

Text: Luke 15:1-2

How Entrenched Religion Views “Sinners”

- Entrenched religion wants _____ before _____.
- Entrenched religion attempts to _____ itself against _____.

How Jesus Helps Us to See “Sinners” Clearly

- Jesus invites us to view the world through the eyes of the _____.
- Jesus invites us to see “sinners” as those who need _____, _____, and _____.
- Jesus invites us to realize that _____ develops in _____.

God’s Relentless Pursuit of His Wayward Children

- God goes to _____ to find and restore.
- God takes their _____ Himself.
- God celebrates their _____ and _____.

Life Enrichment

What about today's teaching challenged, disturbed, or encouraged you?

- If you wear prescription lenses, how well do you see without them? What changes when you wear them?
- Why do you think the Pharisees viewed "sinners" with such disgust? What was it about Jesus' associating with "sinners" that bothered them?
- How can long-term participation in the church warp our perspective on those who are not yet redeemed? How similar is that to the Pharisees' perspective?
- What are some qualifications we might place on "sinners" before we feel they are worthy to join us? How do we think those qualification might protect the church?
- According to Luke 15, how does Jesus want us to view "sinners?"
- How does our friendship with "sinners" influence them toward purity?
- To what lengths does God go in pursuing "sinners?" What is His goal in this pursuit?
- Consider the other passages in Luke that refer to Jesus' relationship to "sinners" – Luke 5:29-30; 7:31-35, 36-50; 19:1-10. What do we learn about Jesus' holiness and His approach to "sinners?" How can we apply these principles to our daily lives?