

*Today:*  
**February 8, 2015**

**Scripture Focus:** Luke 15

*The Story of the Lost Sheep*

**15** <sup>1-3</sup> By this time a lot of men and women of doubtful reputation were hanging around Jesus, listening intently. The Pharisees and religion scholars were not pleased, not at all pleased. They growled, “He takes in sinners and eats meals with them, treating them like old friends.” Their grumbling triggered this story.

<sup>4-7</sup> “Suppose one of you had a hundred sheep and lost one. Wouldn’t you leave the ninety-nine in the wilderness and go after the lost one until you found it? When found, you can be sure you would put it across your shoulders, rejoicing, and when you got home call in your friends and neighbors, saying, ‘Celebrate with me! I’ve found my lost sheep!’ Count on it—there’s more joy in heaven over one sinner’s rescued life than over ninety-nine good people in no need of rescue.

*The Story of the Lost Coin*

<sup>8-10</sup> “Or imagine a woman who has ten coins and loses one. Won’t she light a lamp and scour the house, looking in every nook and cranny until she finds it? And when she finds it you can be sure she’ll call her friends and neighbors: ‘Celebrate with me! I found my lost coin!’ Count on it—that’s the kind of party God’s angels throw every time one lost soul turns to God.”

*(Luke 15:1-10, The Message)*

**Notes from Worship:**

How did God catch your attention? To what is God calling you this week?

**Questions for Discussion:**

- Do you share the willingness to risk that is assumed in these two parables? Would you really leave 99 sheep vulnerable in the wilderness just to find one?
  
- When have you “thrown a party” over a lost item that was found?

# *This Week:* **February 9-14**

## Scripture Readings:

Monday 2/9	Tuesday 2/10	Wednesday 2/11	Thursday 2/12	Friday 2/13	Saturday 2/14
Proverbs 27-29	Ecclesiastes 1-6	Ecclesiastes 7-12	1 Kings 10-11; 2 Chronicles 9; Proverbs 30-31	1 Kings 12; 2 Chronicles 10	1 Kings 13-14; 2 Chron. 11-12

## Questions for Reflection:

These questions are meant to help get you thinking about the readings for each day. Feel free to also use this space to jot down other questions and insights gleaned from your reading.

### **Monday**

Which of these proverbs speak to you? How might you respond to their wisdom?

### **Tuesday**

“Everything is meaningless” (Ecclesiastes 1:2b). In what ways do you agree with the author’s discussion about meaninglessness? In what ways do you disagree?

### **Wednesday**

What jumps out to you the most throughout the book of Ecclesiastes? Why?

### **Thursday**

How does Solomon handle the visit from the Queen of Sheba? Why do you think this was an important visit?

What strikes you about Proverbs 31:10-31?

### **Friday**

What causes division between Israel and Judah?

### **Saturday**

How do you recognize God’s presence in these passages from Kings and Chronicles?

## Taking Scripture to Heart:

As we continue focusing on the life and teachings of Jesus, our memory text is **Matthew 5:43-48**. Let these verses dwell within you, to help you focus on Jesus Christ, the center of our faith.

## ***Next Sunday: February 15, 2015***

**Theme:** Jesus’ resolute ministry in the face of opposition

**Scripture Focus:** *Luke 9*