

Amazing Grace: Pursuing Grace

Wylie United Methodist Church

Pastor Jeff Hatcher – October 14, 2018

Luke 15:1-7

1 Now the tax collectors and "sinners" were all gathering around to hear him. 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. Does he not 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."

Scripture tells us that...

1. WE ARE ALL LOST

Rom 3:23-24

23 for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God, 24 and are justified freely by his grace through the redemption that came by Christ Jesus.

Rom 5:6, 8

6 You see, at just the right time, when we were still powerless, Christ died for the ungodly. 7 ... 8 ... God demonstrates his own love for us in this: While we were still sinners, Christ died for us.

Scripture tells us that...

2. JESUS PASSIONATELY PURSUES THE LOST

Luke 19:10

"... the Son of Man came to seek and to save what was lost."

1 Tim 2:4

[God] wants all men to be saved and to come to a knowledge of the truth.

John 12:32

[Jesus said] 32 "... when I am lifted up from the earth, will draw all men to myself."

1 John 4:10

10 This is love: not that we loved God, but that he loved us and sent his Son as an atoning sacrifice for our sins.

Scripture tells us that...

3. JESUS REJOICES WHEN THE LOST ARE FOUND

Luke 15:5-6

5 And when he finds [his lost sheep] ... 6 ... he calls his friends and neighbors together and says, 'Rejoice with me; I have found my lost sheep.'

John 15:16

[Jesus said] "You did not choose me, but I chose you..."

1 Peter 2:9

But you are a chosen people, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, a people belonging to God, that you may declare the praises of him who called you out of darkness into his wonderful light.