

**Series: “Outflow: outward-focused
living in a self-focused world”**

Part Four: “Extravagantly Outward”

Text: Luke 15:1,2 (NKJV)

Luke 15:1,2 ¹“Then all the tax collectors and the sinners drew near to Jesus to hear Him. ²And the Pharisees and scribes complained, saying, ‘This Man receives sinners and eats with them.’” (NKJV)

1. Why were the religious leaders complaining?

1. Extravagant

Luke 15:3-7 ³“Jesus spoke this parable to them, saying: ⁴‘What man of you, having a hundred sheep, if he loses one of them, does not leave the ninety-nine in the wilderness, and go after the one which is lost until he finds it? ⁵And when he has found it, he lays it on his shoulders, rejoicing. ⁶And when he comes home, he calls together his friends and neighbors, saying to them, ‘Rejoice with me, for I have found my sheep which was lost!’ ⁷I say to you that likewise there will be more joy in heaven over one sinner who repents than over ninety-nine just persons who need no repentance.’” (NKJV)

2. Why did Jesus use this particular parable to illustrate His point?

2. Extravagant

Luke 15:8-10 ⁸“Or what woman, having ten silver coins, if she loses one coin, does not light a lamp, sweep the house, and search carefully until she finds it? ⁹And when she has found it, she calls her friends and neighbors together, saying, ‘Rejoice with me, for I have found the piece which I lost!’ ¹⁰‘Likewise, I say to you, there is joy in the presence of the angels of God over one sinner who repents.’” (NKJV)

3. How can we relate this story to someone today?

Luke 15:10“Count on it - that’s the kind of party God’s angels throw every time one lost soul turns to God.” (Message Bible)

4. What is heaven’s celebration like when someone gets saved?

3. Extravagant

Luke 15:11-24 ¹¹“A certain man had two sons. ¹²And the younger of them said to his father, ‘Father, give me the portion of goods that falls to me.’ So he divided to them his livelihood. ¹³And not many days after, the younger son gathered all together, journeyed to a far country, and there wasted his possessions with prodigal living. ¹⁴But when he had spent all, there arose a severe famine in that land, and he began to be in want. ¹⁵Then he went and joined himself to a citizen of that country, and he sent him into his fields to feed swine. ¹⁶And he would gladly have filled his stomach with the pods that the swine ate, and no one gave him anything. ¹⁷But when he came to himself, he said, ‘How many of my father’s hired servants have bread enough and to spare, and I perish with hunger! ¹⁸I will arise and go to my father and will say to him, ‘Father, I have sinned against heaven and before you,¹⁹and I am no longer worthy to be called your son. Make me like one of your hired servants.’ ²⁰And he arose and came to his father. But when he was still a great way off, his father saw him and had compassion, and ran and fell on his neck and kissed him. ²¹And the son said to him, ‘Father, I have sinned against heaven and in your sight, and am no longer worthy to be called your son.’ ²²But the father said to his servants, ‘Bring out the best robe and put it on him, and put a ring on his hand and sandals on his feet. ²³And bring the fatted calf here and kill it, and let us eat and be merry; ²⁴for this my son was dead and is alive again; he was lost and is found.’ And they began to be merry.” (NKJV)

5. What do this father’s actions tell us about God?

