



PASTOR BOB
April 30th, 2023

“PEOPLE MATTER to GOD”
Do They Matter to Us?
LUKE 15

- *Ever Lost Something, or Someone?*
- *Ever Felt Lost?*
- *Story of the Lost Sheep, Coin, and Prodigal Son*

What was Lost was...

1. **SERIOUSLY** _____ LUKE 15:4, 8, 12

- *People _____ to God* PSALM 8:3, 4; 1 CORINTHIANS 1:26-29

What was Lost was...

2. **SERIOUSLY** _____ LUKE 15:4, 8, 20

- *Property was actively _____.*
- *People were _____ on to return.*

Seeking?

- *Always Looking for God at _____* JOHN 5:17
- *Always Working on _____* ROMANS 12:18
- *Always Looking for _____* EPHESIANS 5:16; ACTS 8:30

What was Lost was...

3. **SERIOUSLY** _____ LUKE 15:6-7, 10, 22-24

- *Do People Matter to _____?*

Older Brother? LUKE 15:25-32

LIFE GROUP STUDY NOTES
“PEOPLE MATTER to GOD”
Do They Matter to Us?

GETTING STARTED *“In your opinion...”*

1. What were some helpful insights or observations from this week’s message?
2. Have you ever lost something of great value and then found it? Can you share that story?
3. Can you remember the day you placed your faith in Jesus? What was that day like?
4. Have you ever noticed God at work in the life of a friend or family member? What did it look like?
5. Have you ever watched a friend or family member accept Jesus as their Savior? What was that experience like?

GOING DEEPER *“According to the Bible...”*

Answer the following questions from what the Bible says in the indicated passages....

Let’s read the three stories Jesus told in Luke 15 when He was criticized for being with tax collectors and sinners.

- **Verses 1 & 2 – Would you say you have friends who are not church goers, or don’t claim to be Christian? What keeps Christians from engaging in those types of relationships?**
- **Verses 3-7 – How are non-Christian friends like lost sheep? How can we as Christians be like a Shepherd who is looking for lost sheep?**
- **Verses 8-10 – What is so valuable about only one coin that is lost? (*A woman’s coins represented her inheritance*)**
- **Verses 11-24 – How is this story different than the two previous stories? (What made the son return, how is the father looking?.. etc...) How is it similar?**
- **Verses 25-31 – Was the older son justified in his attitude? What did the father say was more important than the son’s “justified” attitude? Why was it more important?**
- **Was the son living a Performance-Based life or a Grace-Based life? What’s the difference?**

Read Matthew 9:9-13, the calling of Matthew. What does Jesus mean when He says, “I desire mercy, not sacrifice”?

***Adapted from the Willow Creek Association Evangelism Training Series,
“Becoming a Contagious Christian” by Bill Hybels and Mark Mittelberg