

The Lost Sheep

A shepherd leaves ninety-nine sheep to search for one that is lost, and rejoices greatly when he finds it. So heaven rejoices over one sinner who repents.

Luke 15:1-7

CHARACTERS: Jesus, Shepherd, Lost sheep

THEMES: God seeks the lost, Every person matters, Joy in heaven, Rescue

NOW THE TAX collectors and sinners were all gathering around to hear Jesus. But the Pharisees and the teachers of the law muttered, 'This man welcomes sinners and eats with them.'

Then Jesus told them this parable: 'Suppose one of you has a hundred sheep and loses one of them. Doesn't he leave the ninety-nine in the open country and go after the lost sheep until he finds it?

And when he finds it, he joyfully puts it on his shoulders and goes home. Then he calls his friends and neighbors together and says, "Rejoice with me; I have found my lost sheep."

I tell you that in the same way there will be more rejoicing in heaven over one sinner who repents than over ninety-nine righteous persons who do not need to repent.'

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