

Choosing to Be a Conduit of the Good News

The Parable of the Pounds – Luke 19:11-27

Main Idea: Luke 19:10 is one of the most important verses in the gospels, because, in it, Jesus presents his life mission in very clear terms: to seek and to save the lost. This must be our priority as well (Matthew 28:18-20). But seeking the lost is a concern that's very easy to forget. To increase our motivation, Jesus tells the parable of the "pounds", and the essence of the story is this: when we seek the lost we increase our reward – and consequently our joy – in heaven.

1. *THE STORY – Jesus tells a parable about the importance of seeking the lost (Luke 19:11-27). There are five truths in this story...*

- A. Truth #1 – Seeking the lost is a priority command that's easy to forget. 19:10-11
- B. Truth #2 – Seeking the lost is limited to this period of human history. 19:12, 14, 27
- C. Truth #3 – Seeking the lost is our primary mission in life. 19:13
- D. Truth #4 – Seeking the lost is a responsibility for which God will hold us accountable. 19:15a
- E. Truth #5 – Seeking the lost causes us to gain reward at his return. 19:15b-27
- E. Key: Our passion for seeking the lost during our lifetime will determine a measure of our enjoyment of heaven. See also Luke 16:9.

2. *THE SIGNIFICANCE – To effectively seek the lost we need to do three things on a regular basis.*

- A. Invest – To seek the lost, we need to invest in relationships with unbelievers.
- B. Invite – To seek the lost, we need to invite them to places where they can experience Christ's love.
- C. Equip – Once a friend comes to Christ, we need to integrate him or her into a caring spiritual family.