



Introduction

- ❓ What do you know about the Old Testament story of Jacob and Rachel? What details can you recount?
- ❓ How does this story illustrate that love compels us to do hard things? How have you experienced this?

1. Illogical Pursuit (Luke 15:11-20)

- ❓ What is something you would be willing to search greatly for—even if it seemed foolish to others?

- ❓ Application: Have you reflected on the graciousness of your heavenly Father to run to you and throw His arms around you? Have you considered what that cost Him? How might the truth of God’s kindness and love toward you in Christ affect the way you live today?

2. All-Inclusive Rescue (Luke 15:21-23)

- ❓ What did the father do to show that his reception and rescue of the son was all-inclusive?

- ❓ Application: How does the truth that you didn’t contribute to your salvation change the way you worship and obey God?

3. Unadulterated Joy (Luke 15:24)

- ❓ How is it possible that the father could receive the Son without punishing his sin? How is God able to do this for us?



Application: Why did you deserve the wrath of God? What has happened with that wrath and punishment that you deserved? How should this lead us to respond with great joy?

Conclusion



How should the example of the illogical pursuit of the shepherd and welcome of the father inform how we reach out to those around us?



What happens in God's rescue of His people that makes it possible for there to be unadulterated joy upon our return?

Daily Readings

- Monday - Luke 15:1-7
- Tuesday - Luke 15:8-10
- Wednesday - Luke 15:11-24
- Thursday - Luke 15:25-32
- Friday - Luke 19:1-8
- Saturday - Luke 19:9-10

Here's How to Become a Christ-Follower:

Read the following verses and ask after each one: "What does this say to me?"

All have sinned: Romans 3:23 & 1 John 1:8

There is a penalty for sin: Romans 6:23 & John 3:18

You cannot save yourself: Titus 3:5 & James 2:10

Salvation has been provided: Ephesians 2:8-9, John 3:16, & John 14:6

The conditions are simple: *Repent* - Luke 13:3, *Confess* - 1 John 1:9 & Romans 10:9, *Believe* - Acts 16:31

Now is the time for a decision: Joshua 24:15 & 2 Corinthians 6:2

Accepting Christ is Just the Beginning:

Next Steps:

- Publicly profess your faith by being baptized (Matthew 10:32-33; Luke 3:21; Romans 6:4).
- Join a church which follows the Bible, where you can grow in your faith through prayer, Bible study and fellowship with other Christians. Get involved in groups for encouragement and accountability.
- Begin a daily personal worship experience with God where you study the Bible and pray.
- Share with others what Jesus has done for you. Tell your story (Romans 10:14; Matthew 28:19-20).
- Begin to live for God (Romans 12:1-2, 9-18; James 1:19-27).