

## THE LOST SHEEP/THE LOST COIN

**Luke 15:1-10 (cf. Mat. 18:12-14)**

**I. Introduction:** *(Materials: coin or bill, broom, flashlight)*

Act out the story of “The Lost Coin”. Before class, hide the coin or bill in the classroom. When it’s time for class to begin, pretend you’ve lost a coin by looking through your purse, pockets, etc. Look all over the floor. Sweep the floor with a broom. Use a flashlight to search. When you find the coin, REJOICE! Tell the story.

**II. Story:** *(Refer to Two Houses lesson for tips on telling the story.)*

***The Lost Sheep*** *(Adjust the story for your class. Change “you” to “a man”, if desired.)*

1. You have 100 sheep.
2. One of your sheep gets lost. *(Ask students, “What will you do?” Allow for answers.)*
3. You leave the 99 sheep in the field and go look for the lost sheep.
4. When you find it, you will be very happy.
5. You will put the lost sheep on your shoulder and carry it home.
6. You will have a party with your friends and neighbors.

***The Lost Coin***

1. A woman has ten silver coins.
2. She loses one of the coins. *(Ask students, “What will she do?” Allow for answers.)*
3. She turns on a light, sweeps the floor, and looks carefully.
4. She finds the lost coin.
5. She calls her friends and neighbors and has a party.

**New words:** *(Write the new words on the board and discuss the meaning of each word.)*

**100 (one hundred), sheep, lost, loses, 99 (ninety-nine), field, shoulder, carry, neighbor(s), silver, coins, sweep(s), carefully**

**III. Questions:**

- What did the woman lose?
- How many sheep were lost?
- What will you do about the lost sheep?
- When the woman finds her coin, what does she do?
- Why are you and the woman so happy about finding what you lost?

**IV. Vocabulary:** *(Students make sentences using selected vocabulary from the following.)*

| <b><u>Nouns</u></b> | <b><u>Verbs</u></b>    | <b><u>Adjectives</u></b> |
|---------------------|------------------------|--------------------------|
| sheep               | lose(s)/lost . . . . . | .lost                    |
| field               | carry                  | 100 (one hundred)        |
| shoulder            | sweep(s)               | 99 (ninety-nine)         |
| neighbor(s)         |                        | carefully                |
| coin(s)             |                        | silver                   |

**V. Group discussion:** *(Materials: None)*

Explain that Jesus told both of these stories and after each story He said, “In the same way there is more happiness in heaven when even one person turns to God.” Be sensitive to your students as you might want to share more at this point. Either in a large group or small groups, ask for volunteers to share about something they lost and then found that was precious to them. Ask for others to share about something they lost that was special to them, but still haven’t found. Ask what they would do if they found that item now. Be prepared to give scenarios for discussion groups if students don’t have stories to share, i.e. lost purse or wallet, lost wedding ring, lost homework, etc. Have groups discuss what they would do to find the lost items and how they would feel if the lost item were found.

**VI. Game – I Spy:** *(Materials: whiteboard)*

Play “I Spy”. Begin the game by choosing something in the room. Then begin giving clues, “I spy something that is (round).” Wait for some answers. Then give another clue, “I spy something that is (round and white).” Whoever has the correct answer is the next leader of the game. Students might find it easier to play the game if the clues are not only spoken, but also written on the board.

**VII. Extension**