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Radio Sunday School Mission

President
HON. E. C. MANNING
Premier of Alberta

Calgary, Alberta

Superintendent
C. R. PEARCE

THANKS BE UNTO GOD

FOR GOD SO LOVED THE WORLD,
THAT HE GAVE HIS ONLY
BEGOTTEN SON, THAT WHOSEVER
BELIEVETH IN HIM SHOULD NOT
PERISH, BUT HAVE EVERLASTING
LIFE. John 3:16

FOR HIS UNSPEAKABLE GIFT

II CORINTHIANS 9:15

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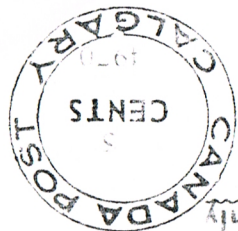
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GOD HAS SPOKEN

Bible Leaflet

PREPARED BY
RADIO SUNDAY SCHOOL MISSION

Course 3B JANUARY Leaflet 15

REJOICE WITH ME: FOR I HAVE FOUND MY SHEEP.



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R. PEARCE

knew
crossed;
at the Lord passed

was lost.
cry—
die.

drops all the way
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The Story of the Lost Sheep

Read the story in the Bible. The Gospel of Luke, chap. 15, verses 2 to 7.

One day a great crowd of people surrounded Jesus to hear His teachings. "The Pharisees and scribes were grumbling among themselves, saying, 'This man associates with sinners and even eats with them.' So Jesus told them a short story, saying, 'What man of you who has a hundred sheep, if he lose one of them, does not leave the ninety and nine in the field, and go after the one which is lost until he find it? And when he hath found it, he layeth it on his shoulders, rejoicing. And when he cometh home, he calleth together his friends and neighbors, saying unto them, "Rejoice with me; for I have found my sheep which was lost." I say unto you that likewise joy shall be in heaven over one sinner that repenteth, more than over ninety and nine good people who need not to repent'" (Luke 15:2-7).

By this story we see how the heart of Jesus went out to people who were in the snares of the Devil and needed Him most; yet when some of these religious leaders would see Him talking to such people they were always ready to criticize and try to make others believe that he kept company with sinful people. Many times Jesus got a good chance to talk to some people by being invited to their homes to eat, but the Pharisees would not think of eating with any person who was not religious. Jesus reminded them of all the trouble a shepherd would go to in order to hunt for one straying lamb. When the rest of the flock was in the field, he felt safe in leaving them for a time to hunt for the lost one, for sheep usually stay together unless frightened by something. Jesus always tried to show His disciples that the greatest way to bring lost people to Him is to go after them *one by one*. Many seem to think that

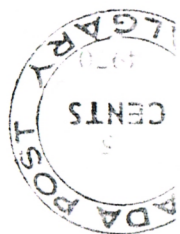
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the only way to get results is to get a big crowd together and preach to them. But what about the one's and two's along the way who never go to such large meetings?

Think of the faithful shepherd who will go through the briar bushes and thorns of the wilderness, looking for the one lost sheep! When he finds it, he does not whip it for getting lost, but lovingly takes it in his arms and throws it over his shoulder. He takes it home to put medicine on any cuts it may have received in the bushes, and is so happy because he has found the lost one that he wants all his friends and neighbors to know about it. That was the way Jesus went after lost people, and the way He taught His disciples to seek the lost. We are to go to them in a kindly spirit, even though they may be mean to us, and tell them the story of Jesus and His love.

What greater joy can a Christian find than winning a lost person to Jesus? Many have been made very happy and have called their friends to rejoice with them, because one who was on the way to hell has been saved forever. Yes, Jesus says that the joy over even one sinner saved reaches up to heaven—*there is joy in the presence of the angels*. Perhaps this refers to Christians who have died and gone on to be with Jesus and the angels. Who knows perhaps some of our dear ones who have gone to heaven know when we too find Jesus. At any rate, we know that there is joy in the heart of Jesus every time we win someone to Him.

From CHILDREN'S GOSPEL COMMENTARY, by Keith L. Brooks, D.D.
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Memory Verse:

Rejoice with me; for I have found my sheep which was lost. —Luke 15:6b.

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R. PEARCE

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3B

Why we should Believe our Bible

Part Two

What the Bible says about itself:

"The law of the LORD is perfect, converting the soul: the testimony of the LORD is sure, making wise the simple. The statutes of the LORD are right, rejoicing the heart: the commandment of the LORD is pure, enlightening the eyes." Psalm 19:7,8.

"All scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness: that the man of God may be perfect, thoroughly furnished unto all good works." 2. Timothy 3:16,17.

"For the word of God is quick, and powerful, and sharper than any twoedged sword." Hebrews 4:12a.

"For whatsoever things were written aforetime were written for our learning, that we through patience and comfort of the scriptures might have hope." Romans 15:4.

The Bible is made up of sixty six books, written by forty different writers, from all stations of life, over a period of about sixteen hundred years — from about 1500 B.C., when Moses commenced to write the Pentateuch (that is the name for the first five books of the Bible), to about A.D. 97, when the apostle John wrote his gospel in Asia Minor. The miracle of it is that though the writers lived so many years apart, yet there is complete agreement in the whole book. The only explanation is, as the Bible itself declares, *"Holy men of God spake as they were moved by the Holy Ghost."* In Part 3 we will look into the way our Bible is made up.



STORIES OF THE BIBLE

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Bible *GOD HATH SPOKEN* **Leaflet**

PREPARED BY
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Course 3B JANUARY Leaflet 16

SEEKING THE LOST COIN

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R. PEARCE

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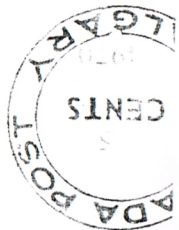
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3B

The Finding of the Lost Coin

Read the story in the Bible. The Gospel of Luke, chap 15, verses 8 to 10.

Still trying to show the Pharisees and scribes what little love they had in their hearts for poor lost souls, Jesus went on to tell another short story. "What woman," He said, "having ten pieces of silver, if she lose one piece, doth not light a candle, and sweep the whole house, and seek and seek until she find it? And when she hath found it, she calleth her friends and her neighbors together, saying, 'Rejoice with me: for I have found the coin which was lost.' Likewise, I say unto you, there is joy in the presence of the angels of God over one sinner that repenteth'" (Luke 15:8-10).

This is a story that had far deeper meaning in those days than it might have today. In our times, the loss of one small coin might not cause so much excitement, but in those days it had long been the custom of the women of Syria to wear what was called a "circlet," a string of silver coins, either on their foreheads or around their arms. The circlet was a family heirloom. Perhaps a dying mother would leave her circlet to her oldest daughter, or if she had no daughter, to some favorite niece. The longer the circlet had been passed along from one to another, the more sacred it was thought to be. It was often worn as a symbol of the marriage union, and would be saved to be placed on the bride, as she waited for the coming of the groom. It had a deeper meaning than a wedding ring today, and if she had seen it had been passed along from generation to generation and it lost, it could not be replaced. Many women would feel that the marriage was going to be broken if anything happened to their circlets. Some women would feel that if one single coin was lost from the string, she was going to lose her purity sometime. So you can see the meaning there was to this little story Jesus

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told. No queen could value her jeweled crown more than a Syrian woman valued her circlet of coins.

We begin to understand how terrible a woman would feel if she discovered that one of her ten precious pieces of silver had come off the string and been lost. She would be filled with terror, believing that something awful would happen to her, and we can see her now sweeping every corner of every room, and looking under every piece of furniture and poking around in the grass outside in the hope of finding it. Then just imagine when she finds it! Would she not be jumping up and down with joy? No wonder Jesus said she would call in all her friends and neighbors to rejoice with her!

In this story Jesus is giving just a little glimpse of how God feels about poor people who are lost in sin and on the way to hell. But God has only one way to get hold of lost people: He must use those who are already members of His family. He cannot send angels down to win people to Jesus. Therefore when we profess to be Christians, we should ask God to use us in bringing others to Himself. Every boy and girl, man and woman, is far more priceless to God than the coin could be to the Syrian woman. How He longs to use us to bring sinners to repentance! Yes, and what joy there is in the presence of the angels when another lost soul is brought into the family!

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FROM CHILDREN'S BIBLE COMMENTARY, BY REV. L. PEARCE, D.D.,
USED BY KIND PERMISSION OF THE AUTHOR.

Memory Verse:

There is joy in the presence of the angels of God
over one sinner that repenteth. — Luke 15:10.

I thank you, O God of Calvary,
For saving my soul and making me free,
I gladly give my life to thee,
My Saviour and my God.

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The Elephant Hunter's Call.

A SERVICE was proceeding in a little hall in Central Africa, when a man entered, a man of lighter complexion than the other Africans present, with yellow, tawny skin, fierce staring eyes, unkempt hair, terrible to look upon. The service continued, but the preacher could not forget the stranger. He knew by his lighter colour that he was a forest dweller, a hunter of elephants and other wild animals. Something, something One seemed to tell the missionary that this man was hearing the Gospel for the first time. It was the Holy Spirit whispering to him to preach to this poor savage as if he were the only one present, to tell him of One Who loved him, Who had died for him, Who was even now by his side, ready to listen to his prayer, ready to save him, if he would but ask. "It does not matter what your past life has been," cried the preacher. "No one is too bad. The Lord Jesus can save you—NOW!"

The service ended, and the missionary asked any who wished to accept Christ, to raise their hand. Immediately the stranger's hand was held up. When asked if he wanted to be saved, he cried: "I have accepted Jesus, now. While you were speaking—I asked Him—and He has saved me."

It was true. The wild, lawless hunter, who had been living in darkness greater even than the gloom of his forest home, had found The Light, and he is now witnessing for Christ among his people.

But what led him to make this (the first) journey to that village? He could only tell the missionary that he felt compelled to come: that some power seemed to draw him—to urge him on and on. "I at last he found him! I within reach of the Gospel."

The Good Shepherd Who knows each sheep. Who misses even one black one from the fold, had Him seen, gone after the lost one, had called him, and brought him, rejoicing, Home!

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The Ninety and Nine

There were ninety and nine that safely lay
In the shelter of the fold,
But one was out on the hills away,
Far off from the gates of gold—
Away on the mountains wild and bare,
Away from the tender Shepherd's care.

But none of the ransomed ever knew
How deep were the waters crossed,
Nor how dark was the night that the Lord passed
through
Ere he found his sheep that was lost.
Out in the desert He heard its cry—
Sick and helpless, and ready to die.

"Lord, Thou hast here Thy ninety and nine,
Are they not enough for Thee?"
But the Shepherd made answer:
"This of mine has wandered away from me,
And although the road be rough and steep
I go to the desert to find my sheep."

"Lord, whence are those blood-drops all the way
That mark out the mountain's track?"
"They were shed for one who had gone astray
Ere the Shepherd could bring him back."
"Lord, whence are Thy hands so rent and torn?"
"They are pierced tonight by many a thorn!"

But all thro' the mountains, thunder-riven,
And up from the rocky steep,
There arose a glad cry to the gate of heaven,
"Rejoice! I have found my sheep!"
And the angels echoed around the throne,
"Rejoice, for the Lord brings back His own!"



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