

That's a Great Question

Discussion Guide

“Which of You Does Not Leave the Ninety-Nine?”

Pastor Daniel Floyd

Starter Be honest. What’s the most ridiculous thing you’ve ever lost? Maybe your phone while you were holding it, your glasses while they were on your head, or your car in a parking lot.

Sermon Summary

Jesus teaches through the parable of the lost sheep that God’s heart is to pursue those who are far from Him with compassion, persistence, and grace. Because the Good Shepherd came to seek and save the lost, those who have been found by God are called to join His mission of pursuing, loving, and blessing others so they understand His grace too.

ACT

As you absorb sermons, read, or participate in group discussion, take notes and make a plan to apply what God’s teaching you.

A (Action): Mark important ideas with an “A” to remind you to take action.

C (Contemplate): Use a “C” to mark ideas you want to process further.

T (Transfer/Teach): If it’s something you need to teach to someone else, note it with a “T.”

Read

What do these Scriptures teach you about God’s character? (Read some or all verses together.)

[Luke 15:1–7](#)

[Matthew 9:35–36](#)

[Luke 15:8](#)

[Luke 15:11–32](#)

[Luke 19:10](#)

[Romans 2:4](#)

Discuss

Choose questions to keep the discussion moving. There’s no need to discuss every question.

1. What part of the parable of the lost sheep stood out to you the most, and why do you think it resonated with you?
2. Pastor Daniel talks about having the “heart of the shepherd.” What do you think that looks like in everyday life?
3. Can you think of a time when someone pursued you with encouragement, faith, or kindness when you were struggling or drifting spiritually? How did that impact you?

4. Pastor Daniel said that sometimes busyness can cause us to lose compassion for others. In what ways might distractions or routines keep us from noticing people who need God's love?
5. "Found people find people." What are some practical ways we can pursue or care for people who may feel far from God in our own circles of influence?

Go Deeper

1. Study Luke 5:27–32 (the calling of Levi, later known as Matthew). How does Jesus' willingness to spend time with people considered "outsiders" challenge the way you interact with those who are far from God?
2. Study John 4:1–30 (Jesus and the Samaritan woman at the well). What does Jesus' pursuit of the Samaritan woman teach you about intentionally reaching people others might overlook?

Apply

1. Identify one friend, family member, coworker, or neighbor who may be spiritually lost, and commit to praying for them daily this week that they would experience God's love and truth.
2. Take one intentional step toward someone. Like the shepherd who went after the one, reach out in a practical way: invite someone to church, have a meaningful conversation, or simply show kindness and interest in a person's life.
3. Look for opportunities to reflect the heart of the shepherd by responding with compassion and encouragement toward someone who may feel ashamed, overlooked, or far from God.

Pray

Here are some prayer points:

1. Ask God to give you the heart of a shepherd—to have His compassion for people who are far from Him and to help you see others the way Jesus sees them.
2. Lift up to God specific friends, family members, coworkers, or neighbors who do not yet know Christ, asking God to draw them to Himself.
3. Ask the Holy Spirit to give you courage and wisdom to reach out, share your faith, and reflect God's grace to those around you.

Leadership Tip

So that the group stays outward-focused rather than inward-focused, create a culture of compassion by regularly encouraging members to pray for and reach out to people who are far from God. As a leader, model the heart of the shepherd by sharing stories of how you are praying for, inviting, or caring for someone spiritually, and invite your group to do the same.