

"The Harvest"

I. Jesus' Response to the Lost

1. Into the World – Luke 15:1-7

"For the Son of Man has come to seek and to save that which was lost"
(Luke 19:10)

Luke 15:1-7

- 1 Tax collectors and other notorious sinners often came to listen to Jesus teach.
- 2 This made the Pharisees and teachers of religious law complain that he was associating with such despicable people – even eating with them!
- 3 So Jesus used this illustration:
- 4 *"If you had one hundred sheep, and one of them strayed away and was lost in the wilderness, wouldn't you leave the ninety-nine others to go and search for the lost one until you found it?"*
- 5 *And then you would joyfully carry it home on your shoulders.*
- 6 *When you arrived, you would call together your friends and neighbors to rejoice with you because your lost sheep was found.*
- 7 *In the same way, heaven will be happier over one lost sinner who returns to God than over ninety-nine others who are righteous and haven't strayed away!*

2. Pray – Matt. 9:35-39

Matt. 9:35-39

- 35 Jesus traveled through all the towns and villages of that area, teaching in the synagogues and announcing the Good News about the Kingdom. And he healed every kind of disease and illness.
- 36 When he saw the crowds, he had compassion on them because they were confused and helpless, like sheep without a shepherd.
- 37 He said to his disciples, *"The harvest is great, but the workers are few.*
- 38 *So pray to the Lord who is in charge of the harvest; ask him to send more workers into his fields."*

3. Call Others to go – Matt. 10:1

Matt. 10:1

- 1 Jesus called his twelve disciples together and gave them authority to cast out evil spirits and to heal every kind of disease and illness.

II. Our Response to the Lost

1. Into the World – Luke 7:36-48

Jesus Anointed by a sinful woman

2. Pray for workers – Luke 10:1-2

Luke 10:1-2

- 1 The Lord now chose seventy-two other disciples and sent them on ahead in pairs to all the towns and villages he planned to visit.
- 2 These were his instructions to them: "*The harvest is so great, but the workers are few. Pray to the Lord who is in charge of the harvest, and ask him to send out workers for his fields.*"

3. Call others to go – 2 Tim. 2:2