the Lord every sheep is important! Every one of us is important! The Lord cares for each and every one of us. We are all His sheep and if we get lost He finds us. (E.g. if we don’t come to be in the children’s meeting with all the other children – His sheep - He looks for us. If we do bad things and don’t love the Lord – He is sad and tries to bring us back to Him.) Every one of us is so important to the Lord!

Story Idea:

Can use beans to illustrate the numbers – e.g. 100 beans, etc. Also, can bring in quarters to illustrate the 10 pieces of silver.

Craft Idea:

Make a maze – at the end of it will be the sheep or coin that was lost.