



Sermon Questions: *The Lost Sheep*

Date: *September 26, 2021* | Scripture: *Matthew 18:10-14*

1. Who are the 'little ones' in the passage? Why might the disciples despise them?
2. As well as referring to his 'little ones,' Jesus uses the word 'one' four times in these few verses. What point might he be making?
3. Lost sheep are isolated and vulnerable. When we find ourselves lost, we are also often regretful and ashamed. How does Jesus describe the reaction of the shepherd finding the sheep in the story? What does that tell us about God?
4. Verse 14 teaches us that it is not God's will that any of these little ones should perish. Many believe that God delights in catching people out and punishing people. Have you believed Jesus' words here? Or have lies about His character shaped your understanding of God?
5. 'The lostness of mankind is due to our forsaking the voice of our shepherd.' How can we seek the voice of the shepherd this week?

Inward Grace in Action

The questions below are a little more intimate and are meant to be discussed with a trusted friend or partner.

1. 'Jesus never tells a story about a shepherd where he shames the sheep.' Do you tend to come to Jesus in a state of shame? How does his tenderness and grace speak to someone who does?
2. Are there 'little ones' in your life whom you have despised, or whom you currently do? Take a moment to confess and repent, and pray about how you might love them this week. Remember as you discuss this: grace, not shame, bears fruit.

WORSHIP THROUGHOUT THE WEEK

Here are some other ways you can meet with God throughout the week:

Reflect on these Scriptures:

- Psalm 143
- Ezekiel 34:1-10
- Ezekiel 34:11-31
- Luke 19:1-10
- 1 Corinthians 1:26-31
- 1 John 3:16-24

Listen to the Spotify playlist, [The Storytelling Savior: Parables in the Gospel of Matthew](#)

Reach out if you need assistance:

- Call our church office at 703.821.0800
- Request aid from our Deacons' Fund at deaconsfund@mcleanpres.org

You can also find additional resources on our website: capitalpres.org