

**Story #3: Parable (Story) of the Good Samaritan**  
**Luke 10:30-37**

*“Go and do likewise.”*

Luke 10:37 (NIV)

**Story #4: Parable (Story) of the Lost Son**  
**Luke 15:11-31**

*There was once a man who had two sons. The younger said to his father, ‘Father, I want right now what’s coming to me.’*

*So the father divided the property between them. It wasn’t long before the younger son packed his bags and left for a distant country. There, undisciplined and dissipated, he wasted everything he had. After he had gone through all his money, there was a bad famine all through that country and he began to hurt. He signed on with a citizen there who assigned him to his fields to slop the pigs. He was so hungry he would have eaten the corn cobs in the pig slop, but no one would give him any.*

*When he was still a long way off, his father saw him. His heart pounding, he ran out, embraced him, and kissed him. The son started his speech: ‘Father, I’ve sinned against God, I’ve sinned before you; I don’t deserve to be called your son ever again.’*

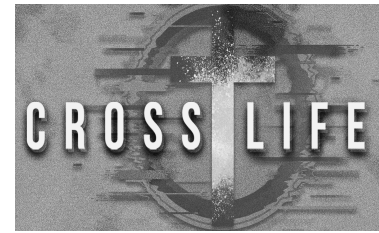
*But the father wasn’t listening. He was calling to the servants, ‘Quick. Bring a clean set of clothes and dress him. Put the family ring on his finger and sandals on his feet. Then get a grain-fed heifer and roast it. We’re going to feast! We’re going to have a wonderful time! My son is here—given up for dead and now alive! Given up for lost and now found!’ And they began to have a wonderful time.*

*All this time his older son was out in the field. When the day’s work was done he came in. As he approached the house, he heard the music and dancing. Calling over one of the houseboys, he asked what was going on. He told him, ‘Your brother came home. Your father has ordered a feast—barbecued beef!—because he has him home safe and sound.’*

*The older brother stalked off in an angry sulk and refused to join in. His father came out and tried to talk to him, but he wouldn’t listen. The son said, ‘Look how many years I’ve stayed here serving you, never giving you one moment of grief, but have you ever thrown a party for me and my friends? Then this son of yours who has thrown away your money on whores shows up and you go all out with a feast!’*

*His father said, ‘Son, you don’t understand... we had to celebrate. This brother of yours was dead, and he’s alive! He was lost, and he’s found!’*

Luke 15:11-31 (MSG)



What did Jesus do when he met people along the road?

Jesus \_\_\_\_\_.

**Story #1: Parable (Story) of the Shrewd Manager**  
**Luke 16:1-9**

Why did Jesus tell stories like that? Stories that do not have a nice, neat ending and often lack a clean, apparent point?

Because we often meet God in the \_\_\_\_\_.

*I love those who love me. Those eagerly looking for me will find me.*  
Proverbs 8:17 (GW)

Why did Jesus tell stories?

To illustrate the

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_.

**Story #2: Parable (Story) of the Lost Sheep**  
**Luke 15:1-7**

*Suppose one of you had a hundred sheep and lost one. Wouldn’t you leave the ninety-nine in the wilderness and go after the lost one until you found it? When found, you can be sure you would put it across your shoulders, rejoicing, and when you got home call in your friends and neighbors, saying, ‘Celebrate with me! I’ve found my lost sheep!’ Count on it—there’s more joy in heaven over one sinner’s rescued life than over ninety-nine good people in no need of rescue.*

Luke 15:4-7 (MSG)

## Answer key

What did Jesus do when he met people along the road?

Jesus **TOLD STORIES**.

Why did Jesus tell stories like that? Stories that do not have a nice, neat ending and often lack a clean, apparent point?

Because we often meet God in the **MESS OF EVERYDAY LIFE**.

Why did Jesus tell stories?

To illustrate the **OVERWHELMING, NEVER-ENDING, RECKLESS LOVE OF GOD**.