

SUNDAY FUNDAY

SEPTEMBER 13, 2020
THREE PARABLES

GAME TIME

WHAT'S MISSING?

Before the session, collect 5-10 various small items and arrange them on a tray. Display the tray for the players. Encourage them to look at the objects for 30 seconds. Then cover the tray, move it out of sight, and remove one item. Uncover the tray for everyone to examine. Challenge the kids to identify which item is missing. Play additional rounds as time allows, removing one or more different items each round.

SAY: Was it easy or difficult to notice what was missing? What if the tray had a hundred items on it? Would you notice if one was

BIBLE STORY

Three Parables Luke 15

Tax collectors and sinners came to listen to Jesus teach. The religious leaders complained because Jesus welcomed sinners, so Jesus told them three parables to teach them about God.

Jesus said, "If a man has 100 sheep and loses one, what does he do? He leaves the 99 sheep and searches for the lost sheep until he finds it. Then he tells his friends and neighbors, 'Let's celebrate! I found my lost sheep!' In heaven, there is more joy when one sinner repents and turns back to God than for 99 people who did not wander off."

Jesus also said, "If a woman has 10 silver coins and loses one of them, what does she do? She lights a lamp, sweeps the house, and searches carefully until she finds it. Then she tells her friends and neighbors, 'Let's celebrate! I found my lost coin!'"

Then Jesus repeated, "In heaven, there is joy when one sinner repents and turns back to God."

Jesus told a third story. "A man had two sons. The younger son said, 'Father, give me my inheritance today.' So the father gave him his share. The younger son left home. He wasted his money and lived foolishly. There was a famine, and the people in that country did not have enough food. The son got a job feeding pigs. He was so hungry, even the pigs' food looked tasty.

"The younger son made a plan. He would go back to his father and admit he was wrong. He would ask to work for his father like the servants.

"So the younger son headed home. He was still a long way away when his father saw him coming. His father ran to him, threw his

missing? Today we are going to hear about a time Jesus told a story of a shepherd who had a hundred sheep. When one went missing, the shepherd noticed!

SHEEP TOSS

Place a plastic cup on the floor. Instruct the kids to line up about five feet from the cup. Give kids a cotton ball and allow them to take turns tossing their cotton ball to land in the cup. You may award points, such as one point for hitting the cup and three for landing the cotton ball inside the cup.

SAY: Those cotton balls are soft and fluffy, almost like sheep. Today we will learn about a shepherd in a story Jesus told. He didn't toss his sheep away but went out in search of a single lost sheep even though he had 99 others that were not lost! Would you do the same to find a lost sheep?



arms around him, and kissed him. The son began to apologize. 'I have sinned against God and against you,' he said.

"But the father told his servants, 'Let's celebrate with a feast! Bring the best robe and put it on my son! Put a ring on his finger and sandals on his feet. This son of mine was lost, and now he is found!'

"At this time, the older son came from the fields and heard music at the house. 'What's going on?' he asked one of the servants.

"Your brother is here,' the servant said. 'Your father is celebrating.'

"The older brother was angry! He refused to go to the feast. The father asked him to come inside. The older brother said, 'I never disobeyed you! But you never threw a party for me.'

"Son,' the father said, 'everything I have is yours. We have to celebrate. Your brother was lost and is found.'

CHRIST CONNECTION: The religious leaders complained that Jesus welcomed sinners. Jesus told these parables to teach about God's forgiveness. God sent Jesus so sinners can be forgiven. As Savior, Jesus seeks sinners. He paid the ultimate price—His own life—to save people from sin.