

THE LOST SHEEP

FAMILY DEVOTION

Then Jesus told them this parable: "Suppose one of you has a hundred sheep and loses one of them. Does he not 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.' 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.

Luke 15:3-7

Have you ever lost one of your toys and looked for it for days? When you find that toy, how excited are you? Of course you are thrilled! No one wants to misplace something valuable. You are very happy to have your toy back but that doesn't mean you love the lost one more than the others, right? You just were worried about losing it and spent so much energy in finding it!

I am sure you have heard this story from the bible many times! It reminds us that Jesus loves us all. So much that he will meet us where we are lost and carry us back home. This means that Jesus wants us to live life with him. He wants us to trust in him and love him and others! When we stray from Jesus, he is always willing to welcome us back with open arms. Just like our lost toy, Jesus rejoices when his people return to him. This doesn't mean he doesn't love the other 99 sheep. He knows they are safe and where they should be, so he goes after the one who is lost.

DEAR GOD,

**THANK YOU FOR LOVING US AS
YOUR OWN. WE ASK YOU TO KEEP
US SAFE THIS WEEK AND ALLOW
US TO LOVE OTHERS THE WAY YOU
LOVE US.**

AMEN!
