The Lost Sheep Sun Am KZ Lesson 6/27/2021

# Memory Verse: 1 John 1:9  (NKJV)

**9**If we confess our sins, He is faithful and just to forgive us *our* sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

Target Thought: Jesus Never Gives Up On Us.

Do you any of you have a collection of toys that you like? Some people collect stuffed toys, some collect cards, some collect jewelry, some collect video games…. How upset would you be if you lost one of them?

That reminds me of a lesson that Jesus taught to a group of religious leaders one day. The religious leaders were very upset that Jesus was often seen associating with sinners. He was even sometimes seen eating with them. The religious leaders didn't like that at all and were very critical of Jesus. Jesus told them a story to help them to understand. Let’s read the scripture:

# Luke 15:3-7 (NKJV)

**3**So He spoke this parable to them, saying:

**4**“What man of you, having a hundred sheep, if he loses one of them, does not leave the ninety-nine in the wilderness, and go after the one which is lost until he finds it? **5**And when he has found *it,* he lays *it* on his shoulders, rejoicing. **6**And when he comes home, he calls together *his* friends and neighbors, saying to them, ‘Rejoice with me, for I have found my sheep which was lost!’ **7**I say to you that likewise there will be more joy in heaven over one sinner who repents than over ninety-nine just persons who need no repentance.

"Suppose one of you had a hundred sheep and you lost one of them," Jesus said. "Wouldn't you leave the ninety-nine who were safe, and go and search for the lost sheep? And when you found the lost sheep, wouldn't you joyfully put it on your shoulders and carry it back home? Wouldn't you be so happy that you would tell all of your friends about finding the lost sheep?" Jesus loves EVERYONE so much that He wants everyone to be saved and live in Heaven with Him forever. I imagine that all of the religious leaders had to agree that they would do just as Jesus had suggested. Then Jesus said to them,"In the same way, there is more rejoicing in heaven over one sinner who repents than over ninety-nine righteous persons who do not need to repent."

If we make a mistake what are we supposed to do? That’s right repent and ask Jesus to forgive and He will. Does that mean we are supposed to sin on purpose? NO.

The Bible teaches us that we are like sheep and sometimes stray away from God. That makes God very sad, but he never gives up on us. He keeps searching for us and calling to us. He wants to draw us back into his arms. He even sent Jesus, his Son, to save those who are lost. Aren't you glad that God doesn't give up on his lost sheep? I am, because "I once was lost, but now I'm found!"

Jesus loves us so much that He will do everything to keep us safe, to keep us with Him and to help us to show and tell others how much He loves them. Will you help me in telling others how much Jesus lives them and that He will always keep them safe and keep them with Him? Thank you I knew you would. Let’s pray.

Dear Jesus, you are the Good Shepherd. We are thankful that you came to save those who are lost. Amen.

1. Does Jesus love everyone?
2. Are we supposed to sin on purpose?
3. What does Jesus want us to show and tell others?