

## MESSAGE NOTES



---

**Series:** After the One  
**Message:** The God Who Pursues  
**Speaker:** Rusty Coram  
**Date:** October 26, 2025

---

*"<sup>1</sup> Tax collectors and other notorious sinners often came to listen to Jesus teach. <sup>2</sup> This made the Pharisees and teachers of religious law complain that he was associating with such sinful people—even eating with them! <sup>3</sup> So Jesus told them this story: <sup>4</sup> 'If a man has a hundred sheep and one of them gets lost, what will he do? Won't he leave the ninety-nine others in the wilderness and go to search for the one that is lost until he finds it? <sup>5</sup> And when he has found it, he will joyfully carry it home on his shoulders. <sup>6</sup> When he arrives, he will call together his friends and neighbors, saying, 'Rejoice with me because I have found my lost sheep.' <sup>7</sup> In the same way, there is more joy in heaven over one lost sinner who repents and returns to God than over ninety-nine others who are righteous and haven't strayed away!'"*

Luke 15:1–7 (NLT)

The crowd listening to Jesus included the self-righteous, the pseudo-righteous and the un-righteous.

Even if they don't realize it, each group has this in common: they are all in desperate need of rescue.

*"All of us, like sheep, have strayed away. We have left God's paths to follow our own."*

Isaiah 53:6 (NLT)

Jesus offers forgiveness and hope to all who accept Him as their "shepherd".

*"All of us, like sheep, have strayed away. We have left God's paths to follow our own. Yet the LORD laid on him the sins of us all."*

Isaiah 53:6 (NLT)

Everyone who accepts Him becomes part of His "search and rescue" team.

*"Yes, I try to find common ground with everyone, doing everything I can to save some. <sup>23</sup> I do everything to spread the Good News and share in its blessings."*

1 Corinthians 9:22–23 (NLT)

*"We must quickly carry out the tasks assigned us by the one who sent us. The night is coming, and then no one can work."*

John 9:4 (NLT)

*"What does God want me to do?"*

---

## BIBLE TRANSLATIONS:

NLT– New Living Translation

## TAKE HOME SHEET



---

**Series:** After the One  
**Message:** The God Who Pursues  
**Speaker:** Rusty Coram  
**Date:** October 26, 2025

---

Read Luke 15:1-7 and imagine yourself in the crowd listening.

How do you think the religious leaders felt as Jesus explained His love for the lost and “unrighteous”?

How do you think the “notorious sinners” might have thought?

As you read the following, what is your reaction?  
*“All of us, like sheep, have strayed away. We have left God’s paths to follow our own.”* Isaiah 53:6 (NLT)

- Do you really believe everyone is lost until found by Jesus?
- Do you think that certain individuals or groups are beyond caring for?

If I have accepted Jesus as my Shepherd and If God says all are lost without Him what does that say about how I should view others – even those I have major disagreements with?

What can I do this week to be part of pursuing people like Jesus wants me to?