

Lesson 61 - The Lost Coin

Aims

- * to understand how happy God feels when a person stops doing wrong and says sorry
- * to understand that God loves us no matter what we do wrong

Materials

- * Visual aids
 - a picture of the parable
 - Picture cards of the story
- * Stories
 - The Parable of the Lost Coin - Luke 15: 8.10
 - The Ten Silver Coins, from Stories Jesus Told, by Nick Butterworth,
- * Song - Ten Little Coins
- * worksheets
- * 10 coins
- * scissors, glue, coloured pencils

Lesson Outline

1. Introduction
 2. Story
 3. Discussion
 4. Activities - find the coins, hide-and-seek, worksheets, retell the story, song
 5. Review the aims
 6. Prayer
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1) Introduction

Hide ten coins for the children to find. Hide nine of them in fairly easy places. Hide the tenth in a more difficult place. When the tenth is found how does everyone feel? What places did you search?

Who has lost some money? How did you feel? Did you find it? Then how did you feel?

Today's story is a story Jesus told about ten silver coins. Silver worth a lot of money, a lot more than ordinary coins

2) Story

The Parable of the Lost Coin - (Luke 15: 8.10)

Suppose a woman has ten silver coins and loses one. Doesn't she light a lamp, sweep the house and search carefully until she finds it? ⁹ 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.

The Ten Silver Coins (Nick Butterworth)

Here is a woman. She has ten silver coins. She likes to count them. One, two, three, four . . .
Oops! Silly cat! Now they've gone all over the place.

The woman picks up her silver coins. They have been scattered everywhere! The cat doesn't care. He has stretched out and gone to sleep.

The woman counts her silver coins again. But there are only nine. Bother! One of them is missing. Never mind, it can't have gone far.

Perhaps it is under the rug. No. There is no sign of it there.

Perhaps it has bounced into the fireplace. Carefully she sifts through the ashes. What a messy job! But no, there is no coin.

Perhaps it rolled right under the door and out into the garden. She searches and searches, but she cannot find the coin anywhere.

She even looks inside her pots and pans, even though she knows it can't be there. Clatter! Bang! What a noise she is making!

She's making so much noise, she's woken up the cat. Serves him right. He's off to find a quiet spot in the garden.

There it is! The cat was lying on it all the time! The missing silver coin is found!

The woman laughs. She is so happy she calls a friend to tell her the good news.

3) Discussion

How many silver coins did the woman have altogether? - 10

Where did she look for the missing one? - *under the rug, fireplace, garden, pots and pans*

Where was the coin? - *under the cat*

What did she do when she found the coin? - *called a friend to tell her the good news.*

How did she feel? - *very happy, relieved, she laughed*

How did you feel when you found all the coins today?

Have you lost something special to you and after a long time found it? How did you feel?

How do your parents feel when you do something wrong? - *sad, angry, unhappy, worried*

How do your parents feel when you say sorry? - *happy and relieved, just like the woman who found the missing coin*

How does God feel when a person does something wrong? - *sad, angry, unhappy, worried*

How does God feel when a person stops doing wrong and returns to God? - *happy and relieved,*

* Jesus told this story to teach us how worried God is when people turn away from Him. He feels He has lost us, just like the woman who lost her coin. God also feels very happy when we are sorry and come back to God. Just like the woman who found the missing coin.

* It makes God even happier than when good people do good things.

- * It also shows how much God loves each person. He loves us, no matter what we do wrong
- * It also tells us how important it is to say sorry. God wants to give us a big hug, and parents want to give us a big hug, but first we have to be sorry.

4) Activities

Find the Coins

Give each child three coins. Have them roll one on the ground. Then ask them if they would like to find the one they lost. They'll answer yes. Then ask. "Don't you like the ones you have?" "Yes," they'll answer, "but we want the other one, too." Explain that God feels the same way about us. He loves everyone, but He misses those who go away from him, and will give a lot to find them.

Hide and Seek

Let the children take turns hiding a chocolate coin and having the other children try to find it. The child who finds the coin gets to keep it. Keep playing until all the children have found a coin.

Worksheets

- Colour the picture.
- Cut out coins and stick them under the rug
- Help the woman find her lost coin through the maze.
- Find 10 differences between the pictures

Retell the story

Ask the children to retell the story in their own words using picture cards

Song

Ten Little Coins

5) Review the aims

- * to understand how happy God feels when a person stops doing wrong and says sorry
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6) Prayer

Say a prayer to thank God for loving us even when we do wrong

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(Nick Butterworth)



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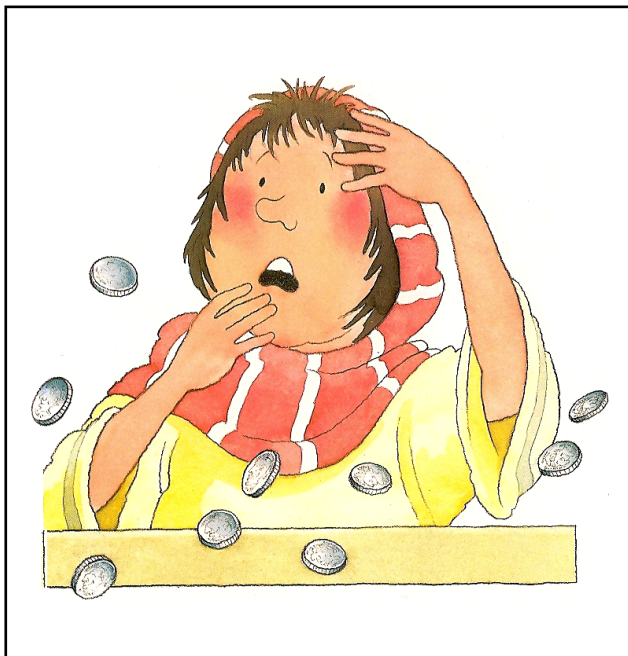
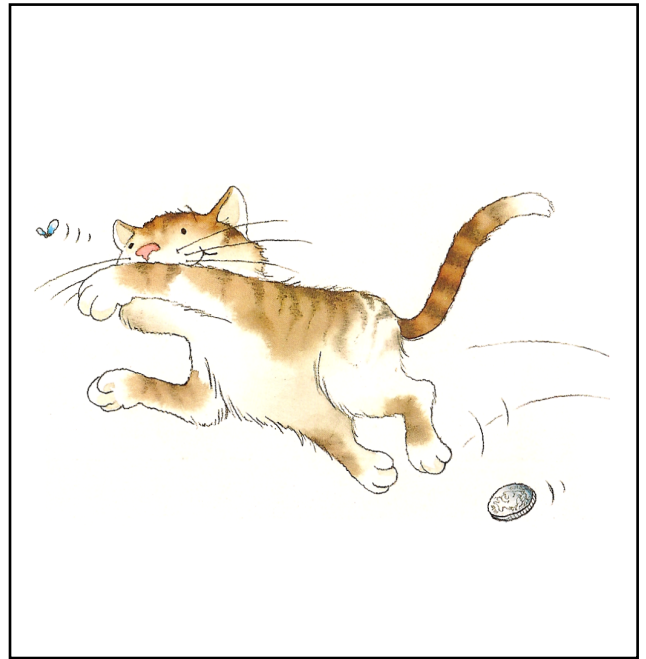
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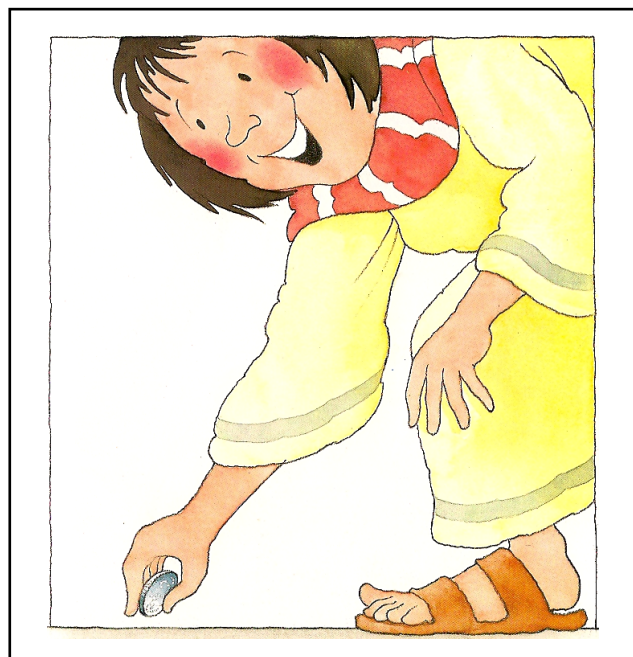
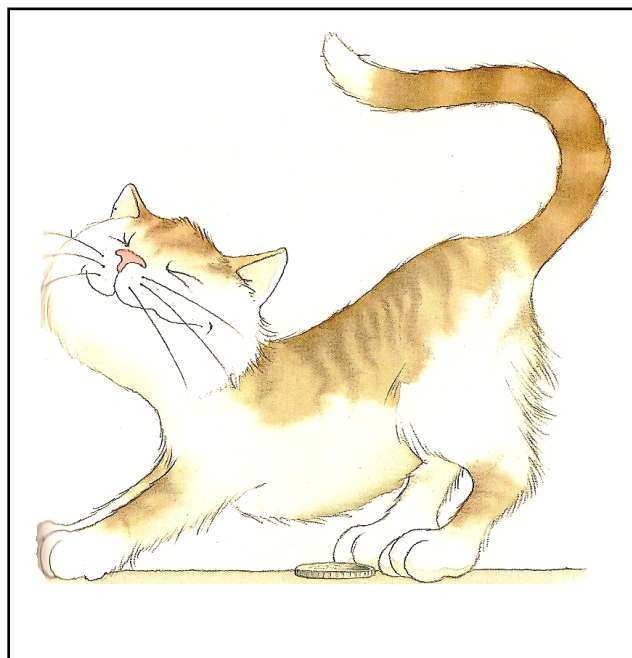
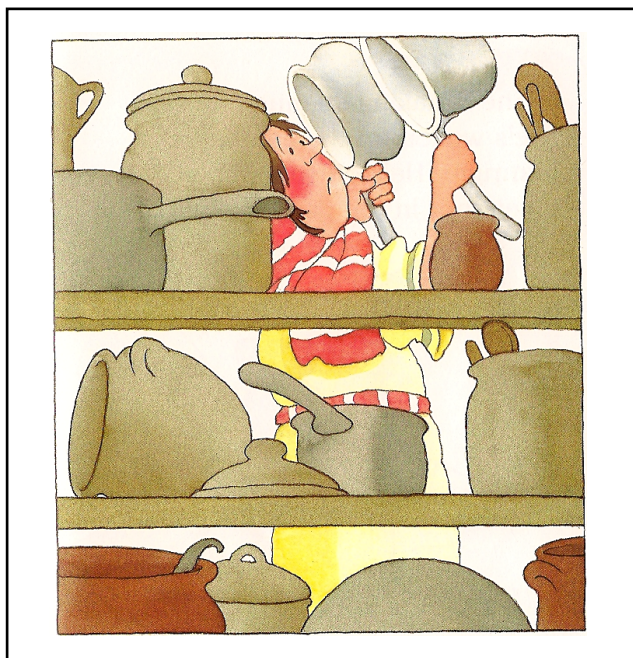
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The Parable of the Lost Coin

(Luke 15: 8.10)

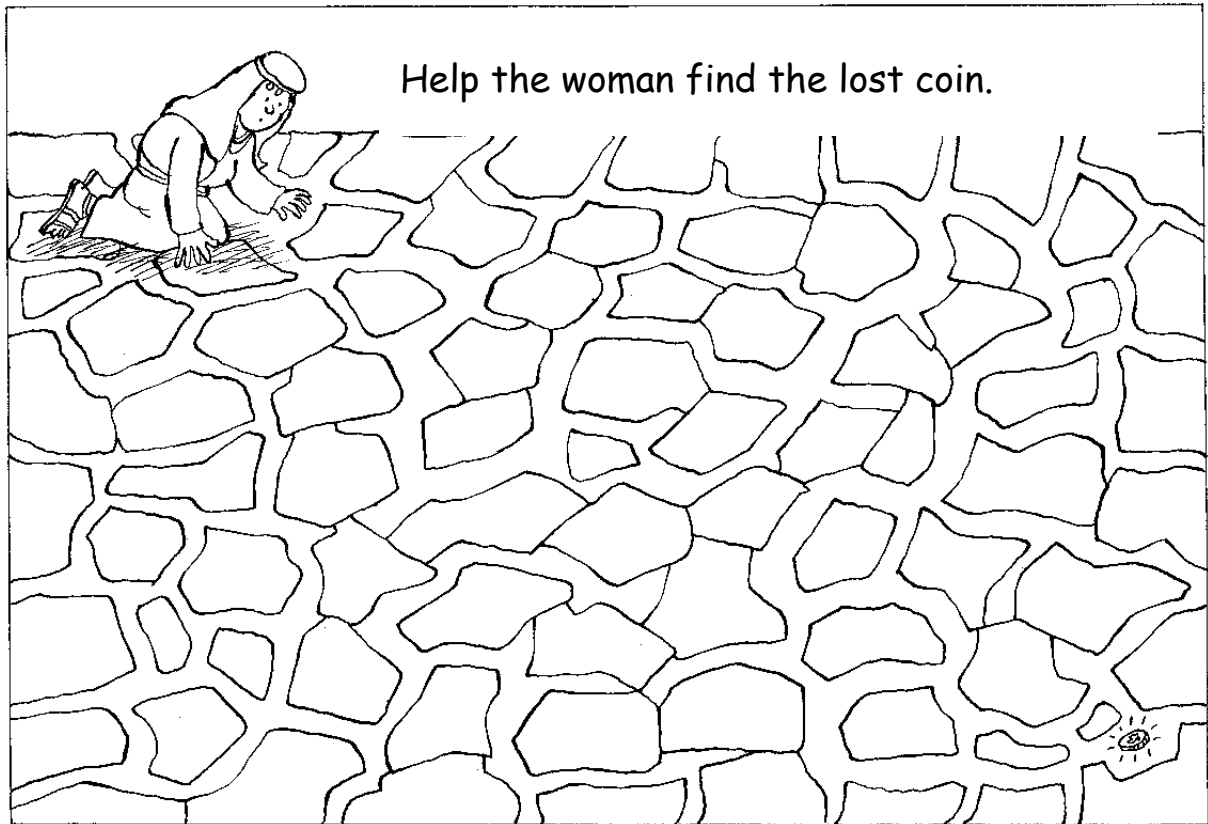
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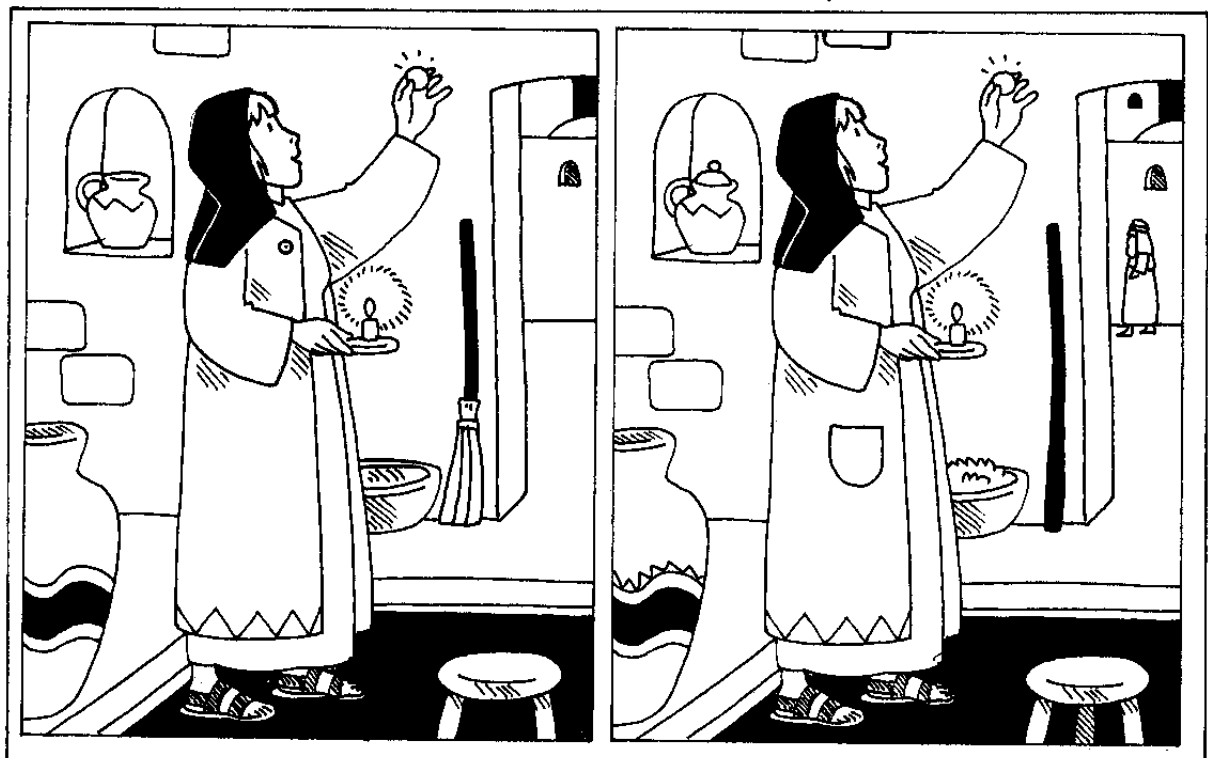




The Lost Coin



Find 10 differences between the pictures.



The Lost Coin

Cut out the coins and stick them under the rug.





Ten Little Coins

Written by Carolyn Warvel
Sing to the tune of "Mary Had a Little Lamb"

A woman had ten little coins,
Little coins, little coins,
A women had ten little coins,
but lost one on the ground.

She got a broom and swept the floor
Swept the floor, swept the floor,
She got a broom and swept the floor,
until the coin was found.

Then she called to all her friends,
all her friends, all her friends
Come and see what I have found
What was lost has been found.