Discovery Questions (hear and put into practice—Matthew 7:24)

- Read Luke 15:1-7. Why do you think the Pharisees were so bothered by the fact that Jesus associated with the non-religious people of their culture? Who would be the “tax collectors and sinners” of our culture?

- The Pharisees were constantly working to make sure that the righteous people became more righteous. Where was Jesus’ focus (see Luke 19:10)? How does the church in general fall into the same attitude as the Pharisees?

- Verses 5 & 6 point to the joy of the shepherd as he retrieves his lost sheep. Does it surprise you that there isn’t any sense of punishment or frustration on the part of the shepherd, that the sheep had wandered off? How does this inform us about God’s perspective when we are lost or wander away?

- What process did Jesus use to rescue you from being lost? Does this make you feel valued by God?

- Where would you place yourself on a continuum between concern for people staying righteous and concern for lost people? What does it mean to you to “Fear regrets more than risks?”