

LESSON: THE LOST SHEEP

This lesson will help the children discover that Jesus is our good shepherd. He protects and cares for us.

AS KIDS ARRIVE

The Good Shepherd (Coloring Page) -Attached

BIBLE VERSE (5 minutes)

"I seek you with all my heart; do not let me stray from your commands." Psalm 119:10 NIV

Read the verse together several times. Go around the room and ask children to share their thoughts on the verse; what does it mean to them? Help the children understand the words stray and commands. What does it mean not to stray?

BIBLE STORY

Gather the children around you in preparation for story time. After the introduction, read the story about the lost sheep right from the Bible. If possible, use a Children's Bible so it will be easier for the kids to understand.

Introduction:

Jesus used stories to teach people about God. These stories are called parables. Many parables have been put into the Bible to help us learn about God too. Today we will hear a story about a good shepherd and a lost sheep. We will read this story told by Jesus from two different places in the Bible. One is from the gospel written by Matthew, and the other is the gospel written by Luke.

Read Matthew 18:10-14 & Luke 15:1-7

Discussion Questions:

1. In today's story what kind of animal was lost?
2. How many sheep were lost?
3. What did the shepherd do when he found that one of his sheep was missing?
4. What did the shepherd do when he found the lost sheep?
5. Who is our good shepherd?
6. Why is it comforting to know that Jesus is our Good Shepherd?

FUN TIME

The Lost Sheep (Craft)

WHAT YOU WILL DO:

Have the children color the shepherd and trace the words "The Lost Sheep."
Have the children glue pieces of cotton balls on top of the sheep.



PRAYER/SNACK (10 minutes)

Thank God for loving and for protecting us. For today's snack, pop some popcorn or get some miniature marshmallows - as both of these snacks are kind of fluffy like sheep's wool.