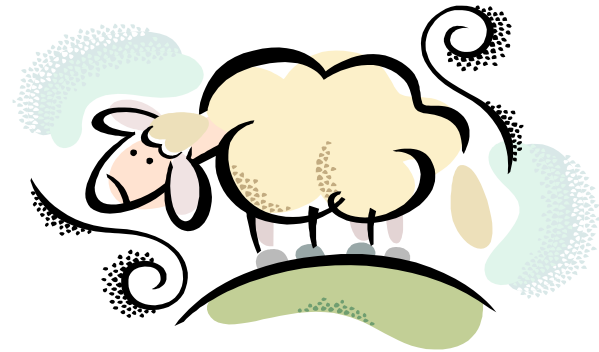


# The Parable of the Lost Sheep



Tom had a dog that he loved very much. Her name is Lucy.

One day Lucy had ten puppies. Tom was very excited and came up with special names for each of the puppies.

Tom helped Lucy take care of the puppies.

He made sure they all had a comfortable place to live and sleep that was safe from the other animals on their farm.

He also made sure that Lucy had plenty of good food to eat and water to drink.

The puppies were getting bigger and stronger each day.

Soon they were big enough to wander away from their mother and go off exploring on their own.

One night when Tom was feeding Lucy, he counted the puppies. He discovered that there were only nine!

So Tom began looking for the missing puppy right away.

It was not under the blanket on the floor.

It was not under the couch or the chair either.

He ran from room to room, and finally he found the missing puppy under his sister's bed. It was chewing on her new shoes!

Tom was so happy that he found the missing puppy because it still needed to get fed by Lucy each and every day.

He now makes sure that all the doors in the house are closed BEFORE he lets the puppies out of their basket to play.



This parable shows us that Our Heavenly Father does not want even one of His people lost. He came to save the lost. Our Father commands us to watch out for His flock, or people. For instance, if there were 100 sheep in a flock and one got lost, it is the shepherd's job to leave the 99 sheep and go out and find the one little lamb that is missing. We are called to be that shepherd and find the people who are lost and have gone astray from following God's (YHWH's) commandments (laws).

The Parable of the Lost Sheep can be found in Matthew 18:10-1 and Luke 15:1-7.