

HOW MUCH YOU MATTER TO GOD

The Miracle of Mercy – Rick Warren
Parts 1-3

*“Jesus saved us, not because of the good things we did, but **BECAUSE OF HIS MERCY**. He washed away our sins and gave us a new life through the Holy Spirit.”*
Titus 3:5

Jesus: *“I have come to **SEEK** and to **SAVE** those who are **LOST**.”* Luke 19:10

Jesus told 3 stories to explain what he meant:

“The Lost Sheep” (Luke 15:1-7)

“The Lost Coin” (Luke 15:8-10)

“The Lost Son” (Luke 15:11-31)

‘LOSTNESS’ _____

WHAT DO I LOSE WHEN I’M SPIRITUALLY “LOST”?

Like a lost sheep . . .

1. I LOSE _____
“All of us have strayed away just like lost sheep. We’ve all left God’s path to follow our own ways.” Isaiah 53:6

2. I LOSE _____
“My people are wandering like lost sheep, without a shepherd to protect and guide them.” Zechariah 10:2

Like a lost coin . . .

3. I LOSE _____
“No one has ever seen or heard or even imagined the wonderful things God has prepared and arranged for those who love him.” 1 Corinthians 2:9

Like a lost son . . .

4. I LOSE _____
“The younger son wasted all he’d been given and eventually he became miserable and lonely.” Luke 15:14

Our **wandering nature** separates us from God
Our **circumstances** can separate us from God
Our **choices** separate us from God

5. I LOSE _____
“What good is it for a man to gain the whole world, if he loses his soul?” Luke 9:25

BUT I DON’T LOSE MY VALUE!

“God loved the world so much that he gave his one and only Son so that whoever believes in him may not be lost, but have eternal life.” John 3:16

HOW DOES GOD’S MERCY “SAVE” ME?

1. _____
“Jesus is the only one who can bring us to God. He became a human and gave himself to rescue all of us.” 1 Timothy 2:5

“Trust me in your times of trouble, and I will rescue you, and you will give me glory.” Psalm 50:15

2. _____
Jesus said, *“Come to me, all you who are weary and worn out from carrying too much. Learn to trust and rest in me and you’ll recover your life.”* Matthew 11:28

“I will give you back what you lost in the years when the locusts ate all your crops.” Joel 2:25

3. _____
“Anyone who connects to Christ becomes a new person. The past is forgotten, and everything becomes new. God has done it all! He sent Christ to make peace between himself and us.” 2 Corinthians 5:17-18 (CEV)

HOW DO I CONNECT WITH GOD’S MERCY?

1. _____
“He wasted it all . . . he had nothing left . . . he got desperate and hungry . . . then he finally came to his senses.” Luke 15:13-17

GOD: *“You’ll find me when you get serious about finding me and want it more than anything else.”* Jeremiah 29:13 (The Message)

2. _____
“When he came to his senses, he said . . . ‘I have sinned against God and you.’”
Luke 15:17-18

3. _____
The son drifted away saying *“GIVE ME MY share.”* Luke 15:12

He returned to the Father saying *“MAKE ME a servant.”* Luke 15:19

THE FATHER’S RESPONSE

“While he was still a long way off, his father saw him and was filled with compassion for him; HE RAN OUT to his son, threw his arms around him and kissed him.”
Luke 15:20

Next Step

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