



# Sermon Study Guide for November 12, 2017

*Our Savior Lutheran Church and School*

*www.oursaviorlansing.org*

**Theme:** Jesus Christ came into the world to save sinners, or, as Jesus put it, ‘to seek and save the lost.’ This is the heart and soul of Jesus’ identity and purpose, and also central to our understanding of who we are as the people of God. The Gospel – this Good News – animates and motivates the church to fulfill the Great Commission to share the Gospel with all nations.

## **Getting Started:**

1. What are some of the misconceptions people have today about Christianity or the Church, and how do those misconceptions arise in people’s minds?
2. What was something interesting you heard from Pastor Hartjen’s sermon?

## **In the Word: Read Leviticus 19:9-10**

3. This section of the Bible is called the Torah, the 5 Books of the Law written by Moses. It contains God’s instructions for the Israelites as they were to be a light to the nations and ultimately bring forth the Savior of the World. God instructs them in this passage of Leviticus to intentionally leave some leftover grain in their fields for others. Whom specifically does God mention this is for?
4. Why does God instruct the Israelites to do this?
5. Can you think of ways that Christians today (God’s people of the New Covenant) do something similar? We don’t leave the edges of our fields, but what do we do intentionally to carry out the same idea?

**Read 1 Timothy 1:12-17**

6. Paul says that 'the grace of our Lord was poured out on me abundantly' (verse 14. From what you know of Paul's life, and specifically from the verses just before this, how was Paul shown God's grace?
7. What does it mean to you that Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners?
8. Jesus called Paul, the 'worst of sinners', into His service. What was the reason for this as Paul states in verse 16?
9. What was an illustration or example from the sermon that clarified this point?

**Read Luke 15:1-7**

10. In the Gospel, Jesus was accused of 'welcoming sinners and eating with them.' In what way should we follow Jesus' example, and what should we be mindful of as we do this?
11. What happens in heaven when someone repents and believes the Gospel, according to verse 7?
12. Have you ever celebrated with someone who was rescued by the Good Shepherd Jesus?
13. How could our church better reach out to seek and save the lost? What could your Small Group do to that end?

**Prayer:** In your prayer time, pray for specific people that are in your life with whom you can share Christ. Ask God to seek, save, and rescue those who are lost, and ask for courage to join Him in His mission.

**Next Week:** Next week is the last Sunday in the church year – Christ the King Sunday. We worship the King through our Family Service Sunday projects, welcoming new members, and honoring the King with all that we have.