



STUDY GUIDE

July 14, 2024

Message Series:

That's So Metal

Message Title:

Searching For What Is Lost

Teaching Pastor:

Elijah Schiarelli

Warm-up/Icebreaker: (10 min.)

Do you enjoy watching the Olympics? What is your favorite event?

Pray:

Dear Lord, sometimes we feel like we are lost. Or perhaps we've been living lost but have been unaware. Other times we watch friends and family wander away and it's painful. You have reminded us, though, that You are our Savior, our guiding force. Please help us to sense Your presence and peace and to trust in You, despite the circumstances in which we find ourselves. In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.

Get Started: (30 min.)

- Are you someone who typically loses things? Share about a time you lost something valuable? Did you find it? Describe your experience.

Read Luke 15:1-10, 24. (if time allows, read the full *Parable of the Lost Son*, **Luke 15:11-32**)

- Who was Jesus talking to in these parables?
- How are the Pharisees just as lost as the sinners they despised?
- Explain how one sheep or one coin can be more valuable than all the others?
- Consider Jesus' perspective, what effect do you think these stories had on him?
- What do we learn about God's responsibility vs. man's responsibility in regard to salvation from these two parables?
- What do you believe about God's reaction to your mistakes, failures, and times of rebellion? Do you draw near to Him or stay away until you can get life right? And on the flip side, how do you respond to other's mistakes?

Watch and Discuss Video: (No follow-up video in the summer)

Reflect and Commit: (15 min.)

*"The hope of Jesus is that anything that is lost can be found. Your situation doesn't have to be the pattern of your life anymore! Your feeling of "stuckness" can be undone! Your life can find purpose and a path forward. You can wake up every day knowing that there's hope for the future regardless of the situation you find yourself in because, even if the world is crashing down around you, you'll still be in the presence and the peace of the God who would light up any darkness, overturn any obstacle, and break through any noise to find **you**. You might be the lost coin right now, but you don't have to be any longer, because God has not and will not stop searching for you until you are found. Like the woman in the story, God's every thought, every action, every move, all points back to finding you, the one who is lost."* -Pastor Elijah Schiarelli

Read Psalm 107:1-9.

- What are some of the reasons that David lays out explaining why we should be thankful to God?
- What is your testimony/story? How has God shaped and changed you since He saved you? Or if you haven't crossed the line of faith, how do you sense God pursuing you?

Read Matthew 18:14.

- It's not just about someone being lost, how is Jesus talking about life and death?

Gather prayer requests and pray. (5-10 min.)

Pray:

Dear Lord, we acknowledge that we can easily wander away from You and our faith. Our sin separates us from You, yet You search, pursue, and rescue us. You love us with an everlasting and unconditional love. Help us to slow down, reflect and understand how much You desire a relationship, and we ask that You fill us with that same desire towards You. May we receive, and also give, the gift of Your forgiveness and join You in Your pursuit of those who are lost. In Jesus' name. Amen.