



## A Guide for Spiritual Formation

Series Theme: Stories of Jesus

Text for the Week: Luke 15:8-10

Story for the Week: The Lost Coin

Message for the Week: A Valuing Community

**Week Four**  
**Sunday, July 10**

### Opening:

What is one low (a bad thing) and one high (a good thing) that happened to you this past week? Write them down and take turns sharing them with the others in your group.

Where have you seen the work of the Holy Spirit in your life this past week?

Have you ever been the recipient of a surprise birthday party?

### Preparation:

Spend 1-2 minutes in silence with God to center and prepare yourself for your time with God today.

### Read:

Read / Have two people in your group read [Luke 15:8-10](#) out loud.

[Clicking this link will bring you to multiple translations.]

As you read and/or listen to the text being read, circle, take note of, highlight, or underline what words, phrases, or ideas grabbed your attention and heart in these verses?

Write them down below and/or share them with those who are with you.

## **Respond / Reflect:**

Have you ever carelessly lost something of importance? What did you lose?

When was the last time you rejoiced about something? What did you rejoice about?

What, if any, types of things have you searched for diligently and intensely? What things, if any, are you currently searching for diligently and intensely?

What is the longest amount of time you ever spent searching for something that you lost or was lost?

What are you doing about the people around you who are spiritually lost? Are we searching as intently for people as we are things that we lose?

## **“Try It!”**

Make a list of all the things that you have lost. Make a list of all the people that you know who are spiritually lost. Pray for them by name. Look for way to seek them out.

## **Prayer:**

Spend time in prayer with/for the other people who are with you. Pray this prayer together:

*Father, thank you for sending Jesus to search for us until he found us; thank you that he found us through no effort of our own; and thank you for the opportunity to know the joy of being eternally found. Father, open our eyes to the plight of lost coins in the cracks of the rocks and crevices of life. Call us to light lamps, sweep homes, and search for those who are lost. Use us in the building of your Kingdom. In the name of Jesus our Teacher and Rabbi, Amen.*

## **Missional/Spiritual Practice for the Month: Celebrating with Others**

During the month of July, you are encouraged to “celebrate” with people that you don’t know very well (Luke 15). It could be with a neighbor, a classmate, or a co-worker. Invite someone to join you for Wednesdays on the Lawn. Celebrate the birth of our nation, the sunshine and warm weather, an anniversary, National Slurpee Day (7-11), or just being neighbors. Eat at a restaurant close to your house, in your backyard or driveway, or at a nearby park. Be open to meeting and getting to know new people. Experiment with different ways to celebrate.