



Sunday School Study Plan for January 2025

with Mr. Mackie Hill and Deacon Altheda Winford

Four Weeks (January 5, 12, 19, and 26)

Topic: "God Shows Us Love by Forgiveness and Another Chance"

Week 1 (January 5): The Lost Sheep and the Lost Coin

Background Reading:

- Luke 15: 1-7; Luke 15: 8-10

Guiding Questions:

1. To whom was Jesus teaching these parables?
2. Why were the Pharisees and teachers of religious law complaining about Jesus?
3. Will heaven be happy over one Lost Sinner who returns to God?
4. What would the woman who had ten valuable coins do when she loses one of them?
5. How do God's angels respond when even one sinner repents?

Week 2: The Lost Son (Part 1)

Background Reading:

- Luke 15: 11-16

Guiding Questions:

1. What did the younger son ask of his father?
2. Did the father show love for the son? If so, how did the father show that love?
3. Do you agree with what the father did? What are alternative responses that seem reasonable?
4. How does the father's response represent God?
5. What did the younger son do after receiving his inheritance?
6. Did God step in or respond as younger son encountered increasingly more problems?
7. How low did the younger son fall?
8. Did the younger son's friends come to help him in his time of need?

WEEKLY HOMEWORK

1. READ TEXT FOR THE WEEK
2. USE A STUDY APPROACH TO RE-READ TEXT FOR PERSONAL AND BIBLICAL CONNECTIONS
 - A. CONSIDER 3 INSIGHTS, 2 SIGNIFICANT VERSES, AND ONE KEY WORD FOR DISCUSSION
 - B. USE BIBLICAL COMMENTARIES ON TEXT TO GIVE CONTEXT OR BACKGROUND
 - C. REVIEW VARIED TRANSLATIONS TO COMPARE MEANINGS
3. CONNECT LESSONS TO SERMONS FROM PAST DECADES AND LAST SEVERAL MONTHS

[Please see next weeks' lessons on the next page.]

2 Timothy 2:15, KJV: "Study to shew thyself approved unto God, a workman that needeth not to be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth." **2 Timothy 2:15**, NASB: "Be diligent to present yourself approved to God as a worker who does not need to be ashamed, accurately handling the word of truth."



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Week 3: The Lost Son (Part 2)

Background Reading:

- Luke 15: 17-24

Guiding Questions:

1. Do we ever understand how much God loves us? Explain.
2. What did the lost son do when he came to his senses? What happened for the son to come to his senses?
3. What should we do when we recognize our sins?
4. Was the father always looking for his son to come home?
5. Should we always pray and look for our loved ones to come back home to God? Discuss.
6. How did the father feel about his son coming home?
7. How does Heaven feel about us returning to God?

Week 4: The Lost Son (Part 3)

Background Reading:

- Luke 15: 25-32

Guiding Questions:

1. Where was the older son when his younger brother returned home?
2. How did the older son get the news that his younger brother had returned home?
3. How did the older son feel about what his father was doing for the younger brother?
4. Was the older brother justified about feeling as he did toward his younger brother?
5. Can you understand why the father celebrated because the younger son's coming home? Is it fair?
6. Did the father do a good job explaining why they celebrated his younger son's coming home?
7. What did these three parables mean to you?
8. What stands out to you in reviewing the three parables?