

Jesus is the Good Shepherd



Parents, below are a few activities you can try together at home to help reinforce and continue teaching on this week's Bible story.

Overview:

Big Idea: Jesus is the Good Shepherd, so we should listen to His voice and follow Him.

Bible Basis: John 10:1-18

Key Verse: John 10:14

Grade 1-2 Activity: *Sheep, Sheep, Wolf*

Supplies: None

Directions: Sheep, Sheep, Wolf is played just like Duck, Duck, Goose. Have everyone sit in a circle. Choose someone to be the sheep. The sheep must walk around the outside of the circle while tapping on the heads or shoulders of each person they pass. If they tap and say "sheep," nothing happens. If they tap and say "wolf," the person who was tapped becomes the wolf and must chase the sheep around the circle. If the sheep makes it all the way around the circle and sits in the wolf's spot before being tagged, the wolf becomes the sheep and a new round is played. But if the wolf tags the sheep before the sheet sits down, the sheep must play another round as the sheep. Continue playing for as long as the time and interest allows.

Say: Our Bible story for today says that we are like sheep. But who is our Good Shepherd? That's right – Jesus is our Good Shepherd. He cares for us and protects us, so we do not have to be afraid!

Question: How do you think Jesus cares for us and protects us like a Good Shepherd?

Grade 3-4 Activity: *Stranger Danger*

Say: Today we learned that Jesus is the Good Shepherd and we are the sheep. Being the sheep means that we know and follow Jesus' voice, not the stranger's voice. But do you know what Jesus' voice sounds like? In other words, do you know that kinds of things Jesus says to do in the Bible? Here is a game that will help us tell the difference between the things Jesus says in the Bible and the things that other people might say.

Directions: Have everyone huddle together on their hands and knees like sheep. Tell everyone that they will have to decide quickly if you're the Good Shepherd or a stranger. While standing 10-15 feet away, read one of the statements below. Some of the statements are things that Jesus said in the Bible, others are not. If the statement you read is from the Good Shepherd, everyone will have to race to you on their hands and knees. If the statement is from the stranger, everyone will have to race away from you to the opposite wall. For each "stranger" statement, ask how or why they knew it was something that Jesus did not say.

Statements:

- "You must love one another just as I have loved you." (Shepherd. John 13:34)
- "You must love those who love you and hurt those who hurt you." (Stranger)
- "There are many ways to get eternal life. Following the Son of God is just one of them." (Stranger)
- "Whoever believes in the Son of God has eternal life." (Shepherd. John 3:36)
- "Do not let your hearts be troubled. Trust in God; trust also in me." (Shepherd. John 14:1)
- "Blessed are those who tell small lies. They will get whatever they want." (Stranger)
- "Blessed are those who make peace. They will be called children of God." (Shepherd. Matthew 5:9)
- "Whenever you give to those in need, do it in secret so only God knows." (Shepherd. Matthew 6:3-4)
- "And know that I am not real, but only something that people have made up." (Stranger)
- "And know that I am with you always; yes, to the end of time." (Shepherd. Matthew 28:20)