

Sermon Notes and Daily Devotional  
First Congregational Church of Woodstock

Rev. John Meinen  
January 8, 2023

Morning Worship Service:

Luke 15:1-10; 19:5-10

## **Jesus Loves the Lost**

**1. It Is Clear that Jesus Loves the Lost...**

**2. But Who Exactly Are “the Lost”?**

**3. When You Understand This Message, It Will:**

a. Make You Humble

b. Make You Joyful

c. Make You Hopeful

### **Matthew 9:9-13**

<sup>9</sup> As Jesus passed on from there, he saw a man called *Matthew* sitting at the tax booth, and he said to him, “*Follow me.*” And he rose and followed him.

<sup>10</sup> And as Jesus reclined at table in the house, behold, many tax collectors and sinners came and were reclining with Jesus and his disciples. <sup>11</sup> And when the Pharisees saw this, they said to his disciples, “Why does your teacher eat with tax collectors and sinners?” <sup>12</sup> But when he heard it, he said, “Those who are well have no need of a physician, but those who are sick. <sup>13</sup> Go and learn what this means: ‘I desire mercy, and not sacrifice.’ *For I came not to call the righteous, but sinners.*” (Emphasis added)

### **Luke 19:41-44**

<sup>41</sup> And when Jesus drew near and saw the city, *he wept over it*, <sup>42</sup> saying, “Would that you, even you, had known on this day the things that make for peace! But now they are hidden from your eyes. <sup>43</sup> For the days will come upon you, when your enemies will set up a barricade around you and surround you and hem you in on every side <sup>44</sup> and tear you down to the ground, you and your children within you. And they will not leave one stone upon another in you, because you did not know the time of your visitation.”

### **Hebrews 4:14-16**

<sup>14</sup> Since then we have a great high priest who has passed through the heavens, Jesus, the Son of God, let us hold fast our confession. <sup>15</sup> For we do not have a high priest who is unable to *sympathize with our weaknesses*, but one who in every respect has been tempted as we are, yet without sin. <sup>16</sup> Let us then with confidence draw near to the throne of grace, that we may receive mercy and find grace to help in time of need.

### **Isaiah 63:7-9**

<sup>7</sup> I will recount *the steadfast love of the Lord*, the praises of the Lord, according to all that the Lord has granted us,

and the great goodness to the house of Israel that he has granted them *according to his compassion, according to the abundance of his steadfast love.*

<sup>8</sup> For he said, “Surely they are my people, children who will not deal falsely.”

And he became their Savior.

<sup>9</sup> In all their affliction *he was afflicted*, and the angel of his presence saved them; *in his love and in his pity he redeemed them; he lifted them up and carried them all the days of old.*

### **Matthew 15:24-28**

<sup>24</sup> Jesus answered, “I was sent only to *the lost sheep of the house of Israel.*” <sup>25</sup> But she came and knelt before him, saying, “Lord, help me.” <sup>26</sup> And he answered, “It is not right to take the children’s bread and throw it to the dogs.” <sup>27</sup> She said, “Yes, Lord, yet even the dogs eat the crumbs that fall from their masters’ table.” <sup>28</sup> Then Jesus answered her, “O woman, great is your faith! Be it done for you as you desire.” And her daughter was healed instantly.