ONE MISSION

August 17, 2025



Message Summary.

Jesus calls us to live on mission for the ONE, the person far from Him. Like the Shepherd in Luke 15, we leave comfort behind to help people find and follow Jesus. Every seat at God's banquet table matters.

Key Scriptures.

Luke 15:1-7 (NIV), 1 Now the tax collectors and sinners were all gathering around to hear Jesus. 2 But the Pharisees and the teachers of the law muttered, "This man welcomes sinners and eats with them." 3 Then Jesus told them this parable: 4 "Suppose one of you has a hundred sheep and loses one of them. Doesn't he leave the ninety-nine in the open country and go after the lost sheep until he finds it? 5 And when he finds it, he joyfully puts it on his shoulders 6 and goes home. Then he calls his friends and neighbors together and says, 'Rejoice with me; I have found my lost sheep.' 7 I tell you that in the same way there will be more rejoicing in heaven over one sinner who repents than over ninety-nine righteous persons who do not need to repent.

<u>John 10:11 (NIV)</u>, 11 "I am the good shepherd. The good shepherd lays down his life for the sheep."

Luke 14:15-23 (NIV), 15 When one of those at the table with him heard this, he said to Jesus, "Blessed is the one who will eat at the feast in the kingdom of God."16 Jesus replied: "A certain man was preparing a great banquet and invited many guests.17 At the time of the banquet, he sent his servant to tell those who had been invited, 'Come, for everything is now ready.'18 "But they all began to make excuses. The first said, 'I have just bought a field, and I must go and see it. Please excuse me.'19 "Another said, 'I have just bought five yoke of oxen, and I'm on my way to try them out. Please excuse me.'20 "Still another said, 'I just got married, so I can't come.'21 "The servant came back and reported this to his master. Then the owner of the house became angry and ordered his servant, 'Go out quickly into the streets and alleys of the town and bring in the poor, the crippled, the blind and the lame.'22 "'Sir,' the servant said, 'what you ordered has been done, but there is still room.'23 "Then the master told his servant, 'Go out to the roads and country lanes and compel them to come in, so that my house will be full.

<u>2 Peter 3:9 (NIV)</u>, 9 The Lord is not slow in keeping his promise, as some understand slowness. Instead he is

patient with you, not wanting anyone to perish, but everyone to come to repentance.

Revelation 7:9 (NIV), 9 After this I looked, and there before me was a great multitude that no one could count, from every nation, tribe, people and language, standing before the throne and before the Lamb. They were wearing white robes and were holding palm branches in their hands.

Start Talking.

Share about a time you searched for something (or someone) you lost. What kept you looking?

Start Thinking.

Why do you think Jesus used stories like the lost sheep and the banquet to reveal God's heart for people far from Him?

Start Sharing.

- 1. What does the Luke 15 parable of the lost sheep teach us about the way God sees people who are far from Him?
- 2. How does the fact that Jesus is the Good Shepherd (John 10:11) change the way we think about our role in helping others know Him?
- 3. In Luke 14, the master sends his servants to invite more guests. Who in your life might be "waiting for an invitation" without even knowing it?
- 4. 2 Peter tells us God delays judgment out of mercy. How does that truth change the urgency with which we live and share our faith?
- 5. The sermon repeated the line: "If you're following the Shepherd, you're looking for the ONE." How does this challenge you personally?

Start Praying.

Lord, thank You for finding us when we were lost. Give us courage, compassion, and persistence to reach our ONE this week.

Start Doing.

Pray for your ONE every day this week. Take one action: message them, meet for coffee, or invite them to church.