ICE BREAKER

What's the best party or celebration you've ever been part of? What made it so memorable?

LOOK BACK

- Who is your “one?” A “one” is someone who is close to you but far from God.
- When you hear "reach your one," what's your gut reaction: excited, nervous, or somewhere in between?
- Who helped you find and follow Jesus, or take a step closer to him? What did they do that made a difference?

LOOK UP

- Read Luke 15:1-7. What does this story reveal about who God is and what he values?
- What can we learn from Jesus' example in Luke 15:2 about building genuine friendships with people before having conversations about faith?
- Read Matthew 28:18-20. Jesus handed his mission to ordinary followers and promised, "I am with you always." How does that promise speak to the fears that hold you back from sharing your faith?

LOOK AHEAD

- Which of these steps do you need to take this week to reach your one?
    - **Name them**: Identify your one. Do you know who your one is?
    - **Pray for them**: Pray for your one.
    - **Spend time with them**: Grab coffee, lunch, go for a walk, etc. with your one.
    - **Tell your story**: Share how Jesus has changed your life.
    - **Invite them**: Invite them to church, to your small group, to serve, etc.

WEEKLY CHALLENGE

Write down the name of your one. Each day this week, pray for them. Then plan a time to connect with them, whether that's coffee, lunch, or time at the beach.

SUMMARY

We throw parties for every occasion: weddings, new babies, graduations, birthdays. So what causes a party to break out in heaven? In Luke 15, the religious leaders grumbled that Jesus "welcomes sinners and eats with them." Jesus answered with a story about a shepherd who leaves the ninety-nine to search for one lost sheep, then calls his friends and neighbors together to celebrate when he finds it. He says there is more rejoicing in heaven over one sinner who repents than over ninety-nine who do not need to repent. Jesus sees people others overlook, moves toward people others avoid, and doesn't write anyone off because of where they've been or what they've done. The win isn't simply more people in a building. The win is seeing people find and follow Jesus.

At Salty, your one is someone who is close to you but far from God. In Matthew 28, Jesus' final instruction was to go and make disciples, and that isn't a job for pastors and professionals. It's for anyone who follows him. Reaching your one grows your own faith, and nothing compares to watching them walk in with you or take the step of baptism. The fears that hold us back ("I'm not ready," "I don't want to be pushy," "I don't know what to say") get smaller when we see how simple the steps are: name them, pray for them, spend time with them with no agenda, tell your story, and invite them to something low-pressure. And if you are the one, the 3 Circles on every baptism shirt tell the story: God created us for relationship with him, sin left us in a broken world, and Jesus invites us to repent and be baptized. Rescued people rescue people.

MAIN TAKEAWAY

Reaching someone isn't a giant leap. It's one next step with one person. Reach your one and help them reach their one. Reaching your one grows your faith.

CONVERSATION TIPS

- **Listen Well.** Give others your full attention, and listen to understand rather than to respond.
- **Share Honestly.** Be open about your thoughts and questions; none of us have all the answers.
- **End with prayer.** Share requests around the group, then close your time together in prayer.