



THE CITADEL GLOBAL COMMUNITY CHURCH

SEARCH THE SCRIPTURES NUGGETS



SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 27, 2026

KINGDOM DYNAMICS – THE PARABLES OF THE LOST (1) By Pastor Sumbo Oladipo

2026: OUR YEAR OF FRUITFUL LABOUR | 2 Chronicles 15: 7

- The parables of the lost (Luke 15) were spoken in direct response to two different audiences: sinners and tax collectors who drew near to Christ to hear him, and Pharisees and scribes who gathered only to complain and judge. The motive with which we gather to receive the word of God matters (**Luke 15:1-2, Job 1:6**).
- There are people who gather in the assembly not to receive transformation but to hear what they might twist against others, to whisper it to those who would receive Christ and become a snare to them. We must pray to be gathered for the right reasons (**Psalms 56:5-6, Acts 13:10**).
- The value of a thing is a function of two things: the price paid to obtain it and the benefits derivable from it. God purchased every soul at an immeasurable price through the blood of Jesus, and He holds an expectation of the glory of that inheritance in the saints. Every soul that is lost is a dent in his investment (**1 Corinthians 6:20, Ephesians 1:18, 1 Timothy 2:4**).
- No soul has been condemned to damnation by God. As co-labourers with Him, we must attach to every soul the same value that God attaches to them, and we must learn to see people as God Himself sees them (**Luke 15:4**).
- The risk one is willing to take for something is a direct function of the value placed on it. The Good Shepherd risked certainty for uncertainty, left the comfort of the ninety-nine for one, and even risked His own life, all because of the incomparable value of that one lost sheep (**Luke 15:4-5**).
- Jesus qualifies the lost as believers who, like little children, are immature and vulnerable, yet He calls the

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things that are not as though they were. While we were yet sinners, Christ died for the ungodly. He saw us as believers even before we believed. We must never despise those who are lost (Matthew 18:3-6, 10-14, Romans 4:17; 5:8).

- The angels of God have an assignment over the lost. When one sinner repents, the angels rejoice because they are co-stakeholders in the redemptive mission of Christ. Evangelism is not a solo mission; all of heaven is involved (Matthew 18:10, Luke 15:7, John 4:36).
- The depth of the shepherd's perseverance is captured in one

word: He does not give up as long as the sheep remains lost. There is a seed of multiplication in every soul. What God sees in that one lost person is not just one but the thousands and nations embedded in them. Be patient enough to recognise it and reap it for God (Luke 15:4, Isaiah 60:22).

- The sheep owner went out with the certainty of “when,” not “if.” Impossibility was not a probability for him; therefore, it was not even a consideration. As believers, finding and bringing home the lost is a mission that must be accomplished and we must cultivate a mindset that gives no room for failure (Luke 15:5).
- When the found sheep is brought home, the shepherd lays it on his shoulders not only to comfort the sheep but to display his victory. Defeat buries its head in shame and hides, but victory lifts up its trophies for all to see amid shouts of joy and rejoicing. May you and I become the

trophies of grace that Christ will display before the Father (**Luke 15:5, Colossians 2:15, Daniel 12:3**).

- The homecoming of the lost sheep is cause for communal celebration. As Isaiah prophesied concerning Jesus, He shall see the travail of His soul and be satisfied. The joy that fills the Father's heart when a lost soul is won should provoke us to make soul-winning a task that must be accomplished (**Luke 15:6, Isaiah 53:11, Psalm 126:5-6**).
- The parable of the lost coin covers the same ground as the parable of the lost sheep but is addressed to the woman. Whether you are a man or a woman, you are being addressed. Both are commanded to seek the lost. The repetition of the lessons across two parables is for emphasis, underscoring the weight that God places on the recovery of every lost soul (**Luke 15:8-10**). The ninety-nine left in the wilderness are not abandoned without a keeper. The Chief Shepherd declared He

would not leave us as orphans. He sent the Comforter to remain with us. A true shepherd always makes provision for those already in the fold while going out in pursuit of the one who is lost (**Luke 15:4, John 14:18**).



PRAYER POINTS

1. Lord, purge from my heart every form of pride, prejudice, and self-righteousness that would make me a stumbling block to the salvation of others (**Luke 15:2, Philippians 3:9**).
2. May I never write off or despise any soul. Father, give me the grace to see people the way You see them and to value every life as You do (**Matthew 18:10, 1 Timothy 2:4**).
3. Father, give me the heart of the Good Shepherd, the perseverance to pursue the lost without giving up, and a faith that speaks when, not if (**Luke 15:4-5, Hebrews 2:10**).

4. Lord, open my eyes to see the thousand embedded in the one, and give me the patience to sow and labour in the harvest field with a heart that will not quit (**Isaiah 60:22, Psalm 126:5-6**).
5. Lord, as I labour in the vineyard, I will not labour in vain. I ask for the joy of reunion, that I will bring in my sheaves rejoicing and at the end of the age I will be numbered among those who turned many to righteousness (**Isaiah 53:11, Daniel 12:3**).
6. If in any area of life I have wandered from Your presence, Father, let Your mercy seek me out, find me, and bring me safely home in the name of Jesus (**Luke 15:4-7, Matthew 9:12-13**).