

What man of you, having an hundred sheep, if he lose one of them, doth not leave the ninety and nine in the wilderness, and go after that which is lost, until he find it?

Luke 15:4



The Gift of God's Forgiveness

MAIN POINT

God gives us his gift of forgiveness when we are baptized. Forgiveness is like a present we can open again and again through the sacrament of reconciliation.

MATERIALS NEEDED

- empty box with a lid (shoe box or dress-shirt box)
- gift wrap
- scissors
- ribbon
- tape
- index card or piece of paper with the word "forgiveness" printed on it

PREPARATION

Place the paper or card on which you have written the word "forgiveness" inside a small box. Wrap the box like a gift with wrapping paper and ribbon. (You may wish to wrap the lid separately so the package can be reused.)

INSTRUCTIONS

Tell the children you have a gift you would like to share with them. Take out the gift and wonder aloud what might be in the box. Open the box and show the children the word on the card inside. Talk about what "forgiveness" means. Explain to the children that one of the gifts we receive at baptism is forgiveness from our sins. We still sometimes sin after baptism, however. God makes this forgiveness available to us again and again through the sacrament of reconciliation.