

## Personal Study Questions to Help Prepare for the Sermon

### Read Luke 15

- ◆ What prompted Jesus to tell these three parables? Why is the context for these three stories significant to our application of them?
- ◆ What causes the angels to rejoice over one sinner who repents? What can we do to be more like the angels in their rejoicing?
- ◆ What keeps us from rejoicing over a sinner who repents of his/her sin? What can we do to remove these obstacles from our lives?
- ◆ What practical applications do you draw from the story of the shepherds searching after the straying sheep or the woman searching for the lost coin? Tell a real life story in which you have done this or seen this done.
- ◆ What is hard about searching after lost ones?
- ◆ What can we do to keep from growing weary in our searching for those who are straying?
- ◆ What does it mean for a sinner to “repent”? What are some characteristics of true biblical repentance?
- ◆ What are some characteristics of false repentance?
- ◆ What does the father in the story of the prodigal teach us about our heart attitudes when someone close to us hurts us deeply?
- ◆ Why is this heart attitude difficult to maintain? What can we do to nurture this heart attitude? What other attitudes might we have to fight?
- ◆ What spiritual warning do we receive from the older brother? Why did he act the way he did?
- ◆ How might we be like the older brother? What can we do to avoid this kind of heart?
- ◆ What can we learn from the celebration that the father throws for the prodigal who returned? How might the church celebrate when people repent of their sin?



# Small Groups

Guide for sermon on  
April 6, 2014

## Group Discussion Questions

1. What is the main point from the Scripture as it was taught on Sunday?
2. Are there any Study Questions from the week that you want to discuss?
3. What difference should this Scripture make in our lives today?
4. How does God want your personal beliefs and actions to change based on this Scripture?
5. How can you plan to accomplish this change with God's grace this week? What is the first step toward bringing about this change?

### This Week's Memory Verse:

*"The law of the LORD is perfect, reviving the soul; the testimony of the LORD is sure, making wise the simple; the precepts of the LORD are right, rejoicing the heart; the commandment of the LORD is pure, enlightening the eyes."*

*Psalm 19:7-9*