(5) Stories 3.0: Lost & Found

Today's Story: Rusty Bregard

Jesus was liked by the lost.

- Luke 15:1–2 (NIV) "Now the tax collectors and "sinners" were all gathering around to hear Him. ² But the Pharisees and the teachers of the law muttered, "This man welcomes sinners and eats with them."
- Luke 19:10 (NIV) "For the Son of Man came to seek and to save what was lost."
- John 3:2 (NLT) After dark one evening, he came to speak with Jesus. "Rabbi," he said, "we all know that God has sent you to teach us. Your miraculous signs are evidence that God is with you."
- John 4:28–29 (NLT) "The woman left her water jar beside the well and ran back to the village, telling everyone, ²⁹ "Come and see a man who told me everything I ever did! Could He possibly be the Messiah?"

Jesus will not stop searching for the lost.

- Luke 15:3–4 (NIV) "Then Jesus told them this parable: 4 "Suppose one of you has a hundred sheep and loses one of them. Does he not leave the ninety-nine in the open country and go after the lost sheep until he finds it?"
- Luke 15:8 (NIV) "Or suppose a woman has ten silver coins and loses one. Does she not light a lamp, sweep the house and search carefully until she finds it?"

Jesus celebrates when He finds the lost.

- Luke 15:5–7 (NIV) "And when he finds it, he joyfully puts it on his shoulders ⁶ and goes home. Then he calls his friends and neighbors together and says, 'Rejoice with me; I have found my lost sheep.' ⁷ I tell you that in the same way there will be more rejoicing in heaven over one sinner who repents than over ninety-nine righteous persons who do not need to repent."
- Luke 15:9–10 (NIV) "And when she finds it, she calls her friends and neighbors together and says, 'Rejoice with me; I have found my lost coin.' 10 In the same way, I tell you, there is rejoicing in the presence of the angels of God over one sinner who repents."

Digging Deeper Jesus told stories to help people understand who He was. What did you learn about Jesus today that differs from what you thought? What is the most attractive quality about Jesus to you? Have you wandered away from God? How does knowing that Jesus relentlessly looks for you make you feel? What is your Story? Would you be willing to share your Story on video?

