

REDEEMED

LIFE NOTES

Luke 15
March 11, 2018

QUESTIONS

1. Someone once quipped that Jesus was put to death because of a meal. This is true in part because He ate with people the Pharisees considered ‘outsiders.’ Tax collectors were traitors and sinners “unobservant people... who did not observe the Law in detail....” (p. 51 BAGD). Why did Jesus welcome such people (vv. 7, 10, 24, 32)? What other Scriptures are applicable here?

2. These three parables of the lost sheep, coin, and son are told by Jesus for a specific reason. Being “lost” can have many different connotations but here it is used in a specific sense. What emotions are felt in these parables when something or someone is lost and is now found? Does this challenge your perception of how to think about “the lost” (i.e. people outside the church)?

3. The story of the prodigal son is well-known and loved. By asking for his inheritance, the younger son basically wished his father was dead or at least didn’t care for him. After he squanders the money, he comes back to his father seeking just to be a servant. The father welcomes him back fully into his home. What did the son realize and do, as he came back to his father (v. 18 cf. v. 7, 10)?

4. The older son is loved by the father as well but he is lost in a different way. The Pharisees and the teachers of the law are identified by Jesus as the older brother. Why are they lost and what must they do to find favor with God? Who do you identify with; the father, the prodigal son, or the older brother? Explain why.