

BEHOLD THE MAN



BEHOLD THE MAN WHO SEEKS US OUT.

There's a reason we say to "come as you are," and "it's okay to not be okay." There's a reason we hold those beliefs so close.

It's because Jesus did.

Jesus wasn't into people pretending they had it all together. He wasn't into false righteousness or illusions of perfection.

He was into the truth: the truth that we're broken and we need Him. He declares multiple times in Luke 15 that heaven has an absolute party when even one sinner admits it and repents.

There is no party when a so-called righteous person hides their sin really well from their community and gets away with it again.

Jesus seeks you out - the real you, the messy, broken, sinful you. He seeks you out, carries you back, rejoices, and forgives when you repent.

Nothing can separate you from the love of God.

IN THE BIBLE.

Luke 15:3-7

Then Jesus told them this parable: 4 “Suppose one of you has a hundred sheep and loses one of them. Doesn’t he leave the ninety-nine in the open country and go after the lost sheep until he finds it? 5 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 15:8-10

“Or 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.

Luke 15:20

“So [the prodigal son] returned home to his father. And while he was still a long way off, his father saw him coming. Filled with love and compassion, he ran to his son, embraced him, and kissed him.

Romans 8:38-39

And I am convinced that nothing can ever separate us from God’s love. Neither death nor life, neither angels nor demons, neither our fears for today nor our worries about tomorrow—not even the powers of hell can separate us from God’s love. 39 No power in the sky above or in the earth below—indeed, nothing in all creation will ever be able to separate us from the love of God that is revealed in Christ Jesus our Lord.

QUESTIONS.

- 1.) Which of the Luke 15 parables resonates most with you? Why?
- 2.) Take a moment to reflect: do you react like heaven when sinners repent?
- 3.) How has Jesus sought you out?
- 4.) What can you do to be more like Jesus this week?

TAKE TEN:

- How did you see God work in your life this week?
- What has God been teaching you in His Word?
- What kind of conversations are you having with your pre-Christian friends?
- What good can you do around here? (in your life/circumstance)
- How can we help you in prayer and what do you want us to ask you about next week?

Whenever you read the Bible, ask yourself these three questions:

1. What does this tell you about God?
2. What does this tell you about yourself and the world?
3. How is this going to change who you are and how you live?