

# 30 Day Church Challenge

## Going Into The World

2-14-16

### 1. WHAT IS THE PURPOSE OF THE CHURCH?

**Matthew 28:18-19** - Then Jesus came to them and said, "All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. <sup>19</sup> **Therefore go and make disciples...**

### 2. WHAT IS A DISCIPLE?

- **DISCIPLE MEANS:** *To be the disciple of one; to follow his precepts and instruction.*

**Luke 15:1-3** - Now the tax collectors and "sinners" were all gathering around to hear him. <sup>2</sup> But the Pharisees and the teachers of the law muttered, "**This man welcomes sinners and eats with them.**" <sup>3</sup> Then Jesus told them this parable:

- *Jesus is going to tell us how he sees people who are far from God.*

#### 1. Jesus uses three metaphors to describe their condition.

##### a. HE SEES THEM AS LOST \_\_\_\_\_.

**Luke 15:4-7** - "**Suppose one of you** has a hundred sheep and loses one of them. Does he not leave the ninety-nine in the open country and go after the lost sheep until he finds it? <sup>5</sup> And when he finds it, **he joyfully puts it on his shoulders** <sup>6</sup> and goes home. Then he calls his friends and neighbors together and says, 'Rejoice with me; I have found my lost sheep.' <sup>7</sup> I tell you that in the same way there will be more rejoicing in heaven over one sinner who repents than over ninety-nine righteous persons who do not need to repent.

- **A person far from God lacks spiritual understanding that causes them to be weak in character and will.**

**Matthew 9:36-38** - When he saw the crowds, he had compassion on them, because they were **harassed** and **helpless**, like sheep without a shepherd. <sup>37</sup> Then he said to his disciples, "The harvest is plentiful but the workers are few. <sup>38</sup> Ask the Lord of the harvest, therefore, to send out workers into his harvest field."

b. **HE SEES THEM AS A LOST** \_\_\_\_\_.

**Luke 15:8**- "Or suppose a woman has ten silver coins and loses one. Does she not light a lamp, sweep the house and search carefully until she finds it?"

- **A person far from God lacks purpose.**

c. **HE SEES THEM AS LOST** \_\_\_\_\_.

**Luke 15:11-16** - Jesus continued: "There was a man who had two sons. <sup>12</sup> The younger one said to his father, 'Father, give me my share of the estate.' So he divided his property between them. <sup>13</sup> "Not long after that, the younger son got together all he had, set off for a distant country and there squandered his wealth in wild living. <sup>14</sup> After he had spent everything, there was a **severe famine** in that whole country, and he began to be in need. <sup>15</sup> So he went and **hired himself out** to a citizen of that country, who sent him to his fields to feed pigs. <sup>16</sup> **He longed to fill his stomach with the pods that the pigs were eating, but no one gave him anything.**

- **A person far from God lacks fulfillment.**

2. **Jesus uses three metaphors to reveal the nature of the Father, Son and Holy Spirit.**

a. **Seeking Shepherd=** \_\_\_\_\_

**John 10:11** - I am the good shepherd. The good shepherd lays down his life for the sheep.

**Luke 19:10** - For the Son of Man came to seek and to save what was lost."

- **It is the nature of the Son to rescue.**

b. **Seeking Woman=** \_\_\_\_\_

**Luke 15:8** - "Or suppose a woman has ten silver coins and loses one. **Does she not light a lamp, sweep the house and search carefully until she finds it?**"

- **It is the nature of the Holy Spirit to reveal.**

**John 16:7-9** -But I tell you the truth: It is for your good that I am going away. Unless I go away, the Counselor will not come to you; but if I go, I will send him to you. <sup>8</sup> When he comes, he will convict the world of guilt in regard to sin and righteousness and judgment: <sup>9</sup> in regard to sin, because men do not believe in me; . . .

c. **Seeking Father=** \_\_\_\_\_

- **It is the nature of the Father to receive.**

**Luke 15:17** - "When he came to his senses, he said, 'How many of my father's hired men have food to spare, and here I am starving to death! <sup>18</sup> I will set out and go back to my father and say to him: Father, I have sinned against heaven and against you. <sup>19</sup> I am no longer worthy to be called your son; make me like one of your hired men.' <sup>20</sup> So he got up and went to his father. **"But while he was still a long way off, his father saw him and was filled with compassion for him; he ran to his son, threw his arms around him and kissed him.** <sup>21</sup> "The son said to him, 'Father, I have sinned against heaven and against you. I am no longer worthy to be called your son.' <sup>22</sup> "But the father said to his servants, 'Quick! Bring the best robe and put it on him. Put a ring on his finger and sandals on his feet. <sup>23</sup> Bring the fattened calf and kill it. Let's have a feast and celebrate. <sup>24</sup> For this son of mine was dead and is alive again; he was lost and is found.' So they began to celebrate.

3. **The condition (weakness, lack of purpose and fulfillment) of the person who is far away from God and the nature (rescuing, revealing and receiving) of the Father, Son and the Holy Spirit gives us a picture of what the Church should be about when it comes to "GOING."**

- To \_\_\_\_\_ the people who are far away from God.
- To \_\_\_\_\_ the truth in love.
- To \_\_\_\_\_ them with grace.

***NEXT STEP:***

***Sign up for a Mission trip.***

***Sign up to be part of the planning team for "Impact team."***

***Pray for seven friends to invite to Easter services.***