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## Too Precious to Lose!

The morning sun warmed the backs of the busy women. Laughter rippled through the group as they shared stories. Laundry day meant hard work, but happy visiting. As the women scrubbed and rinsed they had something new to talk about today. "Have you heard the stories Jesus tells?" asked one.

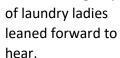
"They are so interesting," said another. "He understands how we live." Back and forth they talked about seeing the sick people healed, and about the kind things Jesus said.

"I hope to take the children to listen to Him tomorrow," smiled a young mother.

"Oh, I'd love to go along," agreed another. Soon several of the women were making plans for the next day.

Happy children skipped along beside their mothers the next morning. Excitement was in the air. Soon all the people sat down, and Jesus began to speak. He told them a story about a shepherd losing one of his sheep, and how happy the shepherd felt when he found it.

Then Jesus began to tell a story that the little group



"There was once a woman who had ten silver coins."
"One day the woman lost one of her silver coins."
Oh no! The women thought

about the poor woman in the story. That was about the most awful thing that could happen to a wife! What would her husband say? What would her neighbors and friends say?

"The lady lit a lamp and began to sweep her house," Jesus went on. "She looked everywhere for her lost coin." Jesus watched the faces of the people listening to His story. He knew what their homes were like. Because they had small windows or no windows at all, it was dark inside, even in the daytime. It would be hard to find a coin.



"She kept searching. She just would not give up! On the table, under the table, behind the heavy water pot—she looked

and looked! She searched the dirt floor.

Suddenly she saw it! 'I've found it!' she cried, quickly picking up the smooth coin. Dashing outside she ran to her neighbors and friends. 'Come and celebrate with me! I lost one of my coins, and now I've found it!' "

Many in the crowd laughed with relief. Jesus laughed with them. With a twinkle in His eye He added, "There is rejoicing in the presence of the angels of God over one sinner who repents."



## Too Precious to Lose! Questions

	How many coins does the woman in the story has?
What	t happens to one of the woman's coins and what does she do:
	What happens at the end of The Lost Coin Story?
Hov	w does Jesus feel when we give our hearts to him? Explain.



# Too Precious to Lose! Coloring Page



## Too Precious to Lose! Craft

#### Make the Game Board





#### **Steps**

- 1. Gather all materials needed for the seek-and-find game.
- 2. When you're finished making your game, you'll get to hide pictures of coins under the colorful squares, and a friend will have to guess which squares the lost coins are hiding under!
- 3. Cut 8 square pieces of different construction paper into the same size, as shown in the picture.
- 4. Tape the small squares onto the larger sheet of construction paper in the same direction and in the same line. Please refer to picture above.
- 5. Paste your game piece board onto an even larger sheet of construction paper for a layered effect.
- 6. Outline your game board and decorate it as desired with stickers and drawings.
- 7. When your partner is not looking hide the coin pairs in different locations under the square flaps.
- 8. Next, you can then play in one of two ways: by simply having your partner guess which squares have something hidden under them until all four pieces have been found, or by playing a memory game and having to correctly guess which two squares have the matching coins.
- 9. You can remember that just like you looked for the hidden coins and sheep on your friend's game board, Jesus looks for us, too!



#### Too Precious to Lose! Puzzle

# Parable Of The Lost Coin Decoder

#### The Parable of the Lost Coin

"Or suppose a woman has ten silver coins and loses one. Doesn't she light a lamp, sweep the house and search carefully until she finds it?" Luke 15:8 (NIV)



The puzzle is based on Luke 15:8-10.

The words below have been written in code. Use the hints in the decoder at the top of the page to help break the code (the letters on top are the correct answers, the letters on the bottom are the code). Write the correct word on the line provided beside each code word.

ABCDEFGHIJKLMNOPQRSTUVWXYZ

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1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26
	12-	15-	19-	5																					
	23-	15-	13-	1-1	4																				
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	18-	5-1	0-1	5-9	-3-	5 _																			

