

## REACHING THE LOST: *The Lost Coin*

**Scripture** - “8Either what woman having ten pieces of silver, if she lose one piece, doth not light a candle, and sweep the house, and seek diligently till she find it? 9And when she hath found it, she calleth her friends and her neighbours together, saying, Rejoice with me; for I have found the piece which I had lost. 10Likewise, I say unto you, there is joy in the presence of the angels of God over one sinner that repenteth.” (Luke 15:8-10).

### I. *Introduction: The Trilogy of Parables in Luke 15*

Level 1 – **The Lost Sheep** – Lost One Sheep – out of 100 sheep = 1%

Level 2 – **The Lost Coin** – Lost One Coin – out of 10 coins = 10%

Level 3 – **The Lost Son** – Lost One Son – out of 2 sons = 50%

(There is a gradual progression of each parable.)

### II. *Tonight's Emphasis: The Lost Coin*

The woman in this parable represents a symbol of the church. She lost one valuable coin out of ten.

The word lost means to be misplaced, missing, no longer in view, unable to be found, unattainable, helpless, or having gone astray. To be lost means that one is separated or cut off from God.

The silver coin(Gk. *drachma*) means that it was equal to a day's **wage**. The silver coin was lost in the dust. The coin was so precious to the woman. You are precious to God.

People are designed to be in a relationship with God and so those who are not **are the lost**. The lost are highly **valued** by God.

The woman began searching for the coin that was lost. She was determined to find the missing coin. She was **desperate**, and **persistent**.

Her process for finding the lost coin was (1) light a lamp; (2) sweep the area clean; then (3) seek **diligently** for the coin until it is found.

**Sweeping** the place had to be done with a broom. It means a brushing away of unwanted substance.

The spiritual meaning of sweeping is extremely important. It is that of a cleansing process. God is cleansing away the dirt and the dust that hides us from the light.

The coin was found in the **darkness** of the room.

This parable teaches the church our divine **purpose**.

**In leadership, purpose is defined as knowing the original intent, or missing of a thing, or why it was created, or designed.**

The church's purpose is to seek and reach the lost in this world, and lead them to Jesus Christ.

When the coin is found, it can now return to its usefulness.

After the coin was found, **recovered**, and restored. There was a great celebration.