

**Title:** Lost?  
**Pastor:** Yanni Acavalos  
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**Time:** 18:00



**Luke 15:4-7 (NKJV)**

<sup>4</sup> If you had one hundred sheep, and one of them strayed away and was lost in the wilderness, wouldn't you leave the ninety-nine others to go and search for the lost one until you found it? <sup>5</sup> And then you would joyfully carry it home on your shoulders. <sup>6</sup> When you arrived, you would call together your friends and neighbors to rejoice with you because your lost sheep was found. <sup>7</sup> In the same way, heaven will be happier over one lost sinner who returns to God than over ninety-nine others who are righteous and haven't strayed away!

**a: Verse 4: The Shepherd seeks His sheep.**

**1. A compassionate search**

Just one sheep was missing, yet the Shepherd still went.

**2. A costly search**

For the Shepherd, the search was dangerous and death was a possibility.

**3. A consistent search**

The shepherd did not stop until his mission had been completed and the sheep had been found.

**b: Verse 5: The Shepherd secures His Sheep.**

**1. He secures them by His strength**

The sheep is not responsible for getting itself home. After it is saved, it finds itself resting upon the strong shoulders of the shepherd!

**2. He secures them by His stamina**

He had sufficient stamina to finish what he had started. His strength never wavers! Our arrival in Heaven does not depend upon you and me, but upon Him.

**c: Verse 6-7: The reason for rejoicing.**

**Sheep are saved from:**

**1. Disuse** – as long as it was lost, it was of no benefit to the shepherd.

**2. Danger** – it could never have defended itself or rescued itself.

**3. Death** – if the shepherd had not come looking for the sheep, it would have most certainly died out there in the wilderness.

**d: Why would a sheep say no to being rescued?**

- He liked running around outside the sheep flock. *But night is coming and he won't like it anymore when a wolf finds him.*
- He thinks he can find his own way back. *That sheep can't find the flock, or else he wouldn't have been lost in the first place.*

- He thinks he's been a bad sheep for wandering off and doesn't deserve to go back. *If the shepherd thought he was too bad to take back, why would he have gone out after him? He wants the sheep back, because he still loves him.*
- He's not sure what to expect when he's back with the other sheep. *He has nothing to be afraid of. The other sheep will be glad to see him, and he'll be a lot better off than he is now.*