

We cannot talk about the heart of God without talking about the lost.

*For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son,
that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life.
(John 3:16)*

OPEN in PRAYER

SHARE

- *What's the best birthday gift you ever received?*

STUDY: Jesus was a missionary

He left heaven so that we could have forgiveness of sins. Read Matthew 18:12-14

This is one of the most simple, yet profound parables of Jesus. It is the simple story of lost sheep in need of a shepherd. When a sheep wandered away, the shepherd left the flock in the sheepfold and braved any weather to find the lost one. Climbing over rocks, searching each crevasse, the shepherd gave himself freely to find the lost one. Finding it, the shepherd gave no thought of punishment, but knew joy that the lost one was found.

- *What does this passage tell us about the gift of God's love?*

- *What does this passage teach us about how Jesus relates to us?*

STUDY: What is our responsibility?

Read Matthew 28:16-20

Christ's words to the disciples in Matthew 28 gives us direction for our lives. Jesus said, "If anyone would come after me" that we must deny ourselves and live for the sake of others. Jesus lived and died as a servant King, the question is: will we live like servants of this King?

How do we do this? Read what Jesus says in Matthew 5:13-16.

- *How are you being "salt & light" at your job, school, neighborhood, or with your family and friends?*

- *In what specific ways is your small group serving as "salt & light" to those outside the group?*

- *How can your group best apply Pastor Scott's message from Sunday?*

CLOSE in PRAYER