



Lesson 52

4s-K

THE GOOD SHEPHERD

August 15 & 16
**JESUS IS OUR
SHEPHERD**



LESSON GOAL:

Background: A shepherd takes care of sheep and protects them from danger. In John 10, Jesus calls Himself the Good Shepherd because He lovingly cares for His people, guides them, and keeps them safe. Jesus knows each of us personally and loves us so much that He gave His life for us.

Lesson Goal: For kids to understand that Jesus is our protector, guide, and Savior who loves us completely and that is why Jesus is our shepherd.

John 10:7-18

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

AWANA clubber registration is live!
Wednesdays @ 6:15pm starting Sep 16
at RR, WH, MO and DT!
woodmenvalley.org/awana

THEME FOR THIS SERIES:
Farmer Pete



KEY VERSE:

"I am the good shepherd. I know my sheep, and my sheep know me."

John 10:14, NIRV

MISSION FOCUS:

PRAYING FOR SCHOOLS

This month's mission focus is all about prayer! We're inviting kids and families to intentionally pray for students, teachers, and school staff as the new school year begins. With our prayer magnets, we're helping kids build a habit of praying regularly for their schools.

We're also excited to highlight our ACTs school partners—schools where our church is building long-term relationships to love, serve, and support students, educators, and families.

**FAMILIES CAN TAKE HOME A PRAYER
MAGNET TO PLACE ON THEIR FRIDGE
AS A REMINDER TO PRAY!**

5:45-6:10pm
8:45-9:10am
10:45-11:10am

CHECK-IN

The goal of check-in is to greet parents/guardians and children by name and help them feel known and welcome.



SAY:

I'm so glad to see you today, **(insert child/parent name)**! You can play with the classroom activities until we begin Explore time.

6:10-6:25pm
9:10-9:25am
11:10-11:25am

EXPLORE

The goal of Explore is to help kids connect relationally and think about the Bible story. It should be completed in small groups of 5-7 kids per one Ministry Partner.



DISCUSS: Jesus is Our Shepherd!

Help kids connect relationally and to the daily lesson by participating in the Bag of Wonder activity together.

Bag of Wonder: Mini Sheep



SAY:

We are going to take turns passing around this Bag of Wonder! It has something inside that helps us think about our lesson today. You can hold it, smell it, shake it, touch it...but no peeking inside! What do you think it could be? You each get 1 guess!



DO:

Pass the Bag of Wonder around until each child has had a turn holding it and guessing what's in the bag. Offer hints to help the kids guess the item.



SAY:

I *wonder* why this item is in our Bag of Wonder today! Our lesson is about how **Jesus is our shepherd**. This true story comes from the Bible in **John 10:14-16!** (*Open your Bible to show the kids the verse is in the Bible then read the explanation below*).

CONNECTION: Today we have learned that Jesus is our shepherd! Sheep need a shepherd to take care of them, guide them, and keep them safe. In the Bible, Jesus tells us that He is our Shepherd. That means Jesus takes care of us, guides us, and keeps us safe because He loves us. We can trust Jesus to lead us just like a shepherd leads his sheep.



CONNECT: Why Does It Matter?

Help kids prepare for the lesson by thinking through the Big 3 questions and how the lesson relates to them, personally.



SAY:

Let's answer THE BIG 3 questions for today's lesson & talk about how it applies to our lives!

1. Who is our story about today?

Jesus and us

2. What is the problem?

Jesus explained that someone who is simply hired to take care of sheep will not protect them from danger if it comes

3. What will God do?

Jesus is different than a hired worker. He is our good shepherd. He would do anything to protect His sheep (us) - even as far as laying down His life for us!

Encourage kids to think about why this matters and how they can apply it to their own life as they listen to the story!



MAKE: Sheep Craft

Help kids think about the lesson further and have fun by doing this activity!

Supplies: Cotton balls, clothespins, sheep cutout, coloring utensils, glue, God statement sticker



DO:

Help kids glue the head onto their sheep's body. Then, help kids glue the cotton balls onto the sheep's body. Add the clothespins onto the bottom of the sheep's body as the feet. When everyone is finished, place all the sheep together and remind the kids that Jesus knows and loves every one of His sheep.



SAY:

Today we learned that Jesus is the Good Shepherd. Just like a shepherd knows and cares for every sheep, Jesus knows, loves, and cares for each one of us!

See detailed craft instructions on page 3



CLEAN UP: Transition to Large Group

Ask kids to clean up the activity or save it to finish for the end of class. Then, ask kids to line up and/or transition to Large Group.



Craft Example



Step 1: Glue the head onto the sheep's body.

Step 2: Glue the cotton balls onto the sheep's body.



Step 3: Add the clothespins onto the bottom of the sheep's body to create legs.



Step 4: Add the God statement sticker to the back of the sheep & write each child's name on their sheep.

6:25-6:50pm
9:25-9:50am
11:25-11:50am

LARGE GROUP

The goal of Large Group is to help kids grow in their relationship with God by participating in Worship and hearing an engaging Bible story.



EXPECTATIONS

As kids transition to Large Group time, play the expectations video.



HOST MOMENT

After the Large Group expectations video is finished, the Host should welcome the kids in an engaging way and share the daily host content.



SAY:

Welcome! We're so glad you're here today! Let's take a few minutes to look at our Missions project for the day and our Key Verse.

MISSION FOCUS

Introduce or share an update about the current mission focus.

KEY VERSE

Introduce the key verse then have the kids watch the Key Verse video.

PRAY FOR WORSHIP & BIBLE LESSON



WORSHIP

Invite your Worship Leader to come up and play the worship song videos. Encourage kids to participate and be respectful to others.

SONG 1: Do Ya

SONG 2: Jesus Loves Me



LESSON VIDEO

Play the daily Bible lesson video.



WORSHIP RESPONSE

Lead the kids through a quiet time of responding to what God is teaching them.



PRAYER

Help create a smooth transition from Worship Response by praying over the kids.



OFFERING

Highlight the opportunity to give back to God through our offering.



BLESSING

As Large Group ends, speak this blessing over the kids.

WORSHIP RESPONSE



REFLECT: Jesus is Our Shepherd!

Help kids reflect on the lesson by providing a quiet space for the Holy Spirit to work in their hearts as they think about how it applies to them personally.

Worship Response Station

Supplies: Mini sheep figurines (to be passed out at check-out in each classroom)



SAY:

A shepherd takes care of sheep and protects them from danger. In the same way, Jesus is our shepherd. He is our protector, guide, and Savior who loves us completely.



DO:

- Ask the kids to quietly participate in the following activity. Say:
 - ***Did you know sheep don't really know how to take care of themselves? They easily get lost, don't know how to fight off predators and often don't know where to find fresh food and water.***
 - ***That's why sheep need shepherds - they take care of the sheep!***
 - ***Did you know we are kind of like sheep, too? Sometimes we don't know the right choices to make. Sometimes we get scared, make mistakes, or need help. That's why God sent Jesus to be our Shepherd!***
 - ***Jesus knows each of us and he cares for each of us!***
 - ***As you leave today, your teacher will give you a little sheep. Put this sheep somewhere at home where you will see it and remember that Jesus is your shepherd and He takes care of you!***



PRAYER

Help create a smooth transition from Worship Response by praying over the kids.



OFFERING

Highlight the opportunity to give back to God through our offering.



SAY:

God gives to us...so we give back to God! Offering is an opportunity every week to give some of our money to God as a way to say "Thank you, God!" for all He has done for us.



BLESSING

As Large Group ends, speak this blessing over the kids.



SAY: *May you trust that Jesus is the good shepherd who cares for you and loves you!*

6:50-7:10pm
9:50-10:10am
11:50am-12:10pm

RESPOND

The goal of Respond is for kids to think about the lesson and how it applies to them. It should be completed in small groups of 5-7 kids per one Ministry Partner.



APPLY: Why Does it Matter?

Help kids process what they learned in the lesson by answering the Big 3 questions you asked at the beginning of class.



SAY:

Let's answer THE BIG 3 questions for today's lesson & talk about how it applies to our lives!

1. Who was our story about today?

Jesus and us

2. What was the problem?

Jesus explained that someone who is simply hired to take care of sheep will not protect them from danger if it comes

3. What did God do?

Jesus is different than a hired worker. He is our good shepherd. He would do anything to protect His sheep (us) - even as far as laying down His life for us!

4. Why does this matter to me?

Jesus is my protector, guide, and Savior who loves me and laid down His life for me. Jesus is my shepherd!

5. How can I apply this to my own life?

Example: when I'm scared, I can pray and talk to Jesus; I can thank Jesus for being my shepherd.



PRAY: Connect Relationally

Help kids understand the power of praying together.



SAY:

Does anyone have a prayer request they'd like to share? You can also share with a leader privately, if you don't want to share aloud.



DO:

Invite kids to pray for each other, then the leader closes in prayer.

As parents
arrive after
service

CHECK-OUT

The goal of check-out is to re-connect kids with their parent and communicate any upcoming events or announcements as families leave.



DO:

Encourage kids to finish their activities or play classroom games until their parent comes to pick them up.

As kids get picked up, mention any announcements while handing their parent the announcement card.