Chapter 7: Lost

**Principle:** As parents, you’re not just dealing with bad behavior, but a condition that causes bad behavior.

1. The point that the author makes is that we not only need to focus on the reality that our kids disobey, but that we need to get to *why* they disobey. What are some of the challenges to doing that which comes up practically? What are some ways that you have found to get to a child’s heart?

2. On page 99, Tripp mentions that parents should give thanks when their children obey. Do you find yourself doing that? If not, what are steps you can take today that would bring your actions more in line with Christ?

3. In the section after the three parables of the lost coin, sheep, and brother, Tripp remarks, “You should never be irritated in those moments where it is clear that your children need you, no matter what it’s interrupting.” What are some truths to remind us of this and practical ways that we can implement this?
4. How does knowing that sheep tend to wander (p. 103) help you as a parent?

5. How does viewing parenting as a ‘moment-by-moment rescue mission’ help as you tackle the daily problems and challenges associated with parenting?

6. Tripp says that many of the battles that parents have are because their children desire to be autonomous…do you agree? If so (or not), how does this help you in knowing what do to in parenting?