



Materials Needed:
Bible or Bible App

SCRIPTURE	SPECIAL WORDS
<p>LUKE 15:1-32 Parables of the Lost Sheep, Coin, and Son</p>	<p>JESUS IS (POINT UP) THE GOOD SHEPHERD! (BOTH THUMBS UP)</p>
<p>READ THIS</p>	<p>In the parable, Jesus shared that the shepherd knew one sheep was missing and he went to find it. Jesus wants us to know that God cares for us as His sheep. Sometimes we might do things that disobey God. Sometimes we make mistakes, or even turn our backs on God and His love. That is just like the sheep who wandered away! But He will never leave us and He searches for us. He's always waiting with open arms to welcome us back.</p>
<p>MEMORIZE THIS</p>	<p>"Don't copy (<i>shake finger from side to side</i>) the behavior (<i>right hand out to the side</i>) and customs (<i>left hand out to the side</i>) of this world (<i>make a big circle overhead with arms</i>) but let God (<i>point up</i>) transform you into a new person (<i>bring hands all the way from feet up to head</i>) by changing the way you think (<i>make a thinking hand below chin</i>). Then you will learn to know (<i>finger at forehead</i>) God's will for you (<i>point up</i>), which is good (<i>right thumbs up</i>) and pleasing (<i>left thumbs up</i>) and perfect (<i>palms down and out to the sides</i>)." Romans 12:2 (NLT)</p>
<p>IN ACTION</p>	<p>God made everyone special, and He loves each one of us. It is important to love and care for one another, too. This week, remember Jesus is our Good Shepherd who cares for us and we can care for others, too!</p>

CHECK OUT OUR COMPANION VIDEOS ON OUR YOUTUBE CHANNEL:
[youtube.com/blueridgecommunitychurch](https://www.youtube.com/blueridgecommunitychurch)

GO DEEPER

MORNING MOMENTS

Read: Luke 15:3-7

Watch: <https://tinyurl.com/1lostsheep>

Jesus is a good shepherd! We are His sheep. What does a sheep sound like? Very good! Sometimes sheep do not stay with their shepherd. They may walk off and not follow him. But what do you think a good shepherd will do if a sheep walks away? Yes! A good shepherd will go find his missing sheep. Sometimes we don't follow Jesus, but remember **Jesus is the Good Shepherd!** Jesus comes after us and calls us to come back to Him!

CREATIVE CONNECTION

When a sheep doesn't listen to its shepherd it is disobeying and walking away. Sometimes we disobey Jesus and make choices that are not kind. But He is our Good Shepherd who calls after us. Let's pretend we are a sheep and walking away from the Good Shepherd, but then He finds us! Have your child turn, walking away from you as if they are choosing to disobey. But tell them to have their ears alert for your call. When you say, "I love you!" have your child turn around and run into your waiting arms. It's a simple activity to show your child our Heavenly Father's heart; a heart that calls to us, "You can always come home to me. My love never runs out."

TABLE TIDBITS

What did the Good Shepherd do when He found the lost sheep? He celebrated! Make tonight's dinner a celebration. Maybe decorate your table like a party, or plan to have a special dessert. Together, celebrate that **Jesus is the Good Shepherd** who loves us!

CUDDLE CLOSE

Pull your child close beside you and say, "*Jesus is the good shepherd! He loves and cares for you.*" As you tuck them into bed, sing, "*I Am the Good Shepherd*" (<https://tinyurl.com/I-Am-Shepherd>.) Then pray together, pausing after each phrase, to let your child repeat after you: *Dear God, Thank You for loving all the people You made! Thank You for loving me even when I disobey. You are the Good Shepherd. In Jesus' name, Amen.*

Materials Needed:
Bible or Bible App, Magazines
or Images, Scissors

GO DEEPER



MORNING MOMENTS

Read: Psalm 23:1&2

A good shepherd makes sure his sheep have everything that they need. Let's make a list of things a sheep needs. (As you list each thing, draw a simple picture on your paper to represent that need.) Sheep need to be taken where there is good grass (Draw a green tuft of grass), sheep need to be taken to water (Draw some blue squiggles for water), sheep need a shelter to keep them dry when it is raining (Draw a shelter), sheep need to be kept safe from mean animals (Draw a mean face with wolf ears), sheep need oil on their wool to keep the bugs off (Draw a little bug), and so much more! Wow, sheep sure do need a lot, and a good shepherd gives them everything they need! Jesus is our Good Shepherd, and He gives us what we need.



CREATIVE CONNECTION

Give your child some magazines to look through, or help them search for and print images from the computer. Then, help them cut out pictures of things they like. Talk about the difference between needs and wants. Then help your child sort the items into two piles, one that shows what they need, and one that shows what they want. Close with prayer thanking Jesus for how He gives us what we need.



TABLE TIDBITS

While you eat dinner, look around the room. What do you see that Jesus has provided for you? Don't say what you see out loud, instead, play a game of Eye Spy! Once someone correctly guesses the item, thank Jesus for how He gives us what we need - and more! **Jesus is the Good Shepherd!**



CUDDLE CLOSE

Pull your child close beside you and say, "Jesus is the Good Shepherd! He loves and cares for you." As you tuck them into bed, sing, "I Am the Good Shepherd" (<https://tinyurl.com/I-Am-Shepherd>). Then pray together, pausing after each phrase, to let your child repeat after you: *Dear God, You are the Good Shepherd. Thank you for all you have given me. Help me to trust you when I am in need. In Jesus' name, Amen.*

Materials Needed:
Bible or Bible App, Marshmallows,
Pretzel Sticks, Pretzel Twists

GO DEEPER



MORNING MOMENTS

Read: Psalm 23:1-3

Watch: <https://tinyurl.com/PS-Psalm23>

A good shepherd guides his sheep to safety. A shepherd has to guide his sheep to food, water, and safe places to sleep. Jesus is the Good Shepherd. He wants to help us make good choices in our life. When we read and obey the Bible, we are following Jesus, the Good Shepherd!



CREATIVE CONNECTION

Play a game of follow the leader! Walk around your room (or around your neighborhood) and have your child follow you wherever you go - doing whatever it is you are doing. Have lots of fun with this! If your child is old enough, let them take turns being the leader. When you have finished the activity, say, "In this game, you had to follow me very carefully! You had to do exactly what I did - and you did a GREAT job! Jesus is the Good Shepherd and He wants us to follow Him, too! Even though we can't literally follow Jesus around, because He has returned to Heaven, we CAN follow Him by obeying God's Word - the Bible!



TABLE TIDBITS

Tell your child you are making a special snack, but you aren't going to tell them what it is. They need to follow your directions carefully!

1. Place a large marshmallow on your plate
2. Stick 4 pretzel rods into the bottom of your marshmallow like legs
3. Place a twisted pretzel into the front of your marshmallow



Can you tell what we made? Yes a sheep! Remember, **Jesus is the Good Shepherd** and we can follow Him!



CUDDLE CLOSE

Pull your child close beside you and say, "Jesus is the Good Shepherd! He loves and cares for you." As you tuck them into bed, sing, "I Am the Good Shepherd" (<https://tinyurl.com/I-Am-Shepherd>). Then pray together, pausing after each phrase, to let your child repeat after you: *Dear God, You are the Good Shepherd. Thank you for the Bible to teach me what is good. Help me to follow You. In Jesus' name, Amen.*

Materials Needed: Bible or Bible App, Paper, Printer, Art Supplies

GO DEEPER



MORNING MOMENTS

Read: Psalm 23:1&4

Watch: <https://tinyurl.com/1lostsheep>

When the sheep in the parable was lost, it needed help from the shepherd. Have you ever felt lost before? Show me how you feel when you think you are lost. Oooo, you look [scared, worried, sad, etc.] A good shepherd doesn't want his sheep to be afraid or in need of help. In Psalms, David wrote about how Jesus, our Shepherd, helps us when we feel afraid. That is why a good shepherd helps his sheep. **Jesus is the Good Shepherd** and He is our Helper.



CREATIVE CONNECTION

Sometimes we can feel scared or lonely. Sometimes we need help. We can call out to Jesus for help because He is our Good Shepherd. Print off the activity page (<https://tinyurl.com/print-sheep>) and have your child color the picture of the Good shepherd, and help them cut it out. Then, look at the four pictures of the sheep. Have your child tell you about what makes them feel scared, lonely, in need, or helpless. Write down their thoughts in each box. Then help your child glue the shepherd in the middle of the paper. Remember, we can call out to Jesus when we are in need. **Jesus is the Good Shepherd** and He is our Helper!



TABLE TIDBITS

Place your dinner out of your reach, but within your child's reach, on the table. Ask your child if they can help you. Say you are sad because you can't reach your dinner, and ask them to help you. When they do, thank them for helping you! Tell them that reminds you that Jesus is our Good Shepherd who helps us when we need help! Stop and pray, thanking Jesus for being a good shepherd who helps us when we are in need.



CUDDLE CLOSE

Pull your child close beside you and say, "Jesus is the Good Shepherd! He loves and cares for you." As you tuck them into bed, sing, "I Am the Good Shepherd" (<https://tinyurl.com/I-Am-Shepherd>). Then pray together, pausing after each phrase, to let your child repeat after you: *Dear God, You are the Good Shepherd. Help me to talk to you when I need help. Thank You for wanting to help me. In Jesus' name, Amen.*

Materials Needed: Bible or Bible App

GO DEEPER



MORNING MOMENTS

Read: John 10:2-5, 27

We have been talking a lot about how **Jesus is the Good Shepherd**. Let's pretend to be sheep this morning! Get on all fours with your child. Move around the room making a "baa" sound as you walk. That was fun! Did you know a sheep will only follow the voice of their shepherd? The shepherd knows his sheep and calls them by name, and they follow him. Jesus knows your name, and He wants you to learn to know His voice. How can we learn to know His voice? Allow your child to answer. We learn to know Jesus' voice by reading the Bible!



CREATIVE CONNECTION

Play a game of hide and seek with your child. Once you are hidden, call their name until they find you. Play again letting your child hide and allow them to call your name until you find them. After playing, remind your child that Jesus wants us to know His voice so we can come when He calls. One way we can learn to hear Jesus' voice is when we read God's Word, the Bible!



TABLE TIDBITS

How many people do you know by name? Go around the table sharing the names of friends and family you can think of. Talk about how Jesus knows everyone by name! Isn't that amazing?! **Jesus is the Good Shepherd** and wants everyone to hear when He calls their name. What are some ideas on how you can learn to hear from Jesus? (*reading the Bible, praying, sitting quietly listening for Him, talking with other people who love Jesus, etc.*)



CUDDLE CLOSE

Pull your child close beside you and say, "Jesus is the Good Shepherd! He loves and cares for you." As you tuck them into bed, sing, "I Am the Good Shepherd" (<https://tinyurl.com/I-Am-Shepherd>). Then pray together, pausing after each phrase, to let your child repeat after you: *Dear God, Thank You for being so powerful! Help me learn to hear your voice. Thank You for knowing me by name. In Jesus' name, Amen.*