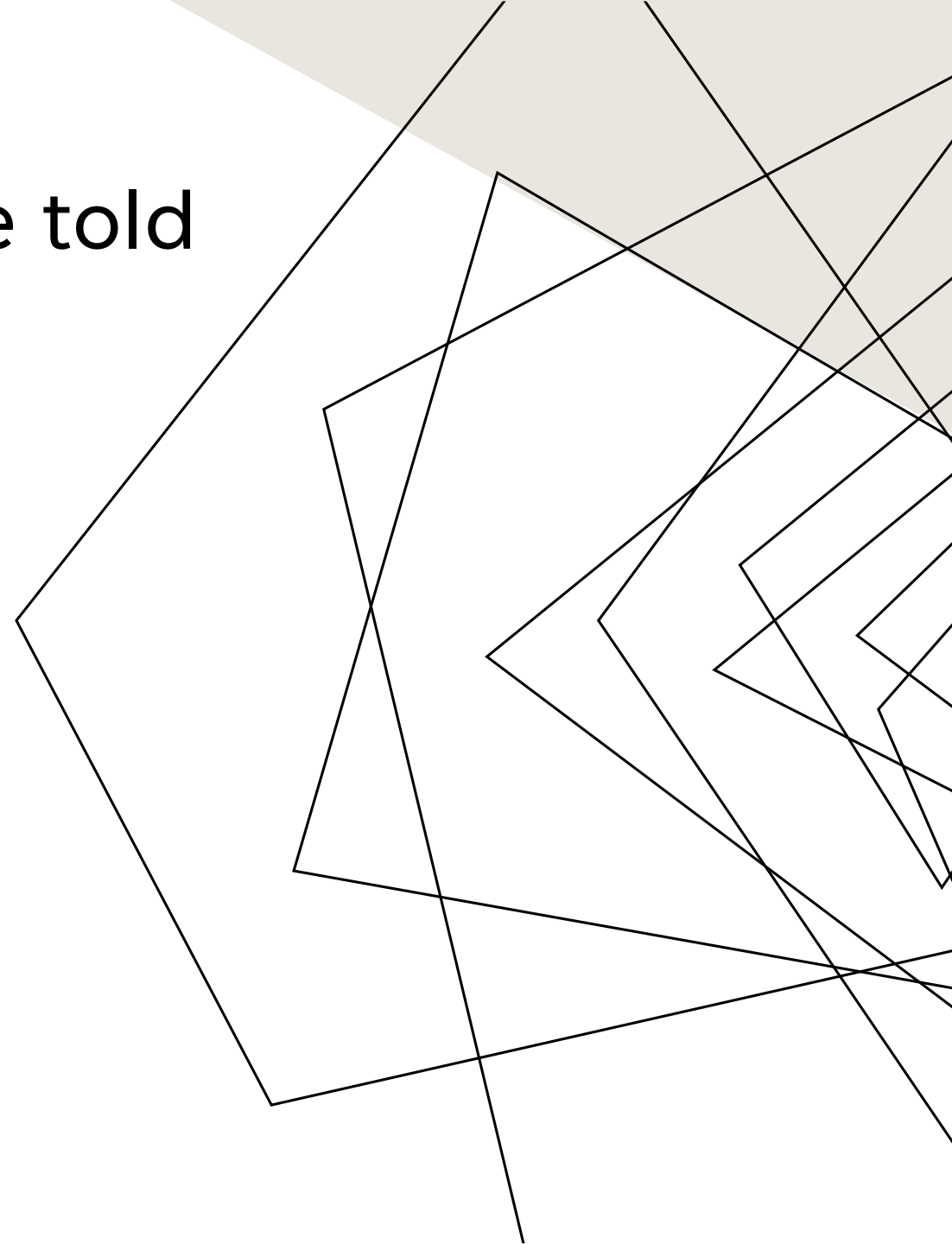




# LUKE 15

# Who was Jesus with when he told these parables?

Tax collectors and sinners. With the Pharisees and the scribes lurking in the background.



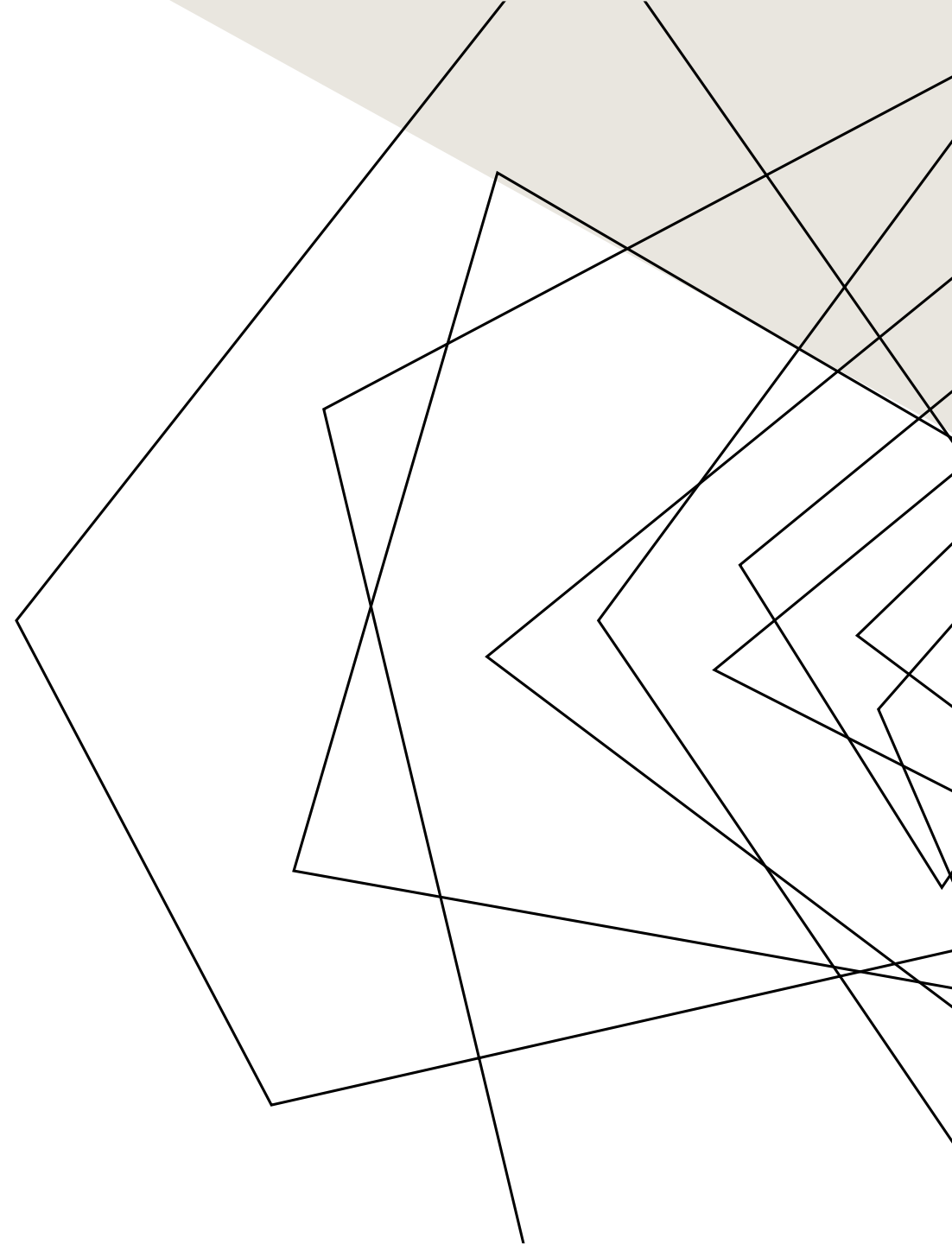
What was the repeated statement at the end of the parables?

### **The Lost Sheep**

v.6 - 'Rejoice with me, for I have found my sheep which was lost!'

### **The Lost Coin**

v.9 - 'Rejoice with me, for I have found the coin which I had lost!'

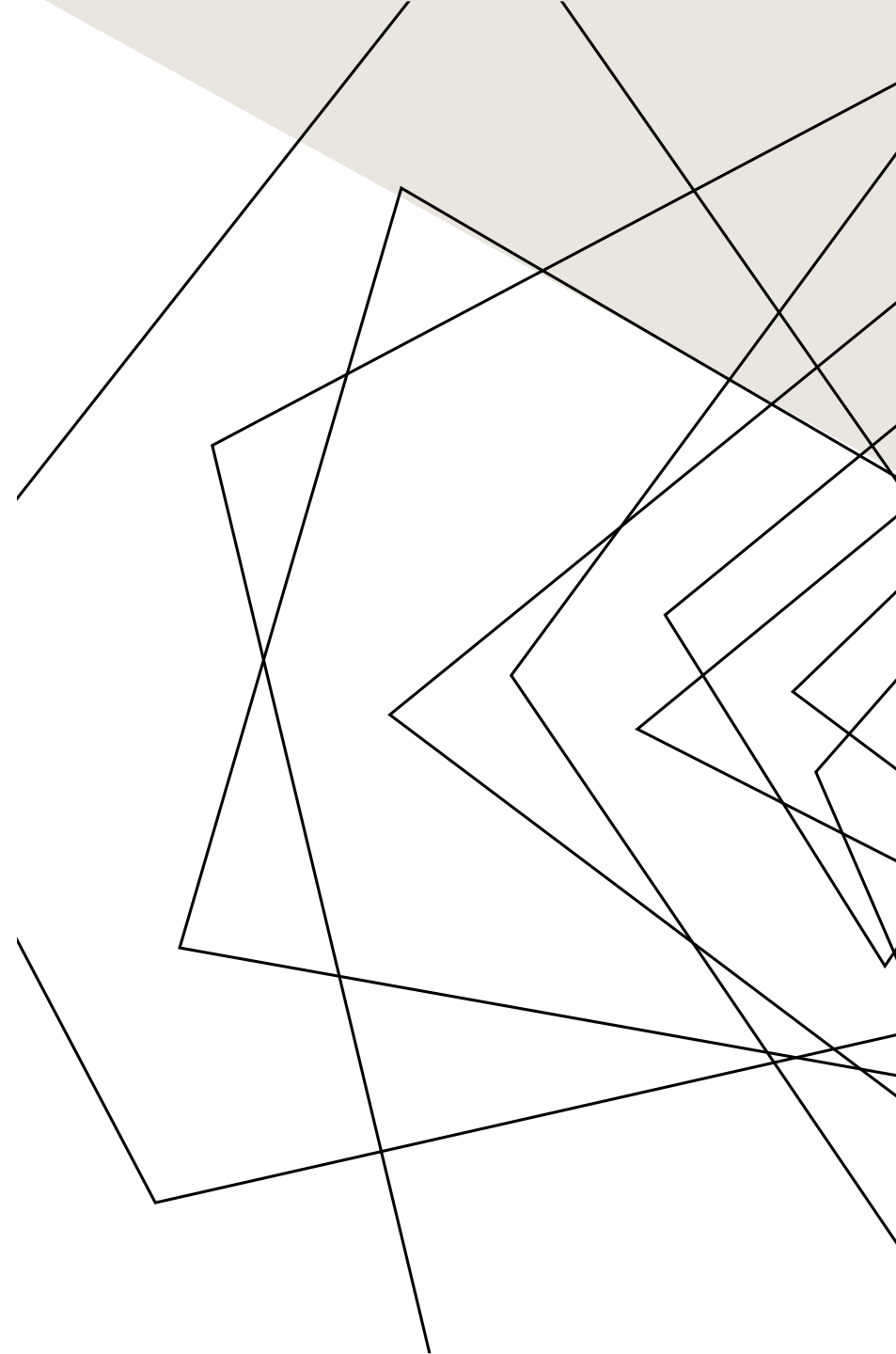


# What was the repeated statement at the end of the parables?

## The Lost Sons

v.24 - 'for this son of mine was dead and has come to life again; he was **lost** and has been **found**.' And they began to **celebrate**.'

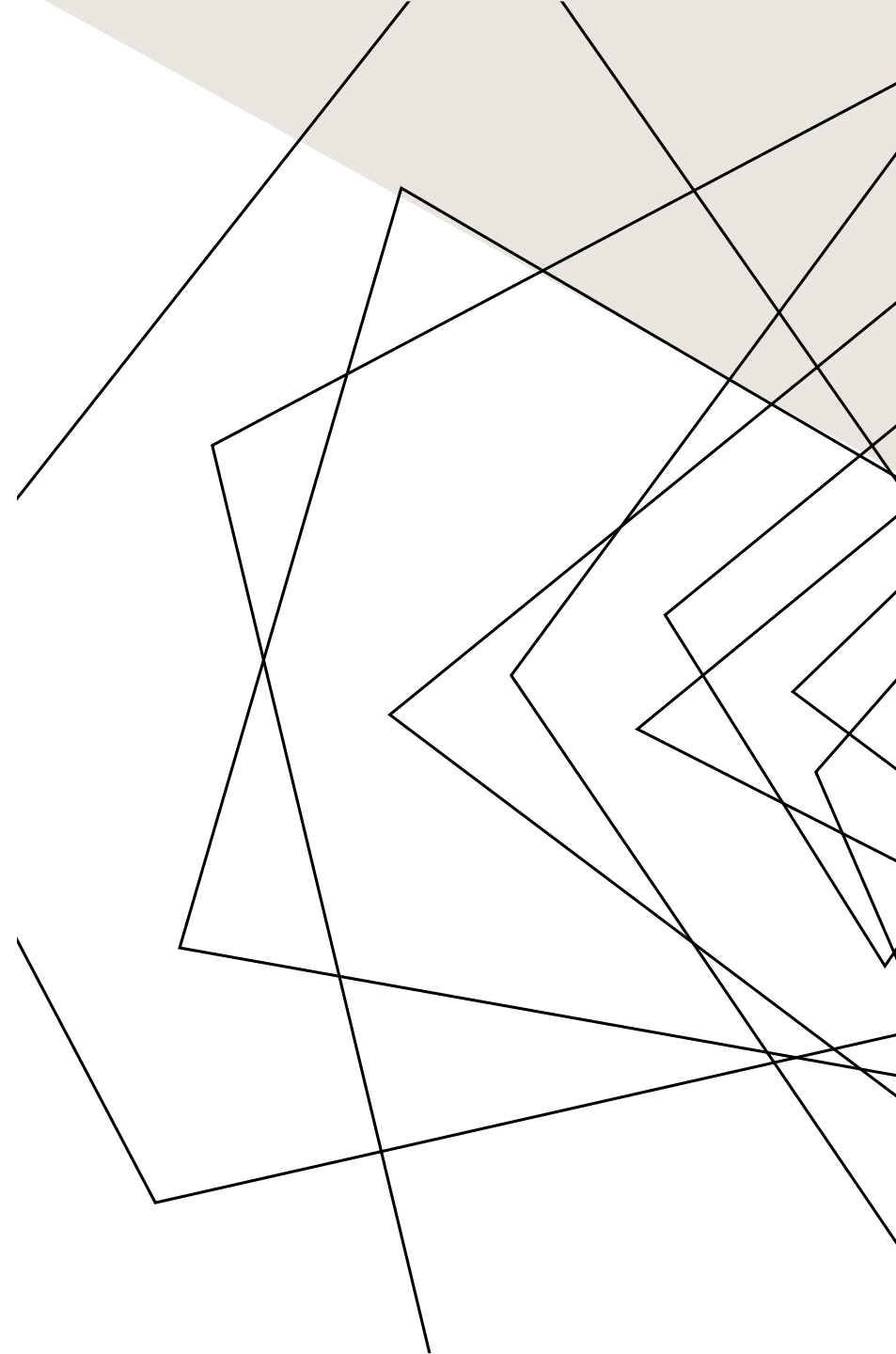
v.32 - '**celebrate and rejoice**, for this brother of yours was dead and has begun to live, and was **lost** and has been **found**.'



# What was the repeated statement at the end of the parables?

## The Lost Sheep

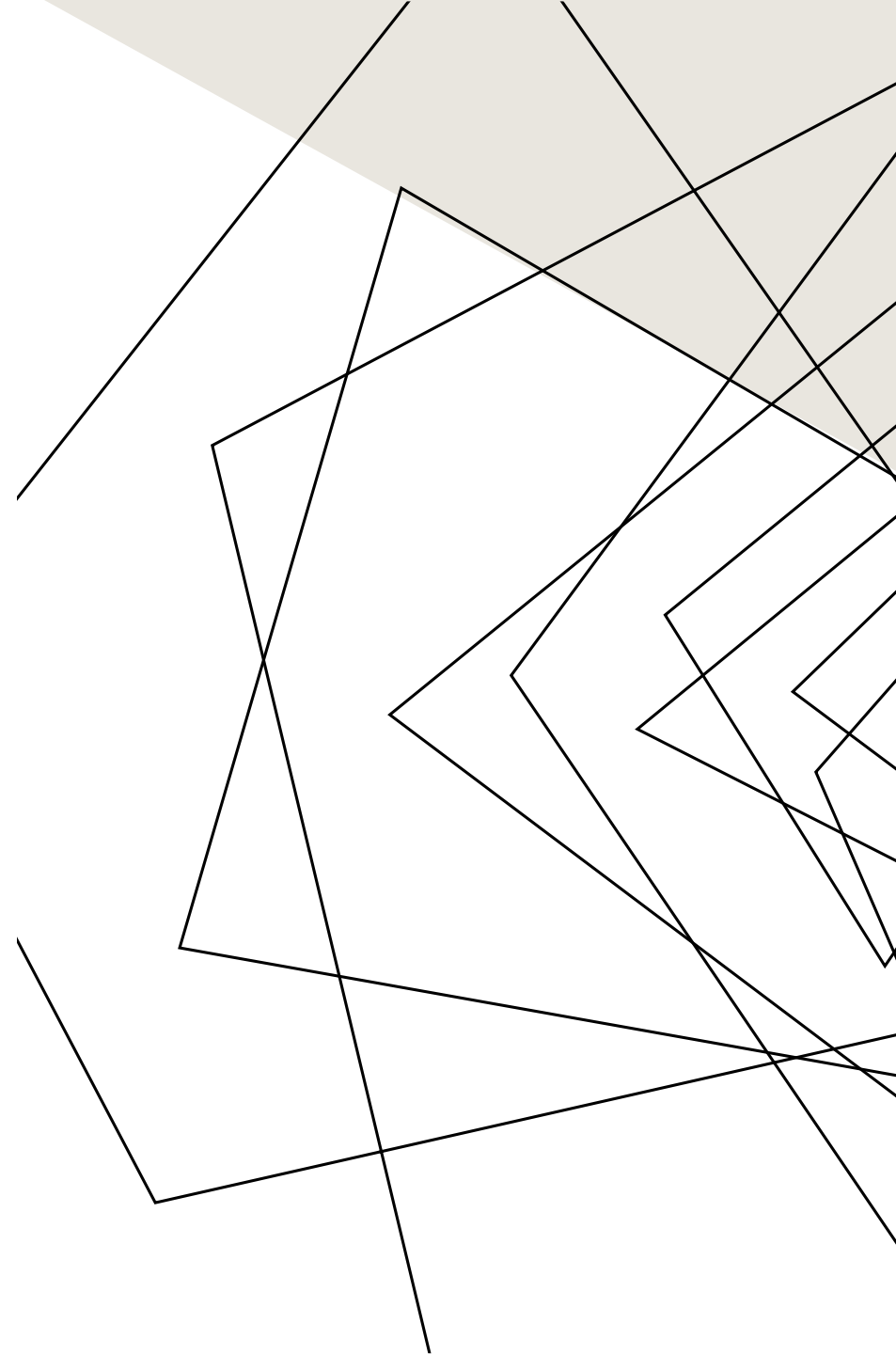
v.7 – ‘I tell you that in the same way, there will be more **joy** in heaven over one **sinner** who **repents** than over ninety-nine righteous persons who need no repentance.’



What was the repeated statement at the end of the parables?

### The Lost Coin

v. 10 - “In the same way, I tell you, there is **joy** in the presence of the angels of God over one **sinner** who **repents**.’



# What was the repeated statement at the end of the parables?

## The Lost Son

v. 17-19 – The son says he's **sinned**, but does he **repent**? Plus there's no **joy**.

There's a plan; it says he "came to his senses". Logic said, "you'll starve to death soon. I'll make a plan; I'll go home and be a hired hand by apologizing to Dad."

# Who did the seeking for the lost objects?

## **The Lost Sheep**

- The sheep did not seek for his shepherd. The Shepherd searched and found the sheep.

## **The Lost Coin**

- The coin did not seek for its owner. The owner searched and found the coin.



# Who did the seeking for the lost objects?

## The Lost Son

- The son did not seek for his father. The father sought for and found the son.
  - The son looks for a way out of the mess that he's in. He develops a plan to not starve to death.
  - He decided that he can fix this on his own, he'll go home and make it right with my father.

# Why didn't the son seek the father?

## The Lost Son

- Did he Repent of his sins? Is he sorry for the hurt he has caused?
- The son knew from Jewish custom that he was no longer part of the family; the son was viewed as being dead by his family and in the community.

# Lost / Seek / Found:

- The coin, the sheep and the son were sought; not the seekers.
- All three lost objects were not found by itself but found by another.
- This parable falls apart if the sons' actions to reconcile with the father happen to work.
  - God is the one that Seeks and Finds.

# How would you describe the younger son?

- Luke 15:13 “And not many days later, the younger son gathered everything together and went on a journey into a distant country, and there he squandered his estate with loose living.” NASB
- The ESV says, “reckless living”
- He’s angry, disrespectful, disloyal, impulsive, reckless, extravagant, maybe immoral.

# How would you describe the Father?

- It is the Father that was looking for the sinful son
- The father took the shame that the son deserved and ran to his son.
  - No self-respecting, dignified Jewish father would run
- The father does not respond to any confession from the son because he first runs to him, feels compassion, embraces and kisses him before the son says anything.
- It is the Father who loves the younger son, even when his son is not loving him.

# How would you describe the Father?

- The Father was extravagant in his love, giving, grace
- It is the Father who waits patiently for his son to return home.
- It is the Father who initiates the process of forgiveness.
- It is the Father who rolls out the red carpet for his sinful boy.
- It is the Father who begs the older son to rejoin the family.

# What does the father do for the son after his initial homecoming greeting?

- The father addresses the son's sin.
  - Robe – you don't put the patriarchs robe on a dirty son. He's cleansed in the father's eyes.
  - Ring – the sign of family authority, he could do business
  - Sandals – servants didn't wear sandals, sons did.

# How would we describe the older son?

- Jealous of his brother
- Self-righteous
- Disrespectful
- Narrow-minded
- Self-absorbed
- Bitter
- Resentful
- Angry
- Superiority
- Condescending
- Moralistic



# Does the older brother have a valid complaint against the Father?

- No
- v. 12 “And the younger of them said to his father, ‘Father, give me the share of property that is coming to me.’ And he divided his property between **them**.”
- They both had their money. The younger son would have received 1/3 of the estate and the older son had all the rest.
- The Father closes with the following statement: v. 31-32

Why did Jesus tell the parables  
about the lost sheep, coin, and son?

It tells us in the first 3 verses  
of the chapter. Luke 15:1-3

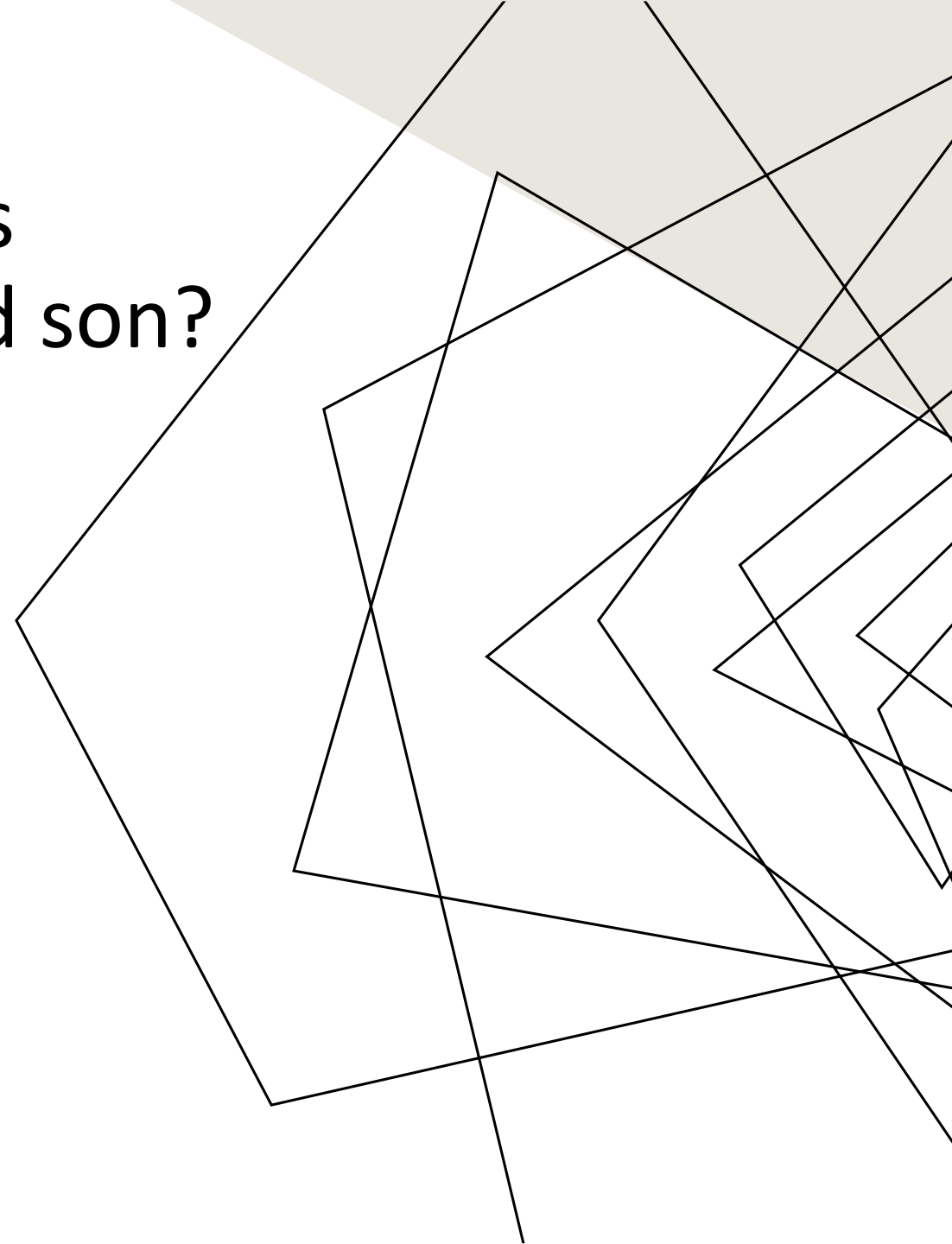
Why did Jesus tell the parables  
about the lost sheep, coin, and son?

“For the Son of Man has come  
to seek and to save that which  
was lost.” Luke 19:10

# Why did Jesus tell the parables about the lost sheep, coin, and son?

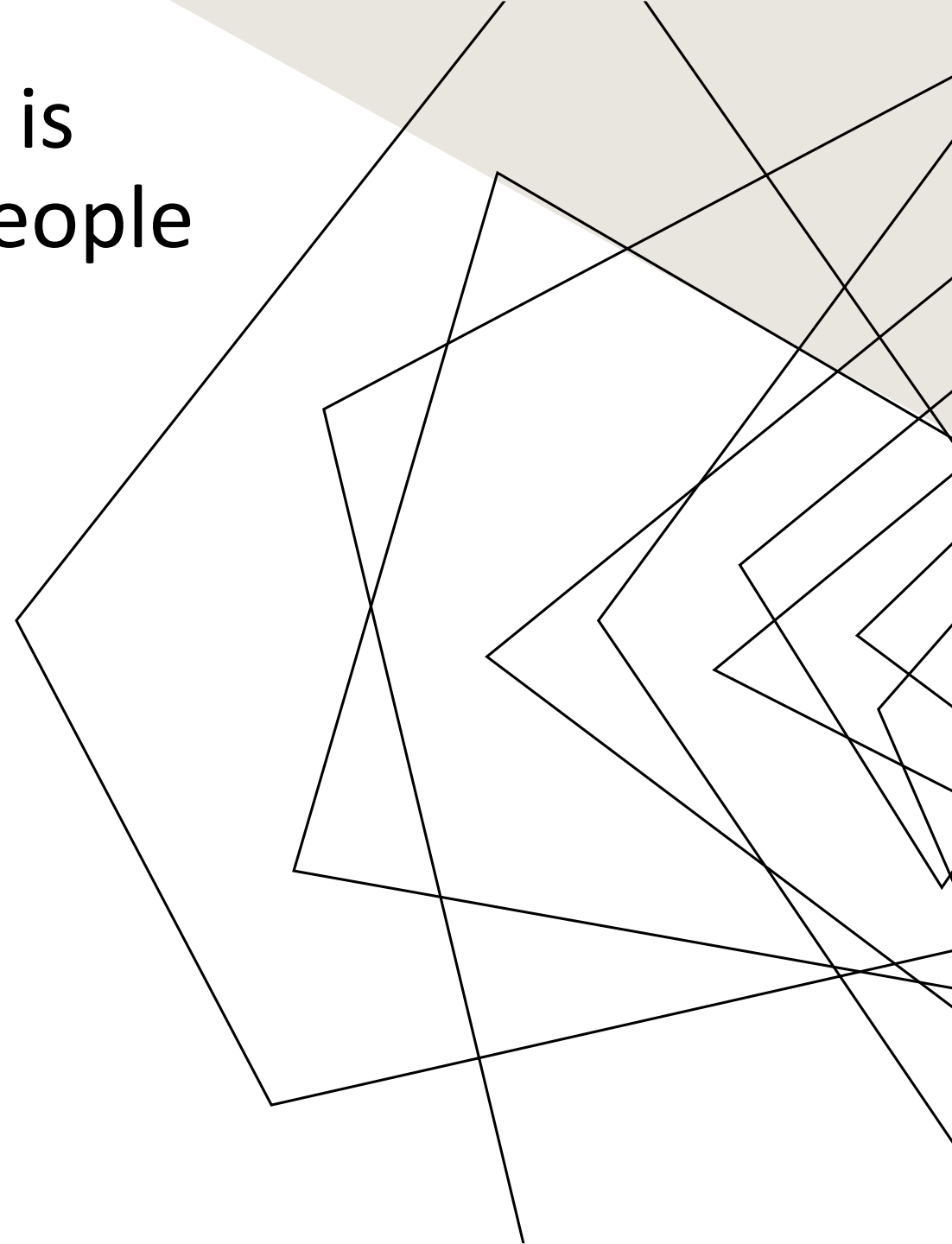
The first two parables were to draw the interest of the Pharisees to get them to listen.

The Pharisees didn't think they needed to repent of anything.



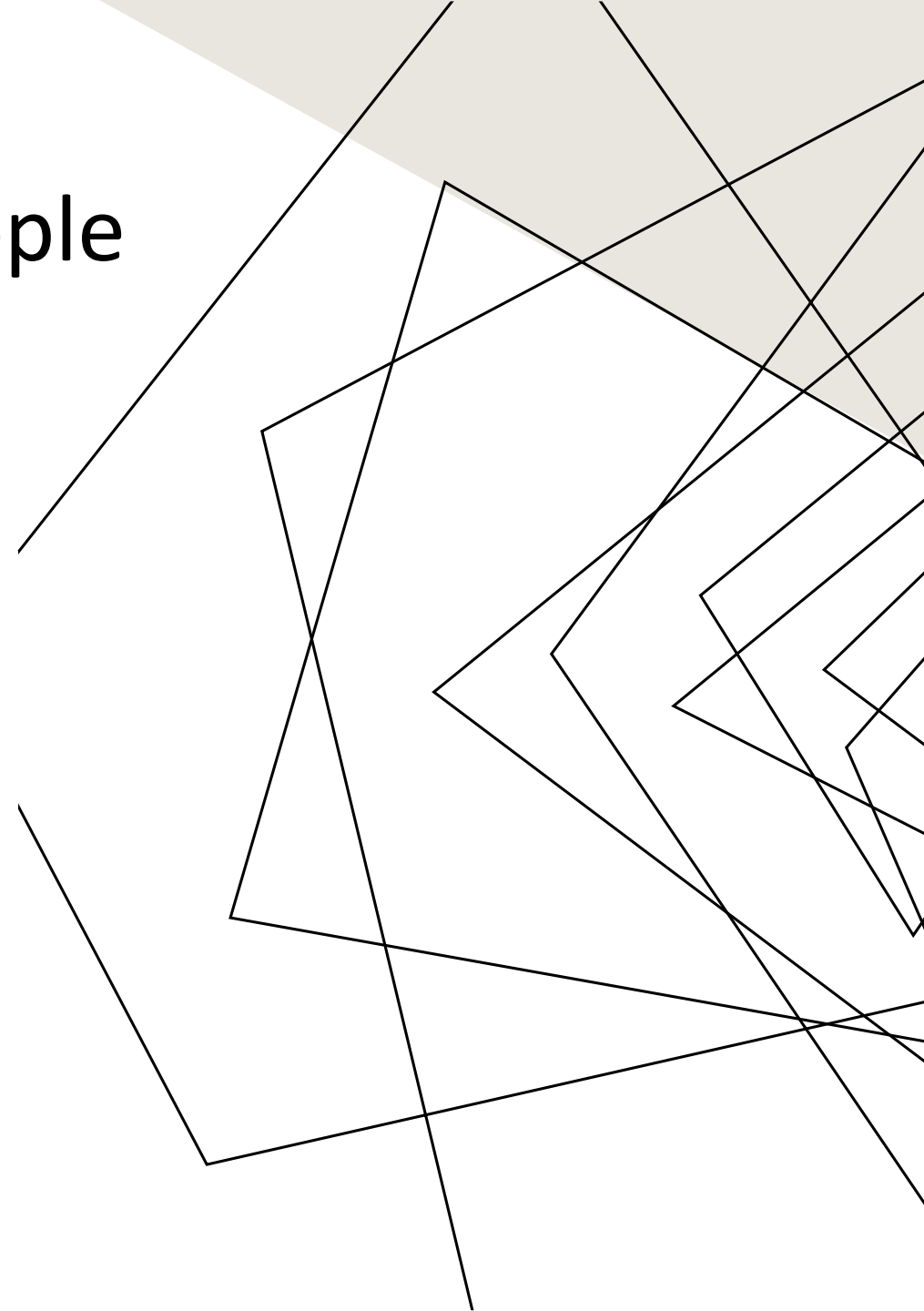
# The parable of the “Lost Sons” is about two different types of people that need Jesus:

- The lost immoral outsiders
- The lost self-righteous & moralistic insiders
- Jesus is saying that both the irreligious and the religious are spiritually lost.



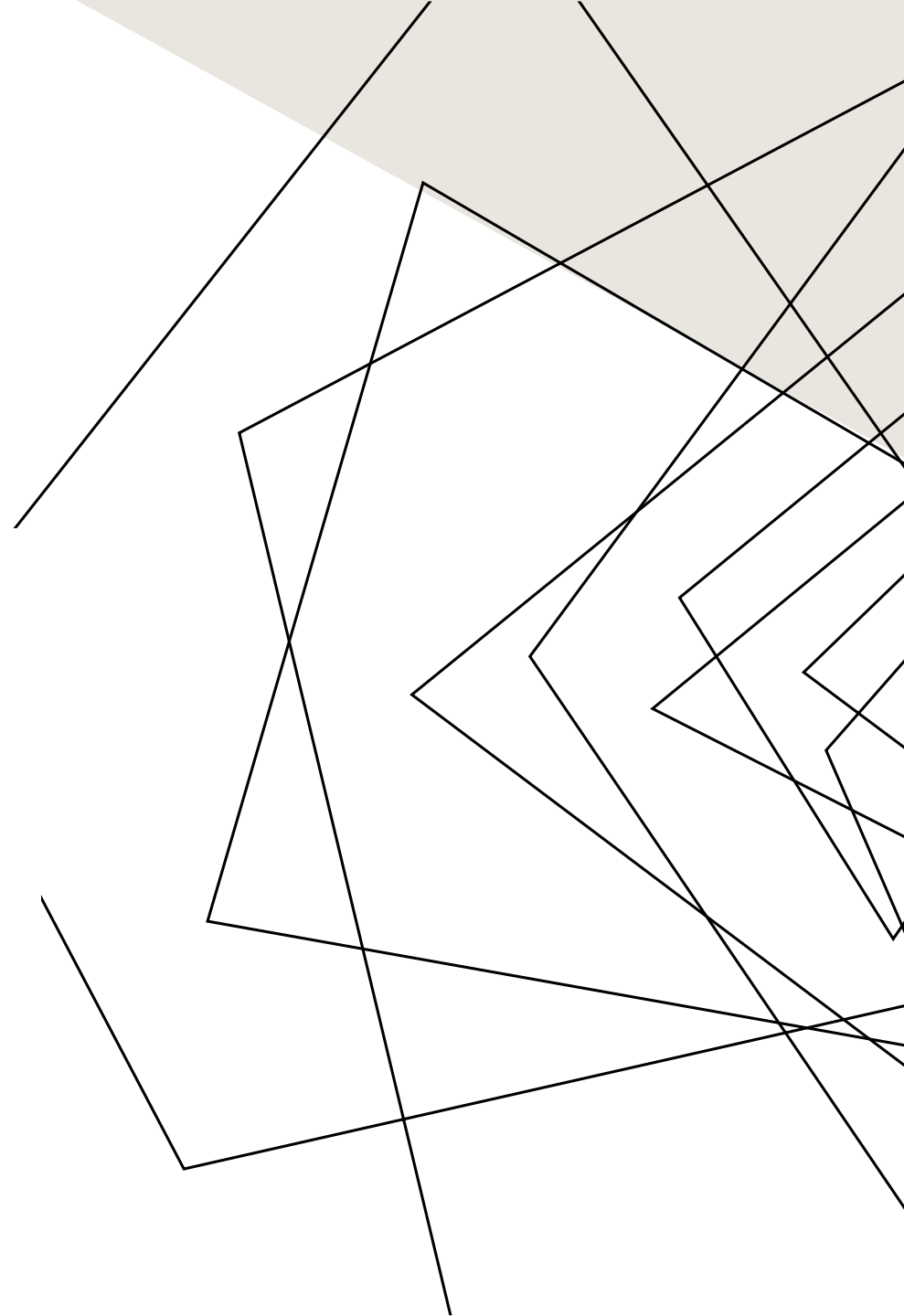
# The parable of the “Lost Sons” is about two different types of people that need Jesus:

Jesus pleads with and condemns the lost self-righteous & moralistic insiders because they are destroying not only their own souls but the lives of the people around them.

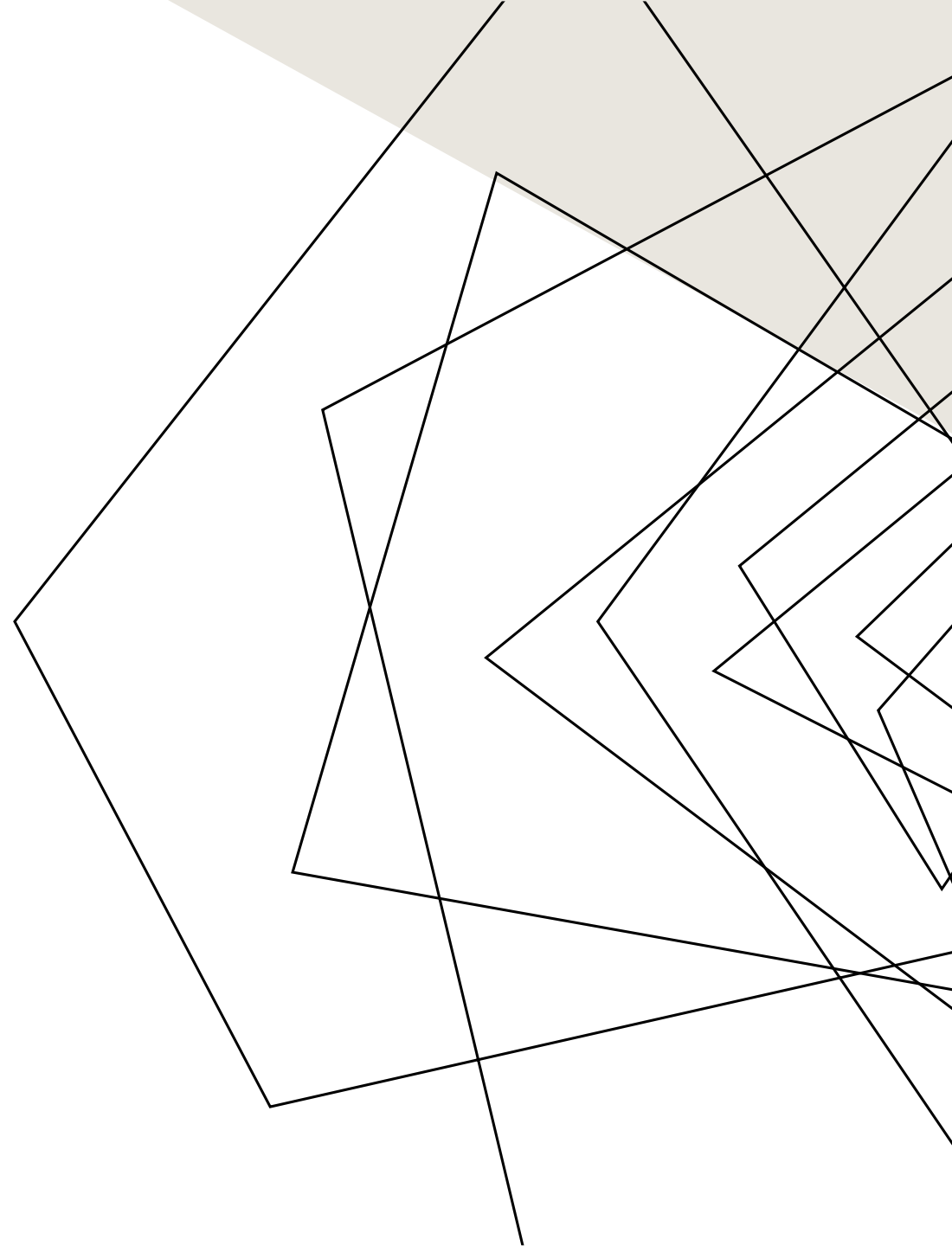


# What was the point of these three parables?

This chapter is not so much about the sons, it's about a human father and his lost sons, but it tells an even greater story about our heavenly Father and all lost sons and daughters wherever they are found.



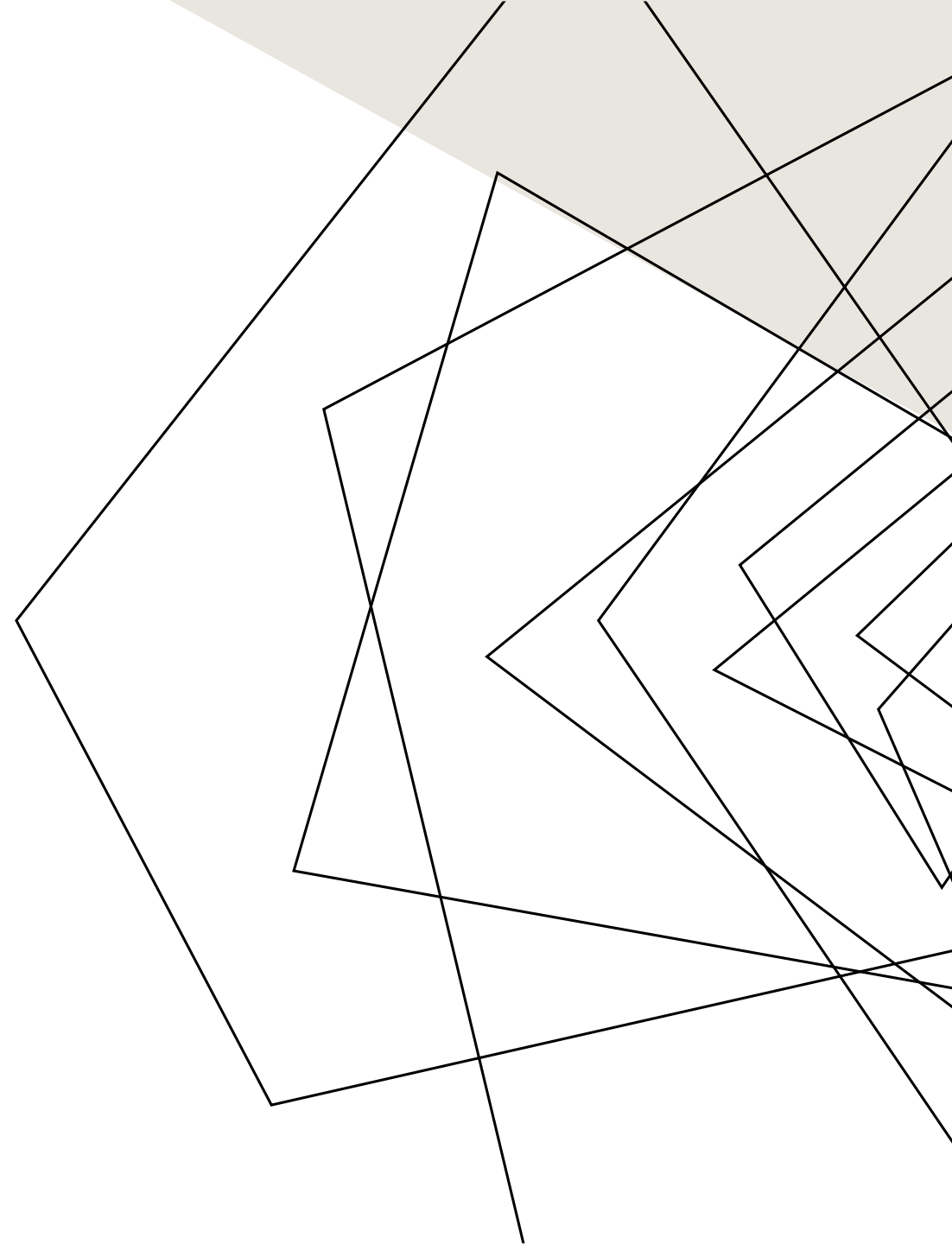
What does this parable say about  
God?





# GOD loves you when you're...

- wounding his heart.
- walking away from him.
- wasting your life.
- wallowing in sin.
- working to come back.
- wrapped in his arms of forgiveness.
- welcomed back home.
- too blinded to see that he loves you.



# What is the theme of this chapter ?

Lost - Found – Rejoice

Sinner – Repent – Joy

(except we don't have the repentance  
and joy over the older brother)



# DAVID JEREMIAH

His concluding thoughts on the “Parable of the Lost Sons”

We don't find the Lord, he find us.  
The Lord doesn't save us because  
of our great repentance, He saves  
us out of the love of his own heart.  
Repentance is important but what  
we need to understand is that the  
process of salvation is initiated by  
the love of the Father.

<https://www.davidjeremiah.org/search?q=luke%2015%20parable%20of%20the%20prodigal%20son>  
or search “davidjeremiah.org” for “Luke15 parable of the prodigal son”

# The Prodigal God – Timothy Keller

