

PONDER POINT: GOD REDEEMS

Parable of the Lost Sheep, Coin, and Son
Luke 15:1–32

DID YOU KNOW?

Share these facts to get the conversation started.

- People who don't know Jesus are sometimes referred to as "lost."
- The parables of the lost sheep, lost coin, and lost son relate to God's heart for the lost.
- Jesus' words reminded the Pharisees that they spent so much time worrying about the letter of the Law that they often forgot about the spirit of the Law.
- Through these stories God also reminds us that like the Pharisees, we need to examine our own hearts for the lost.

CONNECT AS A FAMILY

Play the following game as a family. Allow one person to close her eyes and count to 10. Have another player hide a coin in his fist and put his hands on the table. The other players will also make a fist and put their hands on the table. The "counter" will then try to guess who holds the coin. Read **Luke 15:1–32**. Explain that people who don't believe in Jesus are sometimes described as being lost. God rejoices when lost people believe in His Son Jesus and find their way back into relationship with Him. Pray, thanking God for his great love for us.

After reading the Scripture passage, discuss these questions together:

- In each of the stories that Jesus told, what happened so the lost thing (or person) became found?
- Why do you think the shepherd's, the woman's, and the father's friends all celebrated with them?
- How does God want the faith community to treat lost people?

These questions can easily extend into the rest of the week. Look for opportunities to bring conversations about how God redeems us into your everyday life as a family.

REMEMBER VERSE

The Remember Verse focuses on a character trait of God that's highlighted in next week's portion of The Big God Story.

**This is how God showed his love among us:
He sent his one and only Son into the world
that we might live through him.
1 John 4:9**

BLESSING

Blessings are often used in the Bible. A blessing can be a prayer of commission, a portion of Scripture, or words to encourage and guide.

A blessing to pray over your child:

(Child's name), **may you have God's heart for the lost. May you remember that God loves you and redeems you!**

For more information about blessing your child, talk to your ministry leader or see *Spiritual Parenting* by Michelle Anthony.