

“Be Joyful with Me!” Luke 15:1–10

- Why did Jesus eat with sinners & tax collectors? (v.1) He loves the lost.
- Jesus is the good Shepherd & He seeks out to save lost sheep (John 10)
- Tax collectors & sinners were a scandalous bunch – despised in society
- Pharisees: just as scandalous because of the absence of love for sinners
- Not only did they not care about sinners: hated Jesus for loving them

Ezek 34: 1-2, 10-12, 23-24

- Jesus, the Shepherd spoken of in Ezekiel, rejoices to find the lost sheep
- 3 parables – in Luke 15, one key theme “Joy in recovering lost sinners”

I. Lost and Found (vv. 3, 4, 8)

a. The Loss

- Both parables begin on a note of loss: Shepherd- sheep. Woman- a coin

b. The Search

- The picture of the lost sheep – Ezekiel’s shepherd fulfilled in Jesus

II. Recovery and Joy (vv. 5, 6, 9)

a. Carried Home

- The lost sheep is more than a piece of livestock (Ps. 28:9; Isa 46: 4)
- Christ the good Shepherd began carrying us on the cross (1 Pet 2:24, 25)

III. Time for Celebration (vv. 7,10)

a. Everlasting Joy (vv. 7, 10)

- God rejoices in the presence of his angels when the lost are found!