

# He Gets Us™

THE REBEL

Luke 15:1-10

---

## RELATED SCRIPTURES

## STUDY FOR SERMON FROM 1.29.23

Matthew 9:9-13 | Romans 8:31-39 | Isaiah 53:6

## SUMMARY

Throughout the ministry of Jesus, the religious leaders of the day were the scribes and Pharisees. Rather than being the good teachers and shepherds of God's law that you might expect from a religious leader, they became infatuated with power and influence. These leaders became protective of their positions for fear that Rome, the ruling political power of the land, would strip them of their religious authority if they perceived there to be a threat of *any* kind. This is why the scribes and Pharisees were so critical of Jesus—he was a disruptor; he didn't fall in with their power-grabbing agenda. They reserved a substantial portion of their scrutiny of Jesus over his desire to "receive sinners and eat with them." The religious leaders viewed sinners as dirty or unholy, which, by extension, would mean that they thought of themselves as clean, holy, and in no need of a savior. In response to this mindset, Jesus says in another gospel, "Those who are well have no need of a physician, but those who are sick." In other words, Jesus' mission is focused not on those who believe they are good, holy, and clean but instead on those who believe their righteousness falls woefully short when held up against the standard of God's holiness and perfection. By this metric, *we're all* woefully short. So Jesus explains how deep his mercy runs as he compares a single lost sheep and a single coin that's lost in a large house (large relative to the coin's size). These analogies should paint a picture in the minds of those who feel they are the outsider, the lost one, or the rebel who feels they are "too far gone" when held up against God's standards. To them, Jesus says, "I came for you, and the joy of heaven is reserved for those who believe it."

## GROUP QUESTIONS

From the sermon or your direct reading of Luke 15:1-10, share something that surprises, encourages, or troubles you.

While it's important to realize that this passage's central focus is for the one who feels lost, Jesus did live and die for the religious leaders, too, some of whom came to faith. Do you identify more with the lost religious leader or the lost sheep? Or both? How so?

How does this passage inform you on how you should interact with "lost people"?

If there's one thing Jesus would want you to walk away believing and receiving as a result of this portion of Scripture, what is that thing?

## CLOSE IN PRAYER

As you pray, be sure to include today's themes in what you bring before God.