


Luke 15: 1–32

v1 – tax collectors	(n)	people who collect taxes on behalf of the Roman government. Tax collectors also dishonestly collected extra money for their own profit, and so were disliked.
v1 – sinners	(n)	people who commit sin (turn away from God)
v1 – gathering	(v)	coming together; forming a group
v2 – Pharisees	(n)	a particular group of religious leaders who insisted that people should obey their rules as well as God’s law
v2 – muttered	(v)	said in a low or quiet voice
v3 – parable	(n)	a short story from everyday life which is told to make a spiritual point
v4 – open country	(n)	countryside; fields; a large area of land not in the city
v5 – joyfully	(adv)	with great joy or happiness
v6 – neighbours	(n)	people who live next door, or very near
v6 – rejoice	(v)	feel or show great joy
v7 – heaven	(n)	where God lives
v7 – repents	(v)	feels or expresses great sadness or regret because of sin (turning away from God) and decides to turn back to God and live according to God’s instructions
v7 – righteous	(adj)	morally right or good
v8- lamp	(n)	
v8 – sweep	(v)	clean (an area) by brushing away dirt or litter
v8 – search	(v)	look for
v10 – presence	(n)	company
v10 – angels	(n)	spiritual beings who serve God and his people
v12 – share	(n)	a portion of something bigger which is being shared among several people
v12 – estate	(n)	all the money or property owned by a person
v13 – squandered	(v)	wasted (money, time, etc) in a foolish manner
v13 – wealth	(n)	a large amount of money or valuable things
v13 – wild living	(phrase)	a lifestyle that is marked by luxury and extravagance

- v14 – severe (adj) harsh; intense
v14 – famine (n) extreme shortage of food
v14 – in need (phrase) lacking the necessities to survive

v16 – pods (n)



v17 – ‘came to his senses’ became reasonable; understood clearly what he must do

v17 – hired (adj) employed

v17 – starving (v) lacking food

v18 – set out (v) left; departed

v18 – sinned (v) turned away from God

v19 – worthy (adj) deserving

v20 – compassion (n) pity; concern for another’s suffering

v22 – robe (n) a long, loose garment

v22 – sandals (n)



v23,26 –calf (n) a young cow

v23 – feast (n) a large meal, usually for a celebration

v23 – celebrate (v) hold a social event or enjoyable activity to mark a special occasion

v27 – safe and sound free from danger or injury

v29 – slaving (v) working hard, for little or no reward

v30 – property (n) money or possessions

v30 – prostitutes (n) people who engage in sexual activity for payment

Luke 15 (New International Reader's Version)

The Story of the Lost Sheep

¹ The tax collectors and sinners were all gathering around to hear Jesus. ² But the Pharisees and the teachers of the law were whispering among themselves. They said, "This man welcomes sinners and eats with them."

³ Then Jesus told them a story. ⁴ He said, "Suppose one of you has 100 sheep and loses one of them. Won't he leave the 99 in the open country? Won't he go and look for the one lost sheep until he finds it? ⁵ When he finds it, he will joyfully put it on his shoulders ⁶ and go home. Then he will call his friends and neighbors together. He will say, 'Be joyful with me. I have found my lost sheep.' ⁷ I tell you, it will be the same in heaven. There will be great joy when one sinner turns away from sin. Yes, there will be more joy than for 99 godly people who do not need to turn away from their sins."

The Story of the Lost Coin

⁸ "Or suppose a woman has ten silver coins and loses one. Won't she light a lamp and sweep the house? Won't she search carefully until she finds the coin? ⁹ And when she finds it, she will call her friends and neighbors together. She will say, 'Be joyful with me. I have found my lost coin.' ¹⁰ I tell you, it is the same in heaven. There is joy in heaven over one sinner who turns away from sin."

The Story of the Lost Son

¹¹ Jesus continued, "There was a man who had two sons. ¹² The younger son spoke to his father. He said, 'Father, give me my share of the family property.' So the father divided his property between his two sons."

¹³ "Not long after that, the younger son packed up all he had. Then he left for a country far away. There he wasted his money on wild living. ¹⁴ He spent everything he had. Then the whole country ran low on food. So the son didn't have what he needed. ¹⁵ He went to work for someone who lived in that country. That person sent the son to the fields to feed the pigs. ¹⁶ The son wanted to fill his stomach with the food the pigs were eating. But no one gave him anything."

¹⁷ "Then he began to think clearly again. He said, 'How many of my father's hired servants have more than enough food! But here I am dying from hunger! ¹⁸ I will get up and go back to my father. I will say to him, 'Father, I have sinned against heaven. And I have sinned against you. ¹⁹ I am no longer fit to be called your son. Make me like one of your hired servants.' ²⁰ So he got up and went to his father."

"While the son was still a long way off, his father saw him. He was filled with tender love for his son. He ran to him. He threw his arms around him and kissed him."

²¹ "The son said to him, 'Father, I have sinned against heaven and against you. I am no longer fit to be called your son.'

²² "But the father said to his servants, 'Quick! Bring the best robe and put it on him. Put a ring on his finger and sandals on his feet. ²³ Bring the fattest calf and kill it. Let's have a feast and celebrate. ²⁴ This son of mine was dead. And now he is alive again. He was lost. And now he is found.' So they began to celebrate."

²⁵ "The older son was in the field. When he came near the house, he heard music and dancing. ²⁶ So he called one of the servants. He asked him what was going on. ²⁷ 'Your brother has come home,' the servant replied. 'Your father has killed the fattest calf. He has done this because your brother is back safe and sound.'

²⁸ "The older brother became angry. He refused to go in. So his father went out and begged him. ²⁹ But he answered his father, 'Look! All these years I've worked like a slave for you. I have always obeyed your orders. You never gave me even a young goat so I could celebrate with my friends. ³⁰ But this son of yours wasted your money with some prostitutes. Now he comes home. And for him you kill the fattest calf!'

³¹ " 'My son,' the father said, 'you are always with me. Everything I have is yours. ³² But we had to celebrate and be glad. This brother of yours was dead. And now he is alive again. He was lost. And now he is found.' "