



# 2025 LOST AND FOUND

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## Primary School Worship - Education Sunday 2025

### Read Luke 15:1-10

1 One day when many tax collectors and other outcasts came to listen to Jesus, 2 the Pharisees and the teachers of the Law started grumbling, “This man welcomes outcasts and even eats with them!” 3 So Jesus told them this parable:

4 “Suppose one of you has a hundred sheep and loses one of them — what do you do? You leave the other 99 sheep in the pasture and go looking for the one that got lost until you find it. 5 When you find it, you are so happy that you put it on your shoulders 6 and carry it back home. Then you call your friends and neighbours together and say to them, ‘I am so happy I found my lost sheep. Let us celebrate!’ 7 In the same way, I tell you, there will be more joy in heaven over one sinner who repents than over 99 respectable people who do not need to repent.

8 “Or suppose a woman who has ten silver coins loses one of them — what does she do? She lights a lamp, sweeps her house, and looks carefully everywhere until she finds it. 9 When she finds it, she calls her friends and neighbours together, and says to them, ‘I am so happy I found the coin I lost. Let us celebrate!’ 10 In the same way, I tell you, the angels of God rejoice over one sinner who repents.”

Our Bible story has come to an end. It’s time to stop and think for a moment. Put your hands in your lap and take a deep breath, in ... and out. (Pause by silently counting to 5 or 10)

Hands up if you have ever lost your school jumper or PE kit?

That is a lot of us who have lost something at one point in the school year. My mum was always a bit grumpy with me whenever I lost my kit. She’d say, ‘why don’t you just put it back on your peg, or how hard is it to put it in your school bag’. Obviously, it was hard because I’m not the only one who has ever lost something. Sometimes I found my PE kit, but other times it never reappeared, or it turned up again years later. I can say, though, that the joy when I did find it was a really good

feeling. Can you think now about how it felt to find something you had lost? (pause) For some of us it even brings a smile to our face just remembering it.

Jesus was a good teacher, and in the Bible we can read about how he often told stories that are called parables. A parable is story which has a deeper meaning which isn't always immediately obvious. They can be a little like a combination of a story and a puzzle. In today's reading, Jesus uses a parable to help us understand that he never gives up on us.

Now, I must admit when I lost my PE kit, I never looked for it as hard as my mum would have wanted me to look for it. But in the story today Jesus said, suppose you had 100 sheep but lose one of them. And when that one was finally found, you'd be so pleased that you'd carry it on your shoulders, and then you'd call all your friends and neighbours so they could join in and celebrate that that one sheep that was lost had now been found. And a celebration that would be like your best birthday and your favourite team winning the championship all on the same day.

Now, we know that the sheep sometimes wander away from their shepherd, and the Bible teaches us that people sometimes wander away from God, and in doing that they get 'lost'. Christians believe that makes God very sad, but God never gives up on us. He keeps searching for us and calling to us just like a shepherd calls to his sheep. He wants to draw people back into his arms and carry them when they are lost.

Sometimes, even our friends can feel a bit lost if they hear us use unkind words or we stop including them in things. God loves each of us and doesn't want anyone to ever feel lost, and it is our job to help everyone feel a part of our school family.

Now I am going to say a prayer and if you would like to make it your prayer, say, 'Amen' (which means, 'I agree') at the end after me. (If not, you can sit quietly and think about what you've heard today.)

Dear God, thank you that you don't want any of us to ever feel lost and that you will keep searching for us and shouting our name. Help us to say sorry when we are unkind or do things that hurt others. Amen

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