

Pastor Toby Locke Week 1 – 9/23/18

Let's Start With WHY

Luke 15:1-7

Introduction: Sometimes before you can understand how, you need to know why.

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\Rightarrow Lost people MATTER to Jesus. <i>Luke 15:3-7</i>
☐ Jesus <u>VALUES</u> every single person! <i>Luke 15:3-4</i>
☐ Jesus PRIORITIZES finding over keeping. Luke 15:4
☐ Jesus <u>REJOICES</u> when a lost one is found. <i>Luke 15:5-7</i>
Guiding Application:
\Rightarrow They should MATTER to all who FOLLOW Jesus. Luke 6:40
☐ Jesus invites us to share His <u>VALUES</u> . <i>Luke 15:1-2</i>
☐ Jesus invites us to share His PRIORITIES. Luke 15:1-2
☐ Jesus invites us to share His <u>JOY</u> . <i>Luke 15:6</i>
Conclusion: When you love someone, you care about what THEY care about.



Debrief Plan: 9/23/2018

Icebreakers:

- 1. Did you have a special collection when you were a kid? How about now as an adult? Why did/do you collect it?
- 2. When you are asked to do something, do you need to understand WHY before you can follow through and do it?

<u>Sermon Summary</u>: Lost people matter to Jesus, and they should also matter to anyone who claims to follow Jesus. This is our "why": we reach out to precious lost ones because we are learning to share in Jesus's values, his priorities, and his joy in seeing lost ones come home.

Discussion Questions:

1. Do you ever struggle to be motivated to keep reaching out to people who are far from God? Why is that, do you think?

* Lost People Matter to Jesus (Read Luke 15:1-7 together.)

- 2. In your own words, what does this story teach us about God (and Jesus)? Is there anything you see that doesn't make much sense?
- 3. Read Luke 19:1-10. Why did Jesus "have" to stay with Zacchaeus? Does it make sense for Jesus to antagonize people by seeking this tax collector out and fraternizing with him?
- 4. What risks did Jesus take by intentionally seeking after lost sheep? What did it cost Him?

* Lost People SHOULD Matter to All who Follow Jesus!

- 5. Can you really be a true disciple of Jesus if you aren't in the process of seeking after lost sheep as he did?
- 6. Who are some people that are easy to value as highly as Jesus values them? What are some kinds of people that you struggle to value as much as Jesus values them?
- 7. How do we prove that we really value keeping the 99 over finding the 1?
- 8. What might it cost us to prioritize finding over keeping?
- 9. Have you ever experienced God's joy as you saw a lost one come home? Tell us about it. What was that like?

Prayer Prompters:

- -Pray that God would help each of your group members to care as much about finding lost people as Jesus cares about finding lost people.
- -Think of one "lost sheep" you want to see get found; pray for them by name.