

## LOST!

by Karen M. Leet

Jacob saw a lot of faces. Men and women with briefcases and backpacks bumped him. Everywhere he looked, he saw strangers.

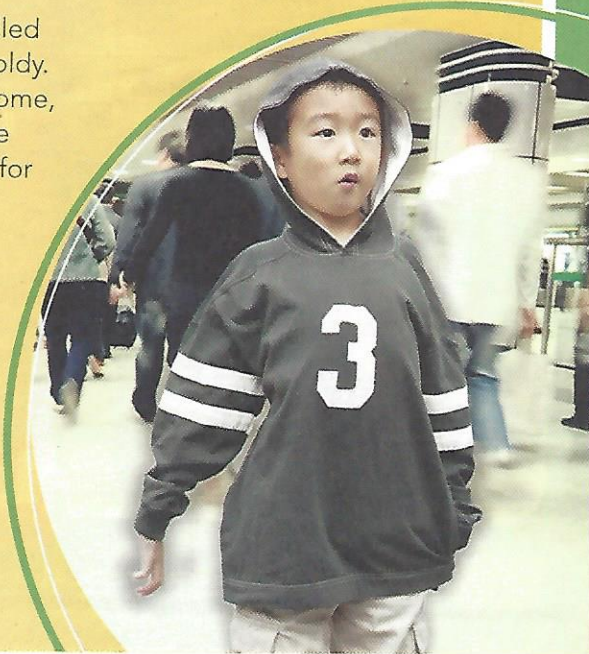
He heard the subway train roaring through the station. He heard hundreds of voices. Brakes screeched as a subway train stopped. A new crowd of strangers walked onto the platform.

Nothing looked familiar. Not the people. Not the subway station. The place even smelled strange. It was damp and moldy.

Jacob was lost, far from home, in a strange city, all alone. He had been riding the subway for the first time since his family moved here. He had been right beside Mom and Emily and Isaiah, his sister and brother. They had been standing. The train had been so jammed with people.

Mom bent to look out the window. "I don't think this is our stop," she said, as the train screeched to a stop.

Suddenly people began pushing to get to the doors. People rushed out onto the platform. Somebody bumped Jacob. The crowd pushed him right out of the train and onto the platform! Jacob wanted to call out to his mom. He tried to push back onto the train, but the doors slammed shut. He saw his mom's startled face staring at him through the glass. Then the train was zooming away.



Jacob fought fear. There were so many strangers. He did what Mom always taught him to do. He prayed. God loved him and knew where he was. God would watch over him. He also remembered Mom always said to find a safe spot and not talk to strangers.

He scooted up close to the ticket booth. He stood with his back to the wall. Jacob felt more alone than ever before in his life. He thought about a Bible story he knew well, the story about a good shepherd searching for one lost sheep. The shepherd wouldn't give up until the sheep was safely home again. Jacob knew the story was about God loving and taking care of His people.

*I'm not really alone, Jacob told himself. God always stays nearby, like a shepherd guarding His sheep.*

Then Jacob heard the best sound in the world—Mom's voice calling him. He stood on tiptoe to see her in the crowd. She had come back for him.

"Over here, Mom!" he called, waving his arms. Mom rushed over and hugged him tightly. Jacob thought maybe he knew how that lost sheep felt when the good shepherd came for it. It was good to be found and loved!

**How did Jacob feel knowing how much God loved him?**

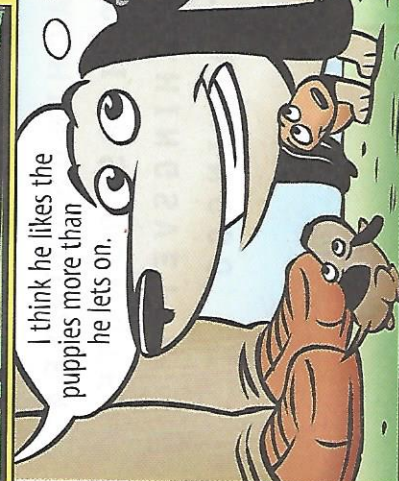
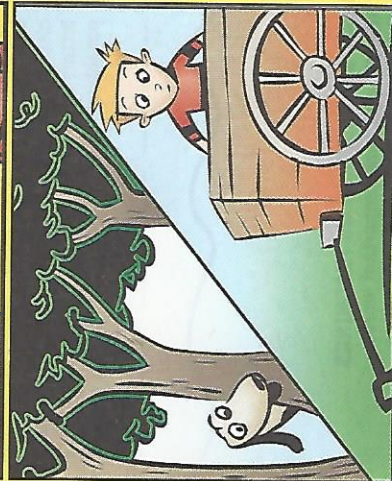


**How do you feel knowing how much God loves you?**



# TOON TIME

BY JENNA LUSEY AND KAREN CAIN  
ILLUSTRATED BY SCOTT ANGLE



# Jesus' Parables



R R E N N I S  
 E P L O S T R  
 P A R A B L E  
 T N E V A E H  
 P E E H S E C  
 N M N I O C A  
 T N A M O W E  
 R E V L I S T



Find these words from the parables found in Luke 15:1-10 (NIV): HEAVEN, TEACHERS, SHEEP, PARABLE, LOST, SILVER, COIN, SINNER, WOMAN, LAMP, TEN. Look forward, backward, up, and diagonally. After you have circled all the hidden words, use the leftover letters to spell another word from these parables.

\_\_\_\_\_

## JESUS THE TEACHER

The Bible tells us about many of Jesus' teachings. Cross out the word TEACHINGS nine times in the puzzle. The leftover letters will spell out some important words Jesus wants all of us to follow. Write them in the box.

DTEACHINGSOTTEACHINGSOOTHTEA  
 CHINGSERSASTEACHINGSYOUWOTE  
 ACHINGSULDHATEACHINGSVETTE  
 ACHINGSHEMDOTTEACHINGSO  
 YTEACHINGSOU

Luke 6:31 (NIV)

JESUS THE  
TEACHER

"Do to others  
as you would  
have them  
do to you."

JESUS'  
 PARABLES  
 R R E N N I S  
 E P L O S T R  
 P A R A B L E  
 T N E V A E H  
 P E E H S E C  
 N M N I O C A  
 T N A M O W E  
 R E V L I S T