



***☀️ To be lost means
to be out of place! ☀️***

“When we are lost to God, we are also lost to ourselves: we do not know where we are or how to get to where we want to go. We may know we are lost or we may not. Many a driver is lost long before he knows he is. Many are lost before God but do not know it. They sincerely believe that they know where they are, where they are going and how to get there; but in fact, they do not, and they often find out too late.”

– Dallas Willard – *Renovation Of The Heart*

The Story of the Lost Son

“There was once a man who had two sons. The younger said to his father, ‘Father, I want right now what’s coming to me.’

Luke 15:11-32

The Story of the Lost Son

“So the father divided the property between them. It wasn’t long before the younger son packed his bags and left for a distant country. There, undisciplined and dissipated, he wasted everything he had. After he had gone through all his money, there was a bad famine all through that country and he began to feel it.

Luke 15:11-32

The Story of the Lost Son

He signed on with a citizen there who assigned him to his fields to slop the pigs. He was so hungry he would have eaten the corncobs in the pig slop, but no one would give him any.

Luke 15:11-32

The Story of the Lost Son

“That brought him to his senses. He said, ‘All those farmhands working for my father sit down to three meals a day, and here I am starving to death. I’m going back to my father. I’ll say to him, Father, I’ve sinned against God, I’ve sinned before you; I don’t deserve to be called your son. Take me on as a hired hand.’ He got right up and went home to his father.

Luke 15:11-32

The Story of the Lost Son

“When he was still a long way off, his father saw him. His heart pounding, he ran out, embraced him, and kissed him. The son started his speech: ‘Father, I’ve sinned against God, I’ve sinned before you; I don’t deserve to be called your son ever again.’

Luke 15:11-32

The Story of the Lost Son

“But the father wasn’t listening. He was calling to the servants, ‘Quick. Bring a clean set of clothes and dress him. Put the family ring on his finger and sandals on his feet. Then get a prize-winning heifer and roast it. We’re going to feast! We’re going to have a wonderful time! My son is here - given up for dead and now alive! Given up for lost and now found!’ And they began to have a wonderful time.

Luke 15:11-32

The Story of the Lost Son

“All this time his older son was out in the field. When the day’s work was done he came in. As he approached the house, he heard the music and dancing. Calling over one of the houseboys, he asked what was going on. He told him, ‘Your brother came home. Your father has ordered a feast—barbecued beef! —because he has him home safe and sound.’

Luke 15:11-32

The Story of the Lost Son

“The older brother stomped off in an angry sulk and refused to join in. His father came out and tried to talk to him, but he wouldn’t listen. The son said, ‘Look how many years I’ve stayed here serving you, never giving you one moment of grief, but have you ever thrown a party for me and my friends? Then this son of yours who has thrown away your money on whores shows up and you go all out with a feast!’

Luke 15:11-32

The Story of the Lost Son

“His father said, ‘Son, you don’t understand. You’re with me all the time, and everything that is mine is yours—but this is a wonderful time, and we had to celebrate. This brother of yours was dead, and he’s alive! He was lost, and he’s found!’”

Luke 15:11-32

“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 neighbours: ‘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 15:8-10

“Today is often spoken of as the age of information, and a lot of people are trying to sell it to us. What happens to Jesus in the crush of the information pushers? Unfortunately, he is pushed aside. Many Christians do not even think of him as one with reliable information about their lives. Consequently, they do not become his students. What does he have to teach them? ...

But can we seriously imagine that Jesus could be Lord if he were not smart? If he were divine, would he be dumb? Or uninformed? Once you stop to think about it, how could he be what Christians take him to be in other respects and not be the best informed and most intelligent person of all – the smartest person who ever lived, bringing us the best information on the most important subjects?

What lies at the heart of the astonishing disregard of Jesus found in the moment-to-moment existence of multitudes of professing Christians is a simple ***lack of respect for him***. He is not seriously taken to be a person of great ability. But how, then, can we ***admire*** him? And what can devotion or worship mean if simple respect is not included in it?

In contrast, the early Christians, who took the power of God's life in Jesus to all quarters of the earth, thought of Jesus as one, "in whom are hidden all the treasures of wisdom and knowledge." (Colossians 2:3). They thought of him as master of every domain of life."

– Dallas Willard – *The Great Omission*

