



Week 2: The Lost

For personal reflection or group discussion.

- Have you ever gotten lost? What happened? How did you feel?
- Who do you tend to think of as "the lost?"

Questions to go deeper in your faith.

In this parable, Jesus talks about a lost sheep. Sheep are very vulnerable animals. They cannot defend themselves outside of a flock. Sheep tend to wander off on their own, making them highly vulnerable to predators.

• What might this vulnerability look like for a lost person?

One reason talking about the "lost" isn't popular is because many people are uncomfortable talking about hell. The image of a vulnerable lamb being lost, far from her shepherd motivates us to reach the lost. Our blind spots may include not seeing that a lost person is headed for an eternity apart from Him.

 What might some roadblocks be for you in identifying the lost in your blind spot? Share them with the group.

Jesus looked at the lost as "sheep without a shepherd," and he calls us to do whatever it takes to reach the lost.

 What might it take for you to reach the lost in your blind spot considering Jesus' declaration that a good shepherd lays down his life for his sheep?

Next Steps

- Be honest with God. If this study has brought up some challenges in your life, spend time talking that through with God. Ask him to show you who is in your blind spot and to give you his heart for them.
- Take initiative in the lives that have come to mind. Reach out and make a connection – have a meal, go for a walk, take in a movie, invite them to MCA. The first step in helping people find Christ is through relationship.

Key Scripture

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."

Luke 15:3-6

Two Ways to Reach the Lost

1. Build relationships

I know my sheep and my sheep know me.

John 10:14

2. Be bold

The righteous are as bold as a lion. Proverbs 28:1

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