



## Family Worship Guide 17 LOST COIN

Luke 15:8-10

Older kids should read the passage of scripture, Luke 15:8-10 (only 3 verses!) aloud. It's easy to understand what's going on.

For younger kids, watch the video called "The Parable of the Lost Coin."

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=yvHxUxjaboE>

### Talk Time

- When have you known exactly where you put something ... you were sure it was there ... and when you went to get it, it wasn't there?
- When have you lost something because you were careless or in a hurry? Maybe you laid it down instead of putting it away in its drawer or storage box or closet.
- How did you feel when your possession was lost? Were you mad? Who were you mad at? Were you frustrated? With whom?
- Are you real anxious to find something that's broken or a piece of trash? (*No!*) When are you real anxious to find something that's lost? (*when it means a great deal to you*)

### Find What's Lost

Family members will take turns hiding a quarter (if kids are older) or a small stuffed animal (for younger kids). Half of the coin or stuffed animal must be visible from its hiding place. Everyone else looks for it. You may want to set a timer or have the boundary be a specific room.

Some of the things you lost don't seem important to other people, but they were to you. You probably felt relieved and excited when you found something that was lost. People get lost from God when they are not following His plan. That can be in all kinds of ways.

### Talk Time

- When have you found yourself starting to act a way that wouldn't be pleasing to God? Maybe you say something unkind. You normally wouldn't be unkind to that person. Then, a couple days later, you say another unkind thing to that person. It keeps happening until you say more unkind things than kind things. Little by little it sneaks up on you. Your kind attitude gets lost.
- How can your generosity get lost? How can your helpful attitude get lost? How can reading your Bible get lost? How can spending time in prayer get lost?

### Make It Appear

You'll need some coins, thin plain paper (maybe even tracing paper, if you have it), and a pencil. Lay a coin under the paper and hold it in place with your left hand (if you're right-handed). Where is your coin? Because you can't see it, maybe it's lost! Lay the pencil on its side and start rubbing the pencil lead over the paper that is on top of the coin. Keep rubbing! The coin will start to appear and you will be able to see what is written on the coin. Now you know where the coin is! It's been found!

The woman was sure she had the coin until she took the time to count them. That's when she made the discovery that something was missing. If you're not careful, something important may disappear from your life. (The coin got lost when the paper covered it up.) Something may get lost or disappear from your life, because you're busy, or not thinking about it, or you're just plain lazy. Just like you had to work to make the coin appear through the paper, sometimes we have to put in some work to bring back good attitudes and habits.

### **Personal Check and Challenge**

Is there an attitude that God wants you to have that's gone missing from your life? How can you find this lost attitude?

### **Pray Together**

*Dear God. I know You have a plan for me that is perfect and it's full of good things. Help me to keep my thoughts and attitudes on You, so none of those good things get lost. Amen.*

### **Scripture**

Read Jeremiah 29:11. God has a plan for you ... with no missing pieces.

