# Study Guide & Reflection Questions The Parables of the Lost – Sheep, Coin, and Son

## 📘 STUDY GUIDE

Based on Luke 15, this study guide highlights the three parables Jesus taught to emphasize the heart of God toward the lost and the importance of repentance and restoration.

### Key Themes:

* Repentance
* Forgiveness
* The Heart of God
* Family and Restoration
* Celebration of Return

### 1. Context & Foundation

* Luke 15 presents three parables:
* - The Lost Sheep (animals)
* - The Lost Coin (money/valuables)
* - The Lost Son (people/family)
* These stories show how heaven rejoices when the lost are found.

### 2. The Lost Sheep (Luke 15:1–7)

* The shepherd leaves 99 to find 1 lost sheep.
* Illustrates God’s care and joy over one sinner who repents.

### 3. The Lost Coin (Luke 15:8–10)

* A woman searches for a lost silver coin.
* She celebrates when it’s found.
* Symbolizes diligence and the value of one soul.

### 4. The Prodigal Son (Luke 15:11–32)

* The younger son wastes his inheritance in wild living.
* Hits rock bottom and desires to return home.
* Acknowledges sin against God and father.

### 5. The Father's Response

* Runs to meet his son, embraces him.
* Restores him with robe, ring, and sandals.
* Celebrates his return as a resurrection.

### 6. The Older Brother

* Struggles with jealousy and fairness.
* Father teaches him the importance of rejoicing over the lost being found.

### Nuggets & Lessons:

* Rock Bottom can lead to clarity and repentance.
* God is compassionate, patient, and forgiving.
* Good parenting involves truth, grace, and patience.
* Faithfulness should include celebration, not resentment.
* Coming to yourself means remembering your godly upbringing.

## ✏️ REFLECTION QUESTIONS

1. 1. Why do you think Jesus uses three different “lost” items (sheep, coin, and son) to illustrate the same truth? What unique lesson does each one provide?
2. 2. Have you ever had a “rock bottom” moment that led you to reflect, repent, or return to God or family? What did you learn from it?
3. 3. How does the father in the story represent God's character, and how can we emulate that in our own relationships with others who have strayed?
4. 4. How can the older brother’s reaction serve as a warning to those who are faithful but struggle with forgiving others?
5. 5. What are some practical ways we can celebrate and support those who return to God, rather than judging them?
6. 6. In your own family or church, what does it look like to “raise them up in the Word, ways, and will of God,” as the study says? How can we improve in this?