

## **LISTENING GUIDE**

### **Luke 15:1-10 – Join in the Joy**

1. Would I like more \_\_\_\_\_?
2. The joy Jesus describes comes when what was \_\_\_\_\_ is \_\_\_\_\_.
3. Jesus used these stories to illustrate an incredibly significant spiritual event - \_\_\_\_\_; a \_\_\_\_\_ to God.
4. The reason we \_\_\_\_\_ guilt is because we are \_\_\_\_\_, and we need the guilt taken \_\_\_\_\_.
5. Jesus helps us discover we are \_\_\_\_\_ among the \_\_\_\_\_, and God's \_\_\_\_\_ is in \_\_\_\_\_ us.
6. If we insist we don't \_\_\_\_\_ God, we \_\_\_\_\_ to be lost.
7. No matter how \_\_\_\_\_ or how \_\_\_\_\_ I have wandered, Jesus \_\_\_\_\_ to find me.
  1. Through his \_\_\_\_\_.
  2. Through the \_\_\_\_\_.
8. Gathering in church is a \_\_\_\_\_ of joy, and we \_\_\_\_\_ others to celebrate with us.

# LIFEGROUPS

## DISCUSSION GUIDE

COMPLETE THESE QUESTIONS IN PREPARATION FOR YOUR LIFE GROUP.  
BRING THIS SHEET AND A BIBLE WITH YOU TO YOUR LIFE GROUP.



### **WARM UP**

The message focused on the joy we have that we are found, and as we get to join in the joy when others are found. God also delivers the blessing of joy through simple gifts in our lives. **What simple blessings or events of your life bring you joy?** (These do not necessarily need to be spiritual in nature.)

Is there anything from this week's message that you hope we discuss as a group?

### **INTO GOD'S WORD**

In his message, Pastor shared this rabbinical quote: *"There is joy before God when those who provoke Him perish from the world."* Sometimes people view God as a demanding, stern judge who revels to destroy those who provoke him. **How do the following passages highlight the true heart of God, and emphasize what it is, in which he truly finds joy?**

Ezekiel 18:32

Ezekiel 33:11

1 Timothy 2:1-7

On the other hand, is there some truth behind what the Pharisees felt and questioned in the gospel reading from Luke 15? They were incredulous that someone who claimed to be from God would welcome such people into his presence. The Old Testament clearly taught that sinful people cannot stand in the presence of a holy God. Pastor briefly mentioned how God “hides” himself as we come before him in worship. **How did God the Son “hide” his holiness in the person of Jesus? (Cf. John 1:14)**

**How does God continue to “hide” himself among us today?**

### ***INTO MY LIFE***

**In your own personal life, on which side of this spectrum do you fall? Do you tend to be overly aware of your own “lostness” and feel burdened and weighed down by guilt, or do you tend to suffer from the pharisee syndrome, blind to your lostness, and overconfident in your own self-righteousness?**

**How did this week’s message encourage and comfort you in that regard?**

Luke 15:1 tells us “Now the tax collectors and sinners were all gathering around to hear Jesus.” Jesus’ compassion and grace drew people to him. **What types of changes can you make in your life that would help draw people to you, so they will listen when you share the good news of Jesus?**

**What suggestions would you give for our congregation to improve how we “seek the lost”?**

**What suggestions would you give for our congregation to better celebrate that “the lost are found”?**

## ***SHARING & PRAYER***

Your prayer requests:

