



THE APOSTOLIC FAITH CHURCH

October 10, 2021 Fall Quarter Volume 40 Lesson 6
Pastor's Day

JOY IN SERVICE

SCRIPTURAL LESSON: *Luke 15:1-7*

GOSPEL TRUTH:

The Great Chief Shepherd of the sheep, donned with garments of flesh, came to this world to seek and to save that which was lost. He reaped the joy of reconciling the world unto Himself (*Mark 16:15; John 3:16; II Corinthians 5:19*).

GOLDEN SCRIPTURE:

But he was wounded for our transgressions, he was bruised for our iniquities: the chastisement of our peace was upon him; and with his stripes we are healed (Isaiah 53:5).

THE APOSTOLIC FAITH CHURCH DOCTRINES:

1. There is no reason for anyone to be lost: God's grace is long suffering in hope of the sinner's repentance (*II Peter 3:9*).
2. God is no respecter of persons. He invites everyone, and refuses no one (*Mark 16:16; Luke 15:1-2*).
3. God is in the midst and He answers prayers (*Matthew 18:19-20*).
4. It is man and not God that needs to be reconciled. The Ministry of Reconciliation is the Gospel of the Kingdom of God! (*Matthew 18:18; Luke 2:28-32; II Corinthians 5:20*).

BACKGROUND SETTING:

God formed man from the dust of the Earth. Breathing life into him, man became a living soul and a descendant of God. Hence, we have ties to God and He cares for us. How great is God's love? To what extent will Jesus go to save the soul? Jesus Christ the Messiah, a Shepherd caring for His flock and a God-

fearing grandparent all share a common thread: love. In the *Bible*, God-fearing grandparents are implied as the elders and ancients. They have aged with grace, perfecting the fear of God and the fruit of the Spirit. As with Jesus the Chief Shepherd, grandparents in the Lord will love without dissimulation (*Romans 12:9*). Jesus is to be praised for grandparents in the Lord who love and cherish each family member because they are a precious gift from God (*II Timothy 1:5-8*).

LESSON SUMMARY:

Jesus has not left anything to our imagination. No imagery of a sorrowful and remiss shepherd returning without his sheep. This parable does not speak of failure but of success, and the level of rejoicing expressed in retrieving and restoring souls into the fold. Jesus illustrates: "*What man of you, having an hundred sheep, if he lose one of them, doth not leave the ninety and nine in the wilderness, and go after that which was lost, until he find it?*" (*Luke 15:4*) Jesus said, ". . . Rejoice with me; for I have found my sheep which was lost" (*Luke 15:6*). Yes, the angels in heaven rejoice over one sinner that repents correlating the elation with the more than 99 just persons which need no repentance because they occupied in the promises entrusted (*Luke 15:7, 9-13*). The amount of love and enthusiasm expended to retrieve one soul from sin is the same as with many souls in need. Though it is only one lost sheep, it is sought after with the enthusiasm as if it were many. God left the comforts of heaven to save all mankind from the consequences of sin. A one-time sacrifice for the sin of all mankind! (*Romans 6:10*) If that isn't love, what is?

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