

## Week 6: The Good Book Small Group Notes

**Opening Discussion:** Encourage your group to attend our prayer service this Wednesday (October 28) as we specifically pray for our nation.

### **Share 1-2 ground rules**

**Optional opener #1:** Ask if someone wants to share how God spoke to them this week through His word and/or the devotionals. Celebrate what they shared.

**Optional opener#2:** Ask the group what they thought the point of each chapter they read was this week? (this will give you some insight into the thoughts of your group members) Celebrate what they shared.

#### Warnings

1. Keep track of time. If not careful, this could eat all your time,
2. What they share may give away some of what you prepared to teach

**Biblical Texts:** Luke 15:11-32

### **Setting the stage:**

Tax collectors and other notorious sinners often came to listen to Jesus teach. This made the Pharisees and teachers of the religious law complain that he was associating with such despicable people, even eating with them. (Luke 15:1-2)

In response, Jesus told 3 stories; the first was a story about a lost sheep, the second was a story about a lost coin in the third was a story about a lost son; and that's the story we're going to share with you today.

As you are listening to the story, be thinking of an answer to this question, "who do you relate to most in the story today, and why?"

### **Tell and rebuild the story:**

Have everyone open their Bible to the story. Ask, "What was the first thing that happened in the story?" Then ask, "What happened next?" Do this until the entire story has been chronologically told.

### **Small Group Questions:**

What was the attitude of the younger son to the father?

What was the attitude of the older son to the younger?

What was the attitude of the father to his sons?

What did we learn about God from this story?

What did we learn about man from this story?

Who do you relate to most in this story, and why?

What is God asking you to do?

**Closing Prayer:**

- Ask God to bring healing and hope to our broken world.
- Thank God that he never stopped pursuing you, even when you ran from him.
- Pray together for people you love who are still wandering far from Jesus.
- Lift up people you know who love Jesus and are going through a time of great pain and struggle. Ask God to help them run to him and not away from him.
- Thank Jesus for the glory of his resurrection and ask him to help you live in his resurrection power every day of your life.