



Lost

Jesus' parables are masterful in their simplicity. By taking profound concepts from another realm, communicating them through simple words and illustrating them with everyday images, he has kept the attention of his followers and others for more than two millennia.



His parables of things lost (Luke 15) catches the attention any child who hears these stories. Yet, later in life, adults still read these same words and find layers of meaning, treasures of truth and depths of revelation - all in the same simple words that haven't changed for two thousand years.

A shepherd who lost a sheep, a woman who lost a coin and a father who 'lost' sons all tell the greater story of God's passion for lost relationships. God is at once the shepherd, the woman and the father who waits at the gate. He both searches in places high and low, sweeps through the dust, all the while waiting, knowing that 'home' is like true north calling to the compass set in a young man's heart.

He sees value in one among one hundred, one coin among ten and both sons, irrespective of their location.

He celebrates, spending with extravagance and generosity far more than the worth of what was found. The father's extravagance is far greater in celebration than the son's in 'wasteful living'. Clearly, heaven's scales of value are calibrated differently from the ones we use.

What do leader's learn from Jesus? That there is power and longevity in simple language. That the simple can be a vehicle for the profound. That stories have great power to draw an audience and hold it through life. That stories of 'lostness' echo the experience of many who hear. That the shepherd who searches, the 'woman' who sweeps and the father who waits at the gate is God himself and orchestrates a great celebration each time the lost is found. This is the business of the church.

Tim Jack
National Leader of the Apostolic Church, UK.

From the Field

Indonesia

Berkat came to live at House of Hope in 2007 as a 9 year old who had never gone to school. He struggled through Primary with lots of discouragement being so big for his age in junior classes. He pushed through and jumped a few classes and finished Year 12 in June this year. He has just been accepted into an outstanding University to study IT.



His life was changed the day he became part of the House of Hope family in Sumatra Indonesia. We send a big shout out of thanks to Traralgon City Church for their sponsorship of Berkat and also now extending that to help with Uni costs and also to Hope Chapel Sydney for helping us purchase his laptop for studies.

From the Office

Childsafe



Childsafe is the preferred provider for the Apostolic Church Australia, in ensuring training and state government compliance's are met. Childsafe have upgraded their team member training to a new online component, which is a great tool to keep your church and leaders up to date with the latest training. If you want any more information on this, please contact Cathy at National office - cathy@apostolic.org.au