

**PARABLE OF THE LOST SHEEP**

Matthew 18:10-14

This discussion is for the Friday Morning Men’s Fellowship teaching series, “The Parables”, available at leadmin.org/parables.



Use one of these to get the group talking about today’s topic:

• Have you ever lost something important or valuable? When and how did you lose it and what was the result?

* If you are a father, how did your life change when you had your first child? What facets of life suddenly became important to you as a dad?
* What has been the best day of your life so far?



Go in-depth with these questions. Based on your available time, choose 3-4 that you believe are most thought-provoking:

• Read Matthew 18:10-14. Why does Jesus make a distinction on how God views children?

* What is the crux of what Jesus is communicating through the lost sheep? What does He want us to do as a result of this story?
* What might cause a sheep to go astray? How are we also likely to go astray?
* What is the shepherd’s responsibility to the sheep?
* God often refers to us as His children in the Bible. How is that important in this story?
* Read Luke 15:3-7. How does this different telling of the same parable clarify what Jesus was saying?
* How does Jesus want us to act and lead when it comes to people we know who are far from God?



• Who do you know today who is a “lost sheep” spiritually? Are you in a position to influence them spiritually? How might you begin that process this week?

* Have you shared your faith with your own children and close family? If not, look for an opening this week to begin spiritual conversations in your family.
* Do you value the people around you like Jesus valued the “lost sheep”? How can you increase the value you place on people and relationships to be more like Jesus?