

29. The Parable of the Lost Sheep

The Word of the Lord: The New Testament for Young Children

Notes for Parents & Teachers

29. The Lord Tells a Story of a Lost Sheep

- a) The important point in this story is that the leaders of the church at the time didn't care about people who had done something wrong. They thought that they, the leaders, were so much better that they should look down on those people and not pay any attention to them. So, when the Lord talked to people who had done bad things and even ate at their houses, they criticized Him.
- b) But people who do what is wrong are like lost sheep. A sheep who goes away from the group is in danger. The good shepherd doesn't say, "Oh, that stupid sheep, it deserves to be killed by a wolf." He goes to find it and bring it back and keep it safe. And he is happy when he finds it.
- c) The Lord always goes to help people who have done wrong, because He knows that the evil spirits, who are worse than wolves, will hurt them badly in their hearts. This shows how much the Lord loves every single person in the whole world.
- d) Note how happy the shepherd is when he finds the sheep. He wants everyone to rejoice with him. Well, the angels are so happy when someone who has done wrong is sorry and turns back to the Lord. They have great joy in heaven when that happens.



Text simplified by Carol Bongers Buss

Pictures by Dianna Echols Synnestvedt

Notes by the Rt. Rev. Peter M. Buss, Sr.

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The Lord Tells a Story of a Lost Sheep

And all the publicans and sinners were near Jesus to hear Him speak. And the Pharisees and scribes said, “This man lets sinners come to Him, and He eats with them.”

Then Jesus told them this story saying, “Which of you, if you have a hundred sheep and lose one of them, does not leave the ninety-nine in the wilderness and go after the lost sheep until he finds it? And when he has found the lost sheep, he is happy and he puts it on his shoulders.

“Then, when he comes home, he calls together his friends and neighbors, saying to them, ‘Be happy for me, for I have found my sheep which was lost.’

“I say to you that in the same way there shall be more joy in heaven over one sinner who is sorry, than over the ninety-nine who have done nothing wrong.”

Luke 15

