Small Group Discussion Questions

PARABLE: CELEBRATION!

As preached on Sunday, November 15th

Read: Luke 15:1-10

1. Think back for a moment to a memorable celebration. What made it memorable? Who was included on the guest list and how did that impact the celebration?

2. The Pharisees are upset with Jesus as our story begins. Why? Do you think they are truly trying to observe the Law or has some of their own personal preference crept in?

3. What strikes you about the two parables Jesus tells? What similarities do you see between them? Do you notice any differences?

4. Where do you see repentance in these parables? (aside from the summary statement at the end of each) What do you think is the role of repentance in relation to our being found by God?

5. Both the shepherd and the woman call their friends and neighbors together to celebrate. Why? Are you surprised by the extravagance of each celebration in relation to what was found?

6. What is the connection between the celebrations in the parables and the meal Jesus is currently sharing with tax collectors and sinners?

7. How can we guard ourselves against resentment so that we are sure to join the celebration of all who are found by our loving God?