

REFERENCES: LUKE 15:8-10; CHRIST'S OBJECT LESSONS, PP. 192-197.

LESSO

Lost and Found

Have you ever lost your favorite toy? Did you look every place you could think of? Your lost toy is like a coin in a story Jesus told.



nce a woman owned 10 silver pieces of money. They were very precious to her, and she took good

care of them. One day she thought she noticed that

one was missing. Just to be certain, she looked again. Sure enough-there were only nine!

Memory Verse "[God] said, 'I love you . . . with a love that will last forever.'" JEREMIAH 31:3, ICB.

The Message We are important and precious to God. This woman probably lived in a house with a dirt floor. The house may have had just one small window, so it was dark in the house. When she realized her coin was missing, this woman knew it must have fallen to the floor. It was lost! Since there wasn't much light in her house, it would be a big job to find it!

This coin was very precious to the woman. It may have been a gift. Finding the coin was important to her. Everything else she had been doing would have to wait. So she lit a lamp to give her more light, and then she went to work. Carefully, carefully, she looked for

the coin, watching for a sparkle and listening for a sound in case the coin fell out and hit the hard ground.

She swept the whole house carefully, looking closely for her coin. First this part of the house, then that part of the house, taking the lamp with her as she moved. Slowly and carefully, ever so carefully, she swept the floor clean as she looked for her coin.

And then—did she see something sparkle just a little? She bent down to look and pushed aside the dirt. Yes! There was her coin!

She had found it! She was so happy! She ran and told her friends and neighbors. "My coin! I found my lost coin!" And they were happy for her. "Come," she said. "Come celebrate with me."

God is like that woman, and we are like that lost coin. We are so precious to God that He doesn't want us to be lost. He will search for us because He wants us to belong to Him. And He wants us to help Him search for other boys and girls or even mothers or fathers who may not know Him. He wants us all to live in heaven with Him forever.

Soon, very soon, Jesus will come for us and take us to live with Him. In heaven we will sit with Jesus and hear wonderful stories that He will tell. Heaven will be a special place for all who choose to belong to Jesus.

Do and Say

SABBATH

Each day this week read the lesson story and review the memory verse.

"[God] said, . . . Point upward.

'I love you Hug self.

with a love that Spread both arms wide. will last forever.'"

Jeremiah 31:3 . . . Palms together; then open as if opening a book.

SUNDAY

Help your child "read" the pictures in the lesson story. Thank Jesus that He loves you, and tell Him that you want to belong to Him. Give the coin you made in Sabbath School to someone who was not at church. Tell that person that they are important and precious to you.

MONDAY

Let your child help you sweep the floors today. Talk about the woman who lost a coin and how she found it by sweeping carefully. Thank Jesus for your home.

TUESDAY

Play hide-and-seek with your child. When the child is found, say in a loud voice, "I found you." Then hug your child and tell them how important they are to you. Tell about a time you lost something (or your child) and how happy you were when you found it. Talk about how important and precious we are to God.

WEDNESDAY

Play the "Lost Coin" game with your child. Count out 10 coins. Have your child close his or her eyes while you hide one coin. Then let your child look for it and find it. Help if necessary. Then change places and you look for the lost coin. Count the coins again to make sure you have 10.

THURSDAY

If possible, invite some children to play a hide-and-seek game with your child. Hide small objects, one at a time, for the children to find. After several times, celebrate by singing thank-you songs and/or sharing a special treat.

FRIDAY

Hide 10 coins before worship today. During worship, help your child use the pictures in the lesson to tell the story.



Than ask family members to hunt for the lost coins. Count them to be sure all are found. Celebrate by sharing a special treat. When you pray together, thank Jesus for His love.