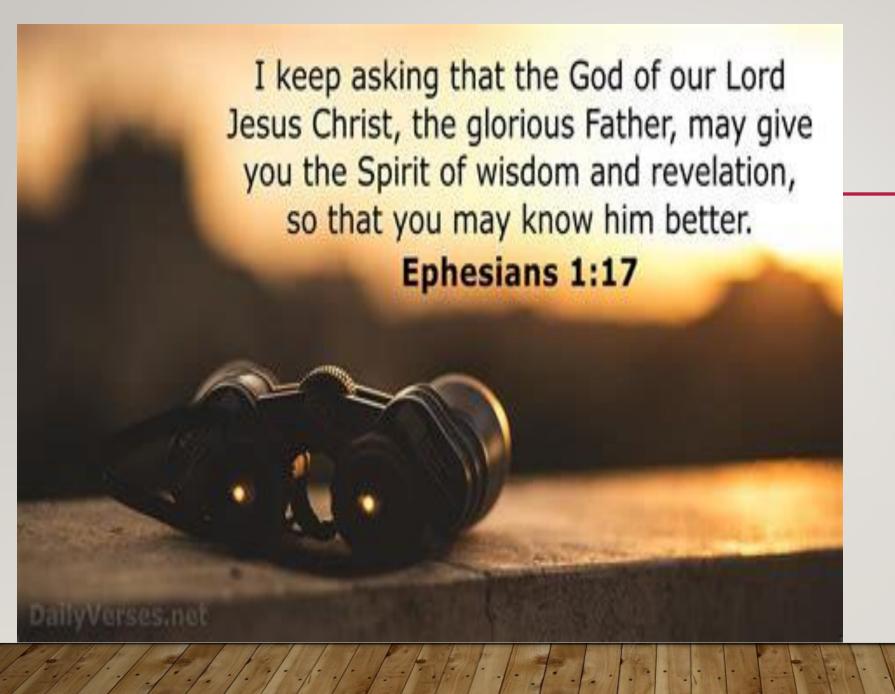
# GOD'S LOVE FOR SINNERS

LUKE 15: 1-7,11-24

Why we are called to witness?



know God's heart

#### LUKE 15:1-7

- Now the tax collectors and sinners were all gathering around to hear Jesus. <sup>2</sup> But the Pharisees and the teachers of the law muttered, "This man welcomes sinners and eats with them."
- <sup>3</sup> Then Jesus told them this parable: <sup>4</sup> "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?

• <sup>5</sup> And when he finds it, he joyfully puts it on his shoulders <sup>6</sup> and goes home. Then he calls his friends and neighbors together and says, 'Rejoice with me; I have found my lost sheep.'

• <sup>7</sup>I tell you that in the same way there will be more rejoicing in heaven over one sinner who repents than over ninety-nine righteous persons who do not need to repent.

# JESUS WELCOMES SINNERS AND EATS WITH THEM.

- Why Jesus interacted with the outcast of (Jewish) society.
- Why the celebration over finding one.

#### THREE PARABLES

- Parable of the lost sheep (15:1-7)
- Parable of the lost coin (15:8-10)
- Parable of the lost son (15:11-24)

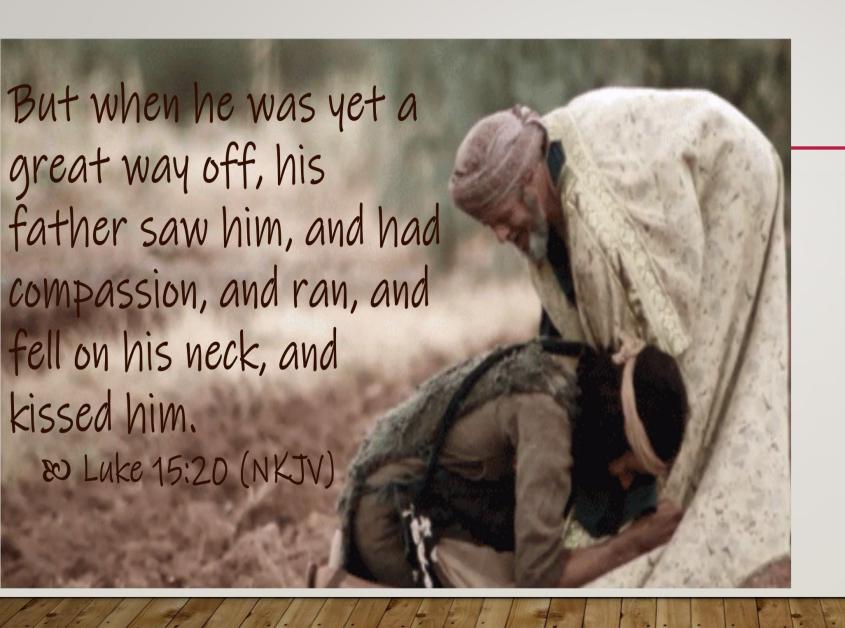
### LOST COIN (15:8-10)

- a woman has ten silver coins and loses one.
- she light a lamp, sweep the house and search carefully until she finds it.

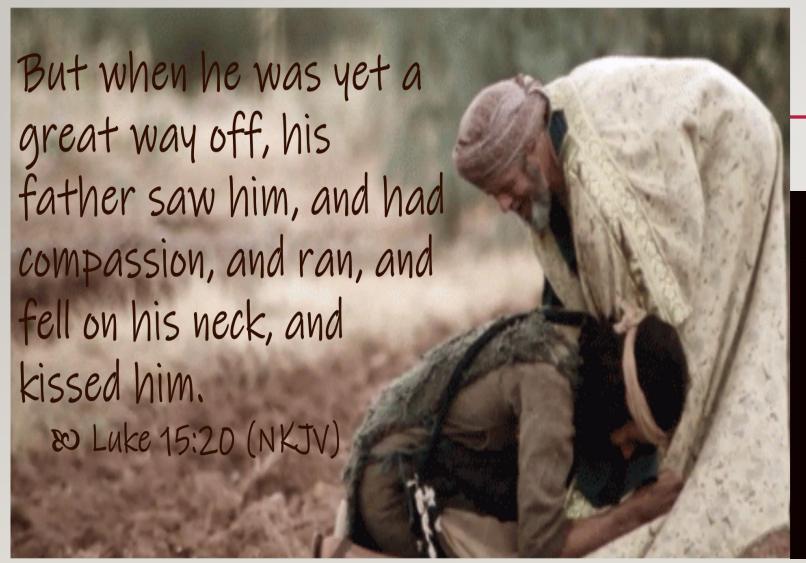
 she calls her friends and neighbors together and says, 'Rejoice with me; I have found my lost coin.'

## LOST SON (15:11-24)

- A father had two sons, the younger took his inheritance and left home for a foreign land. There he squandered and lost everything...ended up looking after pigs.
- Hunger brought him 'to his senses'.
- Returned home.....to an unexpected welcome by the father who was watching and waiting for his return.



Watching and waiting



THE SON SAID TO HIM

father, I have sinned against against heaven and in your sight and am no more worthy to be called your son.

**Knowing-Jesus.com** 



**LUKE 15:23** 

<sup>23</sup>Bring the fattened calf and kill it. Let's have a feast and celebrate.

#### **PARABLES**

#### GOD

- shepherd
- woman
- father

#### **LESSON**

 God's heart is revealed in these parables

He loves sinners..

#### **PARABLES**

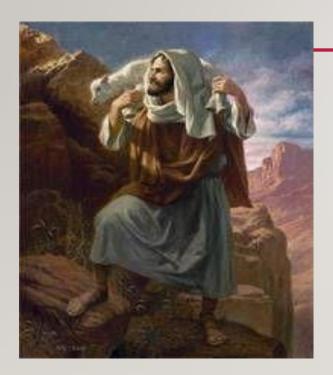


#### **OBJECT LOST**

- Sheep (1 of a 100)
- Coin (1 of 10)
- younger son (1 of 2)

Each one is precious

#### GOD'S DETERMINATION / PASSION

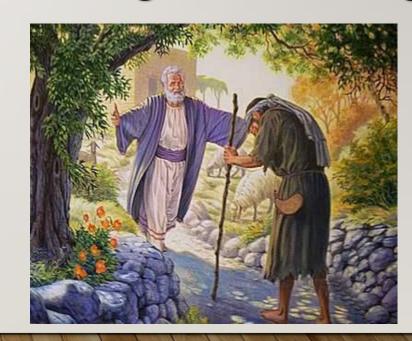


Go after..



Sweep and search

## Waiting and watching





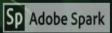
Salvation of Zacchaeus and his household

#### WHAT WAS LOST?

THEN THE MAN AND HIS WIFE HEARD THE SOUND OF THE LORD GOD AS HE WAS WALKING IN THE GARDEN IN THE COOL OF THE DAY, AND THEY HID FROM THE LORD GOD AMONG THE TREES OF THE GARDEN. BUT THE LORD GOD CALLED TO THE MAN, "WHERE ARE YOU?"

 Fellowship with God was normal in Eden.

**GENESIS 3:8-9** 



#### WHAT WAS LOST?

- "they hid from Him.....where are you?"
- Mankind was dead in sin and lost from God ...like the lost sheep/coin/son.

## God's fellowship was lost

#### SPIRITUAL DEATH

Therefore, Just As Sin Entered The World Through One Man, And Death Through Sin, And In This Way Death Came To All Men, Because All Sinned--Romans 5-12

- All are sinners
- All are spiritually dead...lost from God

BibleWordings.com

# GOD'S INITIATIVE OF SALVATION STARTED FROM EDEN

Verse of the Day "And I will put enmity between you and the woman, and between your offspring and hers; he will crush your head, and you will strike his heel." -Genesis 3:15

- Offspring of the woman....
   prophecy of a Messiah
- Jesus Christ will defeat Satan.

# HE WHO DID NOT SPARE HIS OWN SON, BUT DELIVERED HIM UP FOR US ALL, HOW SHALL HE NOT WITH HIM ALSO FREELY GIVE US ALL THINGS? **ROMANS 8:32** Knowing-Jesus.com

- God did not spare His own Son (not a prophet or priest)
- God's heart to reclaim the lost

#### The Hound of Heaven

followed, that followed after.

I fled Him down the nights and down the days.

I fled Him down the arches of the years,

I fled Him down the labyrinthine ways

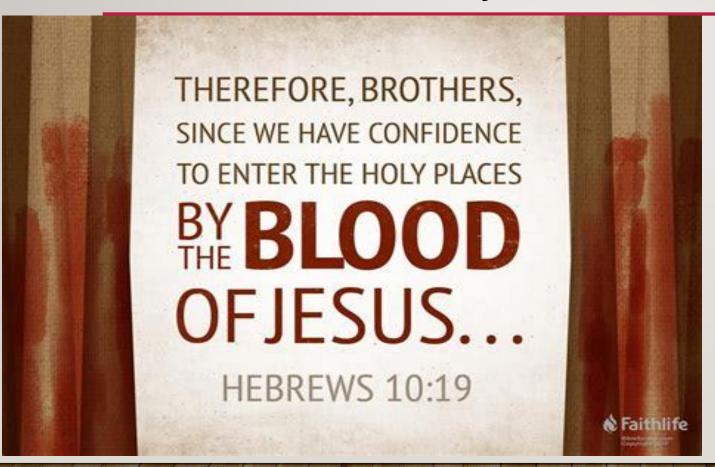
of my own mind: And in the mist of tears

I hid from Him...From those strong feet that

#### Love chase:

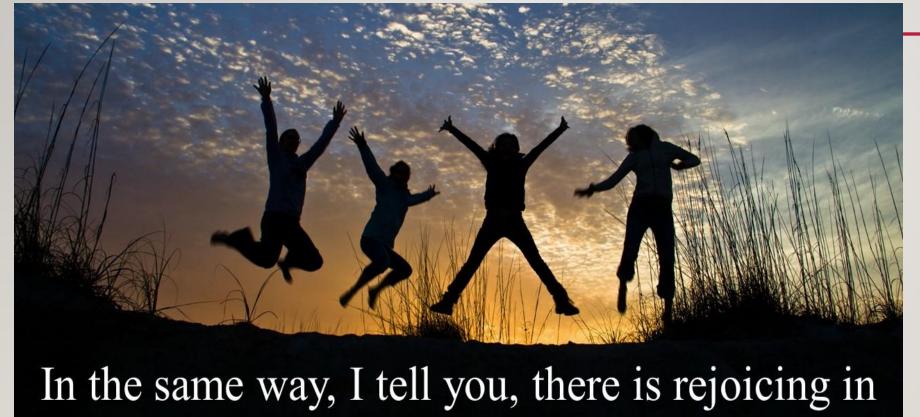
- Soul running from the presence of God.
- God's remorseless, tireless seeking and following of the lost soul.

# FELLOWSHIP RESTORED..... BY THE BLOOD OF JESUS



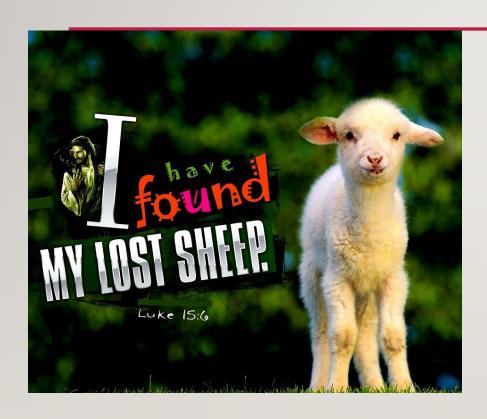
- Jesus blood cleanses us from our sin and has removed the barrier to God.
- Enter with confidence into His presence....lost fellowship can be regained

#### GREAT CELEBRATION IN HEAVEN



In the same way, I tell you, there is rejoicing in the presence of the angels of God over one sinner who repents." (Luke 15:10 NIV)

#### WHAT WAS LOST IS FOUND....





Each sinner is precious to God

### WHAT IS THE REASON FOR REJOICING?

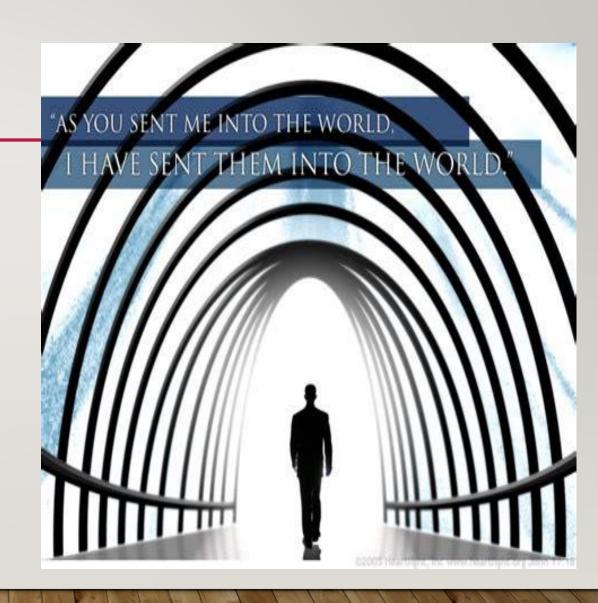
- For God so loved the world that He gave His one and only Son, that whoever believes in Him shall not perish but have eternal life. (John 3:16)
- He save us because of grace, unmerited love (Ephesians 2:8-9)

## His love and mercy.

# WHY DO WE WITNESS FOR CHRIST?

As you sent me into the world,
 I have sent them into the world.
 ( John 17:18)

We have been sent to save the lost.



#### SENT AS WITNESSES

But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes on you; and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth. Acts 1:8

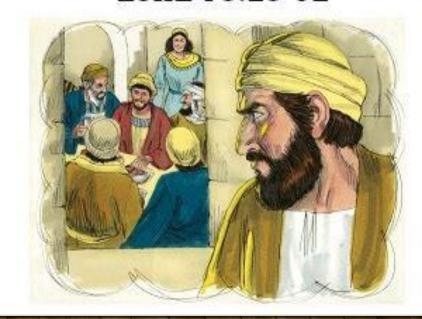
But how can they call on him to save them unless they believe in him? And how can they believe in him if they have never heard about him? And how can they hear about him unless someone tells them? And how will anyone go and tell them without being sent? (Romans 10:14, 15 NLT)

Who will tell the good news?

#### ELDER BROTHER'S ATTITUDE

• <sup>29</sup> But he answered his father, 'Look! All these years I've been slaving for you and never disobeyed your orders. Yet you never gave me even a young goat so I could celebrate with my friends.

#### HE REFUSED TO GO IN: LUKE 15:25-32



#### FATHER'S LOVE

• 32 But we had to celebrate and be glad, because this brother of yours was dead and is alive again; he was lost and is found.



Elder brother failed to understand his father's love.

## **Look at the Elder Brother**

- He was angry
- He was hateful
- He was jealous
- He was a judge

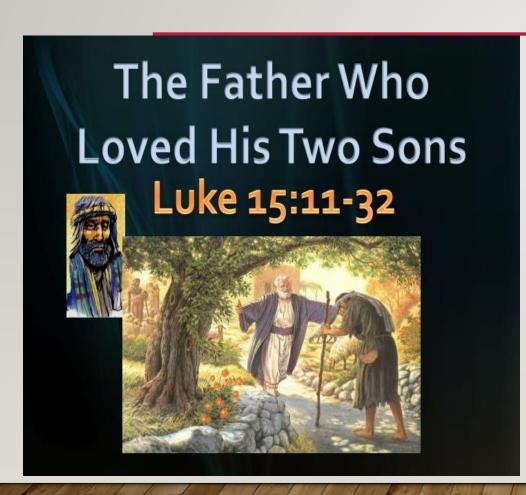
- Felt unappreciated by the father.
- Judged his brother...felt he was a better son

#### FATHER'S FORGIVING LOVE

 Symbolize the divine love of God

#### **ELDER BROTHER'S RESENTMENT**

- Attitude of the Pharisees and teachers of the Law....
- Legalistic and unforgiving.



- Elder son...always a son.
- Younger son was lost and 'dead' but has returned alive....needed mercy and forgiveness
- Father's actions based on his love for both sons.

#### GOD'S LOVE FOR SINNERS

- God loves and welcome all sinners.
- He is passionate to seek and save the Lost.
- Invitation to come and believe in Jesus as Saviour.
- Sent us to be His witnesses.

#### PHARISEES ATTITUDE

- Failure to know the God's heart of love.
- Lacking love for the lost 'sheep'
- Legalistic and judgemental
   ..... self righteous attitude

Reason for not witnessing

 Lack of love, mercy and forgiveness lead to failure to be a witness

# HLCE MISSION AND COREVALUE NO. 4: COMMITMENT TO WITNESS

• <sup>3</sup> This is good, and pleases God our Savior, <sup>4</sup> who wants all people to be saved and to come to a knowledge of the truth. <sup>5</sup> For there is one God and one mediator between God and mankind, the man Christ Jesus, <sup>6</sup> who gave himself as a ransom for all people. This has now been witnessed to at the proper time.( 1 Timothy 2:3-6)