

Mar. 16 - Scripture: Luke 15: 1-10

Observation: This passage tells the stories of the Parable of the Lost Sheep and The Parable of the Lost Coin.

When the Pharisees & teachers of the law complained about Jesus talking and eating with sinners, he told them two stories to show why finding & saving the lost is more important than the 'righteous' multitude. He pointed out that even though a shepherd has a hundred sheep, he will search all night for the one lost. And he reminded them that even though a woman might have several coins, she would turn her house upside down to find the one lost coin.

Application: Jesus told stories! In doing so, he was able to get his point across easier, calmer, and more clearly...something I need to remember when I'm trying to do the same! Like Jesus, I need to get out of my comfort zone, to hang with the "sinners," so that I, too might help them & delight in their redemption.

Prayer: Father, help me to remember that you rejoice in the finding and saving of the one, perhaps more than the worship of the many. And help me to remember when I stray & return to you with a heavy heart, that you are the Loving Father, not there to chastise me but to welcome me--and all your children--with open arms. Amen.

Writer: Betsy Vosburgh - Pastors' Assistant & Communications Liaison for the church. Married to David for 38 happy years. Attended one of Elmer's first couples' classes. Our daughter, Deanna, grew up in this church and was married here in 2009, so Eastminster truly is our family!