

Walking Through the Stories Jesus Told

The test of true greatness, can we pass the test?

Luke 15:1-32

Background: In Luke 13:34ff. we read about Jesus lamenting over Jerusalem. Most likely He has seen the busyness and the throngs of people who should be welcoming the coming Messiah. They should have recognized Jesus was that prophesied Messiah.

The setting:

In chapter 15, Jesus is in a teaching context when people begin to gather and listen.

1. What are the four groups of people who were gathering?

2. Why were the first two groups coming to Jesus? _____

3. What was the attitude of the second two groups of religious people? _____

4. What was Jesus accused of doing? _____

5. When Jesus begins His story, who do you think is His target audience? _____

Why do you feel that way? _____

The Lost Sheep

6. What is the Problem? _____

7. Who would you blame for the problem? _____

a. What is the course of action? _____

b. Is there a cost involved? _____ What? _____

c. What is the result of that action? _____

d. What is the attitude of the main character? _____

The Lost coin

8. What is the Problem? _____

9. Who would you blame for the problem? _____

a. What is the course of action? _____

i. Is there a cost involved? _____ What? _____

b. What is the result of that action? _____

c. What is the attitude of the main character? _____

The lost son:

10. What is the problem?
11. Who would you blame for the problem? _____
 - a. What is the course of action? _____
 - i. Is there a cost involved? _____ What? _____
 - b. What is the result of that action? _____
 - c. What is the attitude of the main character? _____

If the religious leaders were the specific target of Jesus' teaching, how would we answer the following questions in reference to their previously described attitude?

12. What is there problem? _____
13. Who would you blame for the problem? _____
 - a. What course of action should they be taking? _____
 - i. What cost would be involved? _____
 - b. What could be the result if they took the right actions? _____
 - c. What would be there new attitude? _____

14. Based on these three parables, what should be the attitude of the one who truly seeks to be a follower of Jesus?
 - a. Something must be lost: What a person would have to lose? _____
 - b. Something must be sought. What would a person need to be looking for? _____
 - c. Something must be bought. Who pays that price? _____
 - d. Something must be found. When we search for the right thing, what happens? _____
 - e. Rejoicing is the proof that what has occurred? _____

15. Can you name three things that are part of the result of "being found?"