

Growing Together Discussion Questions – December 15, 2013
Salvation

Questions just for Fun

1. Under what circumstances is it impossible for you to sleep?
2. How accident-prone are you? Describe a recent incident.

Questions from Sermon

1. How do the parables of Luke 15 represent God? What is God like? What concerns God? What brings Him great joy?
2. Luke 15 begins and ends with a meal. Who is at the meal? Who is not? Why is this important?
3. The first two parables of Luke 15 depict God as a Shepherd who has lost one sheep (15:3-7) and as a woman who has lost one coin (15:8-10). In both cases, God searches diligently for that which has been lost. What does this say about God's love for us?
4. In the third and final parable, describe how the actions of the father supersede the plans of the prodigal son. Notice specifically 15:17-24. What was more important to the father – the son's confession or the son's actions that brought him home? How does this relate to our salvation?
5. Describe why we might conclude that the older brother represents the Pharisees or those who are very religious? In the end, why is the older brother just as lost as the younger brother was in the beginning (15:25-30)?
6. How does the father respond to the older brother's anger and rebellion? (15:31-32) What does this teach us about God and his response to us?
7. Finally, how is God justified in forgiving sinners who come to him in faith and repentance? Can God just forgive prodigal sons because He wants to? See Romans 3:21-221-26. What other biblical texts offer insight into the necessity of the cross?