

What I Learned on my Summer Vacation

New
Math



*we
speak.*

**Which would
you rather
have...**

99 > 1

**Except when
it comes to
God's math
Luke 15:1-7**

The Situation

It was a mixed crowd.

Everybody came to hear Jesus

There were complaints

**Religious saw themselves more
valuable than the sinners**

**But Jesus' value system was
different from theirs**

A Shepherd

Shepherding is hard work

Was the shepherd in the parable
a "bad" shepherd?

Yes

No

100-1=0

A Flock

He did not abandon them

They were a healthy flock

Left in a safe place

There was a trust factor

**A shepherd that can never
takes his eyes off his flock**

says much about...

A Flock

**the Job he is doing
as a shepherd**

**the Sheep's willingness
to listen, learn and grow**

the Flocks sustainability

99 = 1

A Lost Sheep

**It was meant to be part
of the flock**

It was lost

It was alone

It was small

It was in danger

$$-1 = \infty$$

A Celebration

Rejoicing

He returns to the flock

Telling

Partying

+ 1 =

Everything

The Reality

I tell you that in the same way there will be more rejoicing in heaven over **one** sinner who repents than over **ninety-nine** righteous persons who do not need to repent

Luke 15:7

The Reality

God is pleased with a
righteous life but seeks a
repentant heart

1 > 99

What about the flock

Their needs did not go unmet

They were not forgotten

They did not perish

**Remember, this entire flock is
made up of previous
lost sheep**

The Reality

We CAN NOT
build both

You CAN NOT focus
on the flock and
find the lost

Build for the 99

**Heavy with ministries
to fatten up hungry sheep**

**Creates an environment
that is comfortable for us**

**It's entire existence
centers of familiarity**

**Ministry success is evaluated on
how much we enjoyed it**

Build for the 1

**Heavy with ministries that are
about seeking and assimilating**

Change is constant

**Older sheep are a valued resource
to help new sheep
understand flock life**

**Ministry success is based on new
believers following Christ**

**Which one
do we
Build?**