

**Film:** *Found*  
**Parable:** Lost Coin  
**Scripture:** Luke 15:8-10

## Interpreting *Found*

While *Found* is a simple short film, there are many key elements to it that may not be obvious at first glance.

The “Cultural Background” should shed some light on specific choices that were made by the filmmakers. For example, you will read below that the woman in the parable is probably from a poor family... hence the homeless wanderer in *Found*. In addition to some intentional choices by the filmmakers, it is also important

to discover what God is saying through the film. Even though this was produced by human beings, God was and is still and active participant in telling this story, since He told the original.



## Cultural Background

Middle-Easterners tell us that this coin was probably a coin from this woman’s wedding headdress (the equivalent of a modern day wedding ring). In the 1<sup>st</sup> century, this coin may well have been a woman’s dowry (the asset she brought into the marriage) - an asset of great sentimental and intrinsic value. The silver coins also would likely be the only money she brings into the marriage that is technically hers even if the marriage is dissolved. The fact that she has only ten coins (worth about ten days of a worker’s wage) suggests that her father’s family is not well to do; she would have presumably married into a household equally poor.

## Intrinsic vs. Extrinsic Value

Have you ever noticed that there are 2 ways to value something? We call this “intrinsic” & “extrinsic” value. Some things have very low extrinsic value -like the necklace in the video parable. It might have a street value of...say \$100 at the most. When you factor in the intrinsic value of the item however - what it represents, its value is far greater.

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### Discussion Questions

- 1) How does the necklace in *Found* compare to the other things the man possesses?
- 2) If your home was engulfed in flames and you could rescue ONE item only, the one that means the most to you, what item would you save?
- 3) If this one item were to be valued on E-bay - what price do you think would secure the winning bid?
- 4) What price would you accept for it?
- 5) How does God value “lost people”? Why do they matter to Him? What is the “intrinsic” value?

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### Cultural Background (continued)

Floors in the Middle East had a lot of cracks. It was easy to lose something if you dropped it, since the lack of windows, and the woven nature of the flooring made it nearly impossible to find something that slipped through the cracks. To find something- one had to literally “turn the house upside-down”.



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### Discussion Questions

- 1) What types of loss have you experienced?
- 2) Where were you when Jesus found you? What crack had you fallen into?
- 3) We sometimes refer to people who don't have a personal relationship with Jesus as “seekers” - but in this parable it is God who does the seeking. If we understood God's heart for lost people- whom would we pursue that we aren't currently pursuing?

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As you reflect on the parable and the film, consider that Jesus told these stories about our everyday lives. He reveals Himself through common experiences and we should be able to find Him in the most unlikely places. Christ “shows up” while we're sitting in front of our computers at work, cooking dinner or driving in traffic. We always like to learn something during the big moments in our lives, but Christ clearly makes the point that learning about His love, His grace and His mercy can be experienced in the most ordinary circumstances of our everyday lives.

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