

# Walking with Jesus: Heaven Rejoices

Text: Luke 15:1-10

## Introduction: Joy Over the One

- This week's violence and chaos remind us the world is fractured.
- Christians are called to be **peacemakers, not warmakers**.
- Our mission: keep eyes on Jesus, share the good news, welcome the lost.
- **Big Idea:** Walking with Jesus means sharing God's joy for the one who is found.

## Exposition of Luke 15:1–10

### vv.1–2 – The Setting: Grumbling vs. Grace

- *“Sinners drew near to hear Him”* – approach language often linked to worship.
- *“Pharisees grumbled”* – same verb as Israel's wilderness complaints (Exod 16; Num 14).
- Table fellowship: Pharisees saw it as compromise; Jesus used it as mission.
- Contrast: **heaven draws in, religious leaders push away**.

### vv.3-7 The Lost Sheep

- Shepherd risks the 99 to seek the 1 (extravagant mercy).
- He pursues **until he finds it** = God's persistence.
- Lifts it on His shoulders: bearing shame, anticipating the cross.
- Calls community to rejoice: heaven's economy runs on joy, not efficiency.

### vv.8-10 The Lost Coin

- Domestic setting, woman searching: God's seeking shown in both genders.
- She lights, sweeps, seeks = intensity of God's attention.
- Calls friends to rejoice, joy is contagious.
- *“Joy before the angels of God”*: not angelic joy only, but God's joy spilling over.

## Main Points

### I. God's Pursuit is Personal and Persistent

- God doesn't search in the abstract: He knows your name.
- Repentance is not climbing back to God, but collapsing into His arms.

- **Application:** Who is your “one”? Write their name, pray, and ask God to use you in pursuit.

## II. Heaven’s Metric is Joy, Not Grumbling

- Pharisees measured holiness with suspicion; heaven measures by repentance.
- We measure by performance or perfection; heaven throws a party over progress.
- **Application:** Celebrate small steps toward Jesus in your family, group, or church.

## III. Disciples Share the Search and the Joy

- If we walk with Jesus, we join His mission and His celebrations.
- Our tables must look like His: space for outsiders and seekers.
- **Applications:**
  1. Table mission- share a meal with someone outside your circle.
  2. Prayer pursuit- pray by name for someone far from Jesus.
  3. Community joy- lead the rejoicing, not the suspicion, when someone turns to God.

## Lesson for the Road of Discipleship

Walking with Jesus means **joining the search and sharing the joy, because heaven rejoices when the lost are found.**

## Conclusion: Heaven’s Party

- This week feels like a long way from home—violence, shouting, brokenness.
- Jesus adds the prodigal son: the Father runs, embraces, throws a party.
- That’s God’s heart, and we’ve seen it in Nathan’s baptism: he was found, and heaven rejoices.
- **Invitation:** Maybe today is your day to be found. Don’t stay outside the party. The Shepherd is searching, the Father is watching, heaven is ready to rejoice.