

Bible Story

23. The Lost Coin

Luke 15



“Rejoice with me! I have found my lost coin.”

Luke 15:9

The Lost Coin

Jesus told a story about money that was missing. A woman had ten silver coins, but she lost one. What will she do? Will she forget about it? No way.

Will she look for it? Yes!

She will light a lamp to help her see. She will sweep every corner of her house. That woman will search until she finds her one special coin.

When she finds it, she will call her friends and her neighbors. "Rejoice with me!" she will shout. "I have found my lost coin."

In the same way, there is joy in heaven when one sinner repents and is found. The angels throw a huge party when each sinner is sorry, turns from sin, and comes home to God.

Questions

1. What did the woman do when she found her lost coin?
2. The woman in the story is like God who searches for the lost. How are people like the lost coin?
3. Do you know someone who has just come to God? How can you rejoice with him or her?
4. Have you been found by God? When did you repent and come home to Jesus?

Pray this Prayer:

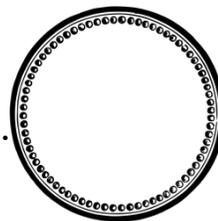
Dear Jesus,

You never forget us. You look until you find us. We only need to repent. I am sorry for my sins and want to come home to your loving arms.

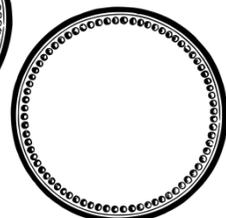
Amen

Write on the first coin, "lost."
Write on the second coin, "found"
and your name and date you were
found by God.

I once was...



But now I am...



Story S-t-r-e-tch-ing

23. The Lost Coin

Show students where the story is in the Bible. Use the Bible references above the illustration.

Before you read:

Activate Prior Knowledge

- a) Have you ever lost something valuable? How did you feel?
- b) How did you find it? How did you feel?
- c) Do you think this story will have a happy ending? Why?

After you read:

Luke 15 is one of the most-loved chapters in the whole Bible. Let your enthusiasm for the forgiveness of Jesus shine through. We have a loving father who not just begrudgingly forgives those who stray, but we have a God who actively seeks and saves the lost (Luke 19:10). All of heaven celebrates when the lost are found! Ask the children what was similar between the story of the lost sheep and lost coin. Prepare their hearts to also see the similarities with lost son in the next story.

REJOICE!

Use the illustrated title page to give this story personal meaning. Above the table write "Rejoice" in fancy, large, colorful letters and write the rest of the key verse under that. On the table draw nine coins. Write the names of people who are believers in the coins. Label the underside of the table "Kingdom of heaven." On the woman write the words of Jesus, "I have come to seek and save the lost." Under the table, write a joyful prayer thanking God for someone you know who belongs to Jesus. Draw other coins and label them with names of people who need prayer or may not be in the kingdom of God.

Amazing Grace

Sing the song "Amazing Grace" at this link or many others. Have the kids write a prayer of thanks that God found them and brought them home. They can add their name or make it anonymous. Make a Lost and Found box. Have the kids put their stories in the box and read them to the class.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=CDdvReNKKuk>

A Family Portrait

You are a found coin - God's prized, special possession. He has been searching for YOU! Hide coins for the children to find. As they find them, use a glue gun to adhere the coins around the border of a piece of foam core to form a frame. Inside the frame, have the children draw their own self-portrait.

Who IS that Woman?

Isn't it incredible and so counter-culture that God – the king of the universe - identifies himself in this story as a hungry, heart-broken, desperate woman searching the dirty ground for a prized possession? And what is the coin really?? YOU! Have the kids change the words in the story to reflect the true meaning when Jesus told the story. The sample is the answer key.

The Lost Coin

Jesus told a story about money that was missing. A woman had ten silver coins, but she lost one. What will she do? Will she forget about it? No way. Will she look for it? Yes!

She will light a lamp to help her see. She will sweep every corner of her house. That woman will search until she finds her one special coin.

When she finds it, she will call her friends and her neighbors. "Rejoice with me!" she will shout. "I have found my lost coin."

In the same way, there is joy in heaven when one sinner repents and is found. The angels throw a huge party when each sinner is sorry, turns from sin, and comes home to God.

The Lost Coin (sample, answer key)

Jesus told a story about people that were missing. God had ten children, but he lost one. What will he do? Will he forget about that one child? No way.

Will he look for that child? Yes!

He will light a lamp to help him see. He will sweep every corner of his world. God will search until he finds his one special child.

When he finds that child, he will call his friends and his neighbors. "Rejoice with me!" he will shout. "I have found my lost child."

In the same way, there is joy in heaven when one sinner repents and is found. The angels throw a huge party when each sinner is sorry, turns from sin, and comes home to God.

Faces of Feelings

Cut out the faces below. As you tell the story, the children can take the face that fits the feeling. Then, they can retell the story using the faces.

