

---

## *A Short Story that Speaks Volumes for Our Lives*

### **Searching For What Was Lost**

*Jesus told this parable, "Suppose a woman has ten silver coins and loses one. Does she not light a lamp, sweep the house and search carefully until she finds it? And when she finds it, she calls her friends and neighbors together and says, 'Rejoice with me; I have found my lost coin.' In the same way, I tell you, there is rejoicing in the presence of the angels of God over one sinner who repents" (Luke 15:8-10).*



My wife works with a lady who buys her lottery tickets every now and then. One day, a rumor spread that our local grocery store sold a \$100,000 ticket. We both thought, "Are we winners?" How would we spend it? Then I said, "Honey, where's the ticket?" After a brief panic, and a 20 minute search of the house, we found it. The ticket was a loser.

When we lose something that we hold to be valuable, we search for it frantically. That's what Jesus described in this short story about a woman searching for a coin that she lost. Without Jesus you and I are like that lost coin. Our lustful thoughts, hurting words, and loveless deeds – everything we think, say, or do

that fails to be perfect – are sins that separate us from God. How frightening to be lost in sin!

Thankfully, though, there is good news! Jesus came "to seek and to save what was lost" (Luke 19:10). God sent Jesus to find us and reconnect us to God. Jesus did that by loving us so much that he paid for all our sins by his death on the cross. That's how much Jesus loves us!

Jesus searches for us and finds us. The angels in heaven rejoice! Jesus comes to us through his Word and takes away our fear by comforting us with the forgiveness of sins. He assures us that he has made us dearly loved children of God. Through Jesus, heaven is our inheritance.

God loves us so much that he stopped at nothing to find us and save us from eternal separation from him in hell. Through Jesus, we have the gift of eternal life, which is a whole lot more valuable than winning the lottery. How fortunate we are! We will never be lost again when we cling in faith to Jesus, our Savior.

Come and share with us the love of Jesus. Like heaven's angels, we can rejoice over all that Jesus did to find us and give us life with God.