

# Series: Share It

## Lesson 2—Share It

### OVERVIEW

Background Bible Passage: Luke 15:1-10

Key Verse: Matthew 28:19-20—“Go therefore and make disciples of all the nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all that I commanded you; and lo, I am with you always, even to the end of the age.”

### BEFORE CLASS

**Preparation:** *Your preparation will determine the direction your class will go.*

- Consider how willing and prepared you are to lead someone to Christ.
- Study and prepare your lesson so that you are familiar with the teaching outline.
- Use the Contact 1-2-3 system to the right to follow up on students who have recently missed Sunday School.
- Pray for each student by name.
- Challenge students who have made recent decisions to continue following and growing in Christ.

## OPENING ACTIVITY

### Get to Know You

- *What is your name and what school do you attend?*
  - *What do you enjoy doing?*
  - *What's your favorite thing about church?*
  - *How long have you attended our church?*
- *What do you want to get out of our FOCUS group this year?*
- *Since you talked about testimonies last week, would anyone like to share their salvation testimony with me?*

SAY: This year I'm looking forward to getting to know you better and I'm looking forward to what God is going to do.

## BIBLE LESSON

### Getting Into the Lesson

- *Have you ever lost something that was important to you?*
  - *What did you do to get that something back?*

SAY: Anything important that is lost is a big deal and the more important the object is, the more frustrating it can be to hunt for it. Imagine how you would feel if you lost:

- A hundred dollars
- Ten thousand dollars (your frustration just increased)
- Your job
- Your house
- Your 3-year old son in an airport
- Your wife due to an illness

SAY: Today we're going to take a look at some parables that Jesus told about someone who lost something.

### Turn to Luke 15.

#### Choose volunteers to read—Read Luke 15:1-10

- *Why do you think the man would go after one sheep when he had ninety-nine others? Why would the woman look for one coin when she had nine others? (Because each of the sheep and coins is important.)*

SAY: The Pharisees and teachers of the law to whom Jesus was speaking taught that God loves the righteous and hates the sinners. This is the reason that Jesus' actions confused them. Why would He gather around tax collectors and sinners, whom,

according to the Pharisees God delighted throwing into Hell? Jesus revealed the opposite, that there was rejoicing, not when a sinner was thrown to Hell, but when he repented and was found.

- *What was so bad about being a tax collector?* (Jesus lived during a time when Israel was occupied by Roman authorities. The Romans believed “who’s better to get money from a Jew than another Jew?” Therefore they used their own people to collect taxes. This meant that tax collectors were traitors. But to make matters worse, the Romans would tell the tax collectors how much money to collect. Anything they collected above that amount was theirs, so they could charge whatever they wanted and the Roman Empire would back them up. Thus, tax collectors were also thieves. They were considered to be the worst and most unclean sinners. Religious leaders called them pariah-dogs (pariah meaning “outcast”) and would many times spit at them or not even look at them as if they didn’t even exist.)

- *What do you think Jesus is expressing in these parables?*

SAY: There are four things that these parables teach. These are:

- (1) Something valuable was missing—Lost people matter to God.
- (2) The missing items were so valuable that they required an all-out search—You’ll never look eyes with anyone who does not matter to God.
- (3) The lost items here didn’t do anything to be found—The man and woman, who represent God, did the seeking—God seeks to save the lost, no matter who they are or what they’ve done.
- (4) Finding the lost item was a cause for celebration. Lost people matter so much that all of heaven rejoices when someone repents to follow the Lord.

- *If Jesus attended your school, to whom do you think He would reach out? With whom do you think He would eat? Who would He hang around? Why?*

SAY: Think about your answers here—and it may surprise you but in Jesus’ day, He surprised the people:

- (1) By whom He reached out to—tax collectors and sinners,
- (2) By whom He ate with (Eating with someone was a symbol of friendship)—a chief tax collector named Zaccheaus, with other “tax collectors and sinners.”
- (3) By whom He talked to—a woman at the well who had been married five times and was living with a man who was not her husband, a prostitute, etc.,
- (4) And by whom He chose for His disciples—a tax collector named Matthew, a political zealot named Simon, uneducated fishermen, etc.

- *What principles for living can we learn from this passage of Scripture and from Jesus’ lifestyle?*

## KEY VERSE

Choose a volunteer to read—Matthew 28:18-20

- *To whom did Jesus say this?* (To everyone—not just to those called to be missionaries or called into the ministry, not just to those who have the gift of evangelism or for whom evangelism comes very natural—Everyone is called to be a witness and whatever gifts God has built into you, as you give Him honor throughout your life, you will naturally bring people to Christ.)
- *Why do you think this is the last commandment that Jesus gave before ascending into heaven?* (Because of its importance—pretend that your parents are going to leave for the weekend and leave you home alone, many times the last thing they’ll remind you about is the most important or the most concerning for them—i.e., “Be sure to lock the doors at night.” Or, “Be sure to water the plants.” Or, “Be sure to study for that test,” etc.)
- *Who knows what this commandment to “Go” is commonly called?* (The Great Commission—*NOT* the Great Suggestion. This is a command to go, not a request, and all believers who are faithful in living for Christ are about the business of “going” and reaching people in His name.)
- *This verse tells all of us to be about the business of three things, what are they?* (Go, Baptize, Teach.)
- *How can you be a part of these three things?*

### “Give Me Five”

SAY: God wants you to be about the business of making a difference in other people’s lives.

The most effective way for most of us to do this is by first developing meaningful relationships with the people God has placed in our lives. To help us do that, we are going to begin thinking about five people for whom you can begin to pray and to whom you can reach out.

*(Give each student a copy of the “Five Friends” handout and encourage them to look around at school and begin deciding on five people to whom they can reach out during this semester at school.)*

- *Can you name one of the five people you would put on your list?*

SAY: If you can’t think of someone to add to your list right now, that’s okay. You’ll have plenty of time over the next few weeks to look around and think about it.

## WRAP IT UP

### Prayer Time

Have your students bow their heads and close their eyes. Say, that if they are willing, for them to pray this prayer after you:

*“Lord, I want you to work through me to make a difference in people’s lives this semester. I want to be a part of helping others understand what Jesus can do for them. Lord, give me five specific people that I can impact during the next few months.”*

### Prayer Requests

List prayer requests below and on the back of this page and pray for your students throughout the week. *Ask if any of your students want to pray today.*