

## “Helping Others Find God”

Luke 15:1-7

May 26, 2019

Along with John and Charles Wesley, the famous Anglican clergyman George Whitefield was much responsible for the transformation of England and the Great Awakening in America. In a letter to Benjamin Franklin, who used to delight to come and hear Whitefield speak, he said: “As I find you growing more and more famous in the learned world, I would recommend to your diligent and unprejudiced study the mystery of the new birth. It is the most important study, and when mastered, will richly answer all your pains. I bid you, my friend, remember that One at whose bar we shall both presently appear hath solemnly declared that without it we shall in no wise see His kingdom.” A very wise recommendation to a man who is noted in the history of the world as being a wise man. History, however, affords us no evidence that Franklin heeded those words.

~James Kennedy

### I) The Value Of One Soul:

- A) The value of a lost soul is demonstrated in these parables.
- B) “For a person to lose an arm or a leg is so sad. But for that person to lose their sight is far worse. And for a person to lose their mind is ten times more serious. But for that person to lose their soul is the greatest loss of all.” W.A. Criswell

- C) John Stott told about a church that was given a huge sum of money. The pastor thought he would poll the congregation to decide the best way to use the new funds.

### II) The Affinity We Have With Lost People:

- A) Our affinity with the lost is because we were lost but now we are saved.
- B) We identify with the person in each parable because someone loved us to God.
- C) When your love is so great, you will do anything to recover the lost one.

### III) The Joy Of Finding Those Lost To God:

- A) The shepherd calls his friends. The woman calls her neighbors. The father kills the fatted calf and throws a party.
- B) It’s a celebration because it’s life changing. It’s a miracle to see someone come to God.