

IS GOD SEARCHING FOR YOU?

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God bless you,

Oluwatobi S. Adewuyi
Coordinator

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God bless you!

Topic:
IS GOD SEARCHING FOR YOU?
Text: Luke 15:8-10

Prayer

Lord Jesus Christ, we bless You for all You do, we thank You for another time in Your presence, we pray that as we study tonight You'd open our understanding, and meet us at the very point of our needs in Jesus Christ's name. Amen

Bible Text: Luke 15:8-10

[8] Either what woman having ten pieces of silver, if she lose one piece, doth not light a candle, and sweep the house, and seek diligently till she find it? [9] And when she hath found it, she calleth her friends and her neighbours together, saying, Rejoice with me; for I have found the piece which I had lost. [10] Likewise, I say unto you, there is joy in the presence of the angels of God over one sinner that repenteth.

Study

The Lord wants to speak directly into our hearts today through one of the parables He said when it was replying to the ignorance of the Pharisees. Interestingly, this parable was recorded only in the Book of Luke and is absent in the other Synoptic Gospels, but it carries a powerful spiritual essence which we must submit to. The Lord Jesus Christ began by saying, “What woman, having ten pieces of silver, if she lose one piece, doth not light a candle, and sweep the house, and seek diligently till she find it?”

Luke 15:8-10 KJV — “Either what woman having ten pieces of silver, if she lose one piece, doth not light a candle, and sweep the house, and seek diligently till she find it? And when she hath found it, she calleth her friends and her neighbours together, saying, Rejoice with me; for I have found the piece which I had

lost. Likewise, I say unto you, there is joy in the presence of the angels of God over one sinner that repenteth.” Most women know the value of money because most times they are the ones that go into trading. In fact, from the parable, we can say that this kind of woman used in the parable was prudent and not nonchalant because from her actions it proves so.

Proverbs 14:1 says: “Every wise woman buildeth her house: but the foolish plucketh it down with her hands.”

Proverbs 19:14 says:

“House and riches are the inheritance of fathers: and a prudent wife is from the LORD.”

Although we do not know if she is married or not, but it is clear that she,

1. Was observant; she noticed that one coin was lost.
2. She lights a lamp; she brings light into the situation.
3. She sweeps the house; she takes action.
4. She seeks diligently; she does not give up until she finds it.
5. She rejoices when she finds it.

The recovery matters to her. In all, we can say that she was prudent because she recognized what was missing, took deliberate action, and diligently pursued the recovery. However, we must remember that the lost coin was lost inside the house. Yet, it still had value. The fact that it was lost did not make it lose its value. In the same way, many are in the house of God today but are lost spiritually. When the church began, in the Book of Acts, we are able to see that it was comprising only those who are saved. There were no unbelievers in the church, but the Lord kept adding only those who were saved to the church.

Acts 2:47 NKJV. Praising God and having favor with all the people. And the Lord added to the church daily those who were being saved. The early church grew because people were being saved, and the Lord Himself added them to the fellowship of believers. It shows that salvation comes before addition to the church. People responded to the gospel, and the Lord added them to the community of believers. And when the church faithfully preaches Christ, the Lord brings the increase. **1 Corinthians 3:6–7** says: “I have planted, Apollos watered; but God gave the increase. So then neither is he that planteth any thing, neither he that watereth; but God that giveth the increase.”

Today, the narrative has changed since the church has changed its focus and has become a business centre where all that men are concerned about now is money and not the salvation of souls. Today, the world has entered the church and influenced the church greatly, but the church has not been able to enter the world to influence it. In the early church, the world had no choice but to yield to the power of the church because it was unbeatable. But today the church now gives in to the world to learn how to serve God in ways contrary to the ways of God. And since the church has now become something totally different from the early church, we now have unbelievers in the church.

And the thing is that they can't be sent away and should not be sent away inasmuch as they are not causing problems in the church. The Lord has assigned a day He will judge the world and separate the goats from the sheep. Many are in the church who are still being searched for by God because they are lost on heaven's radar. As far as God is concerned, these are people who are spiritually lost while being around those spiritual people. That you attend church, sit in Bible church, even have believers and pastors as friends, does not make you visible spiritually to God if your heart is far from Him.

If we look carefully into the parable of the lost coin, we will see that, though

1. It was in the house, yet it was out of place.
2. We can see that it was lost but not worthless. This is to tell you that the fact that you are lost spiritually does not make you worthless before God. This is why He keeps searching for you daily. And it now appears that every message you hear from different preachers is telling you to find your way back to God.

Interestingly, the coin could not find its way back, yet it was searched for diligently. There are several lessons to learn from this which we must carefully look into. As ministers of God, it is sure that there would always be one or more people who would listen to your sermon right inside the church, yet, they are lost. They do not know God and do not even understand anything about salvation. Ask them about justification, their sanctification experience, they do not understand it. Talk about the circumcision of the heart; they do not understand. They have heard several messages, yet they do not understand. Some can even explain these things and even look spiritual but are far away from God. They sit in church only and go back to their sins as a sow goes back to its wallowing in the mire.

2 Peter 2:22 KJV — "But it is happened unto them according to the true proverb, The dog is turned to his own vomit again; and the sow that was washed to her wallowing in the mire." This set of people are searched for by the Lord, as He does not wish that any should perish. How then can this set of people be found? As a minister of God, simply light up the lamp. In that parable, the woman lit up the lamp to see clearly. Light exposes whatever is hidden. Light illuminates. Light directs.

To light up a lamp can mean:

1. To lift such people up in prayer.
2. To remain consistent and persistent in speaking the truth.
3. To go deeper in the Word of God and ask this set of people to repent.
4. To expose their sins using the Word of God.
5. To keep on pointing them to Christ, who is the only way.
6. To correct them in love and rebuke firmly, making them realize the dangers ahead of them, which is hell.
7. To make them know that there is eternity for every man, both sinners and saints.

Man of God, it is time to light up the lamp. Don't be discouraged because of this set of people. Truly, they can make your effort look wasted, but keep searching for them, the way the Lord is also searching for them. You will certainly find some if you keep searching for them. If you are one of the lost in the church, perhaps you say you are a Christian, but deep within you, you know that you are not with God and very far from Him this is for you. I'm not asking you if you are a Christian or a chorister or an usher in your church, and I'm not talking about you being a Bible teacher or even a pastor.

I'm talking about your spiritual state. Where are you currently spiritually? Are you not lost? Do you know that you can be active in the church yet missing in the house of God? God values your relationship with Him than your act of service before Him. As things are currently with you, you know that you are far from holy living. God is searching for you. I want you to know that sin is what always leads a man away from God.

There are signs you will see in your life that would make you know that you are inside the house of God and yet lost.

1. When you hear God's Word and that's where it ends, you do not have time to think about it and put it into practice.

2. When your prayer life becomes so dry, and whenever you are in the midst of other believers praying, you feel empty and disconnected.
3. When you don't study the Word of God and always find it boring when listening to one.
4. When you always give excuses for your sins and do not take responsibility for them.
5. When you always find faults in the Word of God that is being preached to you, and instead of you to change, you have refused to change.
6. When spiritual activities now become very boring and tiring, and even going to church now becomes as if you are forced and compelled to.
7. When you no longer think about what God thinks about your service to Him but what men think and say, seeking to please men.
8. When spiritual discipline that leads to a consecrated life before God now looks like a bondage.
9. When you are now more earthly conscious than heavenly conscious.

If you observe any of these in your life, something is wrong already. Let me ask you again: Is heaven not searching for you? Despite that you are in church! Remember that Adam was physically inside the garden, but he was spiritually lost, separated from God because of sin. God searched for Adam,

Genesis 3:9 KJV — “And the LORD God called unto Adam, and said unto him, Where art thou?” God was not asking because He did not know Adam's physical location. He was confronting Adam's new spiritual condition. Therefore, you can be in the garden and still be lost. Sin made Adam naked, stripped him of the garment of glory God placed on him, and he got missing. And has sin not made you naked too?

Adam was,

1. In the garden but hid from God. Is this not also your spiritual reality? Trying to hide your spiritual state from God. Hiding your sins from God is a proof that you are spiritually naked.
2. Surrounded by God's presence but separated by sin.
3. Physically alive but spiritually under the power of death.
4. Still God's creation but now alienated from God.

Remember also that the lost coin, in its lost state, did not change it from being a coin neither did it change the fact that it was in the house. In the same way, in your current lost state, this does not change you from being one of God's creations. The woman still valued the coin. In the same way, God still values you. But the question is not merely, where are you physically? It is, where are you spiritually? One thing is sure: heaven rejoices over a sinner that comes back to God. So, God is waiting for you, and it does not matter how lost you have been; He is searching for you and wants you, the blood of Jesus Christ is still potent to wash even the vilest sinner, only if you are willing.

Are you lost and want to be found by God? Do this:

1. Remember where you have missed it and repent genuinely.

2. Confess your sins to God and to concerned people where necessary.
3. Pray for the Holy Spirit to infill you and begin to guide you.
4. Open your heart to God and begin to obey Him. The time to begin to obey is now.
5. Separate yourself from things and people who always lead you away from Christ into sin.
6. Take personal Bible study and meditation seriously, even when you don't feel like reading it.
7. Keep reading it.
8. Make prayer a lifestyle.
9. Love everyone.
10. Always set your mind on things above and not on things on earth.
11. Do all you do as unto the Lord and not as unto men.
12. Practice everything you learn from the Word of God and ask for the grace to continue and not go back.

I pray for you in all humility of the mind before Christ our Lord, may the God find you in Jesus Christ's name.

Amen.

Invitation

If you know that you are still living in sin and you are ready to repent and begin to live your life in strict obedience to God so that you can overcome every sin in your life to make heaven, please place your right hand on your chest and say this prayer with your mouth.

Say,

"Lord Jesus, I accept You as my personal Lord and Savior. I believe that You died for me and took away my sins so that I will not face the penalty of them. I surrender my life to You today, and I make a decision to obey and follow You. Come into my life now and accept me as Your child. Thank You for saving me, in Jesus Christ's name I pray, Amen."

Congratulations, now you are saved. If you prayed this short prayer, please WhatsApp **+2347067511039** and let me know that you have just been saved. I want to have a word with you. God bless you!

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