

Unit I. Our Holy God and the Holy Scriptures
L3/December 21, 2025

BACKGROUND SCRIPTURES: Luke 2:11, 30-32; 15:3-7;
John 3:14-17; 10:9-11, 14-16, 27-28; Acts 3:1-18;
Romans 5:1-11; Philippians 2:5-11; 2 Timothy 1:9-10
PRINT PASSAGES: Luke 15:3-7; Romans 5:6-10

Safe and Secure



IT'S FINALS WEEK, AND EVERYBODY IS JUST A LITTLE TENSE. Saron and her friends had been studying together after school, so they were feeling pretty good about passing. Saron has another friend, Judy, who had been acting strangely. She prefers to be alone. She seems stressed,

depressed, and hopeless. Saron has tried to engage with her, but she wants to be left alone. One day, Saron stopped her in the halls and hap-



pened to see that she had made a D+ on her English final. This was not like Judy at all! Saron tried to ask her about it, but Judy kept it moving. Saron was supposed to meet up with her other friends after school, but instead, she de-

cided to visit Judy at her home. She wanted to find out what was bothering Judy.

To Saron's surprise, Judy was open to letting her in the house. Judy revealed to her friend that she was at a party a week ago and came close to being taken advantage of. She was still traumatized and wanted to be left alone. Saron urged her to pray and talk to her parents about it so that they could advise her on what to do; she advised, "Just know that it's not your fault, Judy." Meanwhile, she wanted Judy to know that her secret was safe and secure with her. "Thanks. Shouldn't you be studying with your friends?" Judy asked. Saron responded, "You're my friend too, Judy. If you ever feel that you need a safe space or place, you can always come to me. We've been friends for a long time." They hugged, and Saron suggested they study English, request a makeup exam, and get rid of that D+.

Judy felt and looked her old self again; she commented, "Thank you for coming over last night, Saron. You left your friends to come see about me. I've been feeling so alone. But what you did made me feel good and safe again."



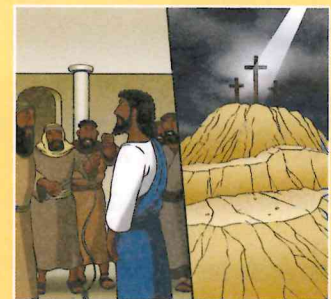
WORD UP

Luke 15:3-7; Romans 5:6-10

3 Then Jesus told them this parable: 4 "Suppose one of you has a hundred sheep and loses one of them. Doesn't he leave the ninety-nine in the open country and go after the lost sheep until he finds it? 5 And when he finds it, he joyfully puts it on his shoulders 6 and goes home. Then he calls his friends and neighbors together and says, 'Rejoice with me; I have found my lost sheep.' 7 I tell you that in the same way there will be more rejoicing in heaven over one sinner who repents than over ninety-nine righteous persons who do not need to repent."

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6 You see, at just the right time, when we were still powerless, Christ died for the ungodly. 7 Very rarely will anyone die for a righteous person, though for a good person someone might possibly dare to die. 8 But God demonstrates his own love for us in this: While we were still sinners, Christ died for us. 9 Since we have now been justified by his blood, how much more shall we be saved from God's wrath through him! 10 For if, while we were God's enemies, we were reconciled to him through the death of his Son, how much more, having been reconciled, shall we be saved through his life!



KEY VERSE:

If, while we were God's enemies, we were reconciled to him through the death of his Son, how much more, having been reconciled, shall we be saved through his life!
(Romans 5:10)



WORK OUT

JESUS WAS AN EXCELLENT TEACHER WHEN HE WAS ON THE EARTH.

Some of His teaching was done in parables. A *parable* is a brief, simple story illustrating a moral or spiritual truth. In one of the lesson passages for today, Luke 15:3-7, Jesus uses a parable to demonstrate how important it is to save the lost souls. When Jesus was hanging out with the tax collectors, the people were shocked and asked why. Jesus came to save the lost, getting them to repent and become believers. The people who are already believers are safe and secure if they continue to fear and obey God. This is his message in the parable. He is comfortable leaving ninety-nine sheep together in a safe place and going after the one lost sheep. When He finds the lost sheep, he rejoices! Don't we do the same when we find something that we lost of financial or sentimental value? God values each of us.

In the second biblical passage, we see how much God loves us. He loves us so much that He sent His only Son to the earth to die for us and to save us. We were sinners! But God loves us so much that He wanted to free us from sin. We must think of this whenever we feel that God has turned His back on us, and we question His love.

God loves you. His timing is perfect, so be patient with what you ask of Him. You can feel safe and secure because of His love for you.

THERE'S AN APP FOR THAT!

Have you ever misplaced or lost something that you valued or really needed? How diligently (or how long) did you search for it? Did you ask for help finding it? Can you imagine losing a precious pet and not knowing where it is? You frantically look for your pet. You may leave other pets at home while you search for this one. You put up flyers in the neighborhood. After days of searching, you find your pet. WOW! I can sense the excitement. You carry it in your arms, hug it, and rejoice in finding your pet. This is how Jesus and the angels rejoice when a lost sinner comes into the flock of believers.

INSIDE OUT



Respond to the questions below on a separate sheet of paper.

1. Who wrote the book of Romans? Who was he to Jesus?
2. What message is the writer trying to convey in the lesson passage?
3. Today is the fourth Sunday of Advent. What is Advent, and why do we celebrate it?
4. Why was the shepherd so happy he found the lost sheep? What does this statement really mean?



Those whose pets are lost do not sit around and wait for them to return on its own. Effort is put into searching for them. Jesus searches for His lost sinners, too. In Luke 15, the spiritual leaders were surprised and despised Jesus for hanging with sinners and tax collectors, but Jesus came to save the lost, not to sit around and engage with those already saved. Then He died for us sinners, took away our sins, and went to heaven to prepare a place for us. That's love.



STEPPING OUT!

As a class, break into two groups; follow the instructions per group.

Group 1: Research the attributes of shepherds in Israel and how they protect, lead, and care for their sheep. Then list the ways that Jesus protects, leads, and cares for us in similar ways.

Group 2: Explore and record the significance of animal sacrifices and how Jesus made the ultimate sacrifice.



A *cryptogram* is a puzzle consisting of a short piece of encrypted text. Can you figure out the phrase by solving the puzzle below? Fill into the number key the decoded letters and complete the statement. You may refer back to the Scripture passage and find it there.

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
			E		U						I	

14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26
		W									S	C

W 16 8 12 24 4 I 16 4 E 16 4 21 4 S 25 12 1 1 4 21 25

C 26 8 21 12 25 14 I 17 12 4 17 U 13 11 21 U 6 25

Media Mission



Visit the following online site to check out the video that features the song "Secure" by Sarah Téibo (featuring Volney Morgan): <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=mZnF8zOoy2Y>. The song relays that "we are secure in you [Jesus]." Search online for the lyrics to the song and listen to the rest of the words. We are safe and secure with Jesus because He loves us.

