



Lesson 52

2s & 3s

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



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 time is to greet parents/guardians and children by name and help them feel known and welcome by creating a welcoming environment.



WELCOME FAMILIES

As kids arrive to check-in, greet them and help them feel safe, seen and secure.



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.

(Insert parent name), do you have a diaper bag or any other specific instructions for today? *(Respond accordingly)* Enjoy service!



DO:

Help kids feel **SAFE** (physically & emotionally), **SEEN** (known & understood) and **SOOTHED** (calmed & supported) so they can become **SECURE** in your classroom.



FREE PLAY

The goal of free play is to create space for toddlers to get adapted to the classroom so they can connect with the Ministry Partners and other kids.



DO:

As kids play with the classroom toys and games, take time to connect on their level. Initiate conversation by relating to something the child is doing, something you notice about him/her or an overview of what they can expect during class. The goal is to help them feel safe and connected.

Examples:

- That's a nice red shirt you're wearing! Is red your favorite color?
- I see you're holding a yellow lego. What are you building?
- I see that you're sad. Your grown ups went to church but they'll be back soon.
- We're going to learn about Jesus here. When we clean up our toys, we're going to do a craft.

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.



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



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!



DO:

Help kids glue the head onto their sheep's body and glue the cotton balls onto the 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.



CONNECT: Why Does It Matter?

Help kids prepare for the lesson by discussing the Big 3 questions.



SAY:

Answer THE BIG 3 questions to help kids prepare for the lesson

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!



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 transition to Large Group by sitting quietly in the designated story area.



SAY:

Let's all work together to clean up so we can hear our Bible story for the day. We can sing a song as we clean!

Sing: "Clean up, clean up, everybody do your share. Clean up, clean up, everybody everywhere."



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.

6:25-6:40pm
9:25-9:40am
11:25-11:40am

LARGE GROUP

The goal of Large Group is to help kids grow in their relationship with God through Worship, an engaging Bible story and a time of response.



EXPECTATIONS

As you begin Large Group, play the Church Today Expectations video
(Plex > Videos > EC > 2s & 3s)



SAY:

We're glad to be at church today.
We will listen, we will pray.
We'll sit quietly in our spot.
We'll tell Jesus we love Him a lot!



DO:

PRAY before transitioning to worship.



WORSHIP

Use the Little Kids music videos on Plex to sing some simple songs with your class.
To access these videos, go to Plex > Videos > EC > 2s/3s folder.

SONG 1: The B-I-B-L-E

SONG 2: Rejoice in the Lord

SONG 3: Jesus Loves Me



BIBLE STORY

Use the Hamilton puppet to help read the Bible story (see script on page 4). Use the flipbook provided.



WORSHIP RESPONSE

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.

Supplies: None

Jesus is our shepherd! Just like a shepherd knows his sheep and takes care of his sheep, Jesus knows each of us! Let's do an activity to help us remember how Jesus cares for each of us. ***Invite kids to crawl around the room like a sheep. As they crawl, say each child's name. When their name is called, they can say "Jesus is my shepherd"***



BLESSING

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

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

BIBLE STORY

Hamilton's Prop: sheep



INTRODUCTION - HAMILTON

Use the Hamilton puppet to introduce the lesson topic and get the kids engaged.



SAY:

Hi Hamilton! **Hamilton is holding a tiny sheep.** What do you have with you today, Hamilton? **Hamilton whispers in your ear.** Awe, you brought a little sheep friend to help tell our Bible story today? That's a great idea! Friends, today we're learning about how Jesus is our shepherd! And it sounds like Hamilton is ready to help tell the story! **Hamilton nods.** If you're ready to hear our Bible story, can you wiggle your ears with me? **Wiggle ears together.** Let's dive in!



BIBLE STORY

Use the Hamilton puppet to help read the Bible story. Use the story cards in your curriculum folder as you read the story.



SAY:

One day, Jesus told a story about some sheep and a shepherd. **Hamilton waves the sheep around.** Sheep always need someone to take care of them. They need help to stay safe and find food. **What sound do sheep make, friends? Let kids respond.**

Jesus said, "I am the good shepherd." **Can you show me a thumbs up?**

A good shepherd loves his sheep. He guides them right away. He keeps them safe from danger. He stays close and watches over them.

Jesus loves us just like the good shepherd loves his sheep. **Can you give yourself a big hug?** Jesus knows each one of us, and He would do anything for us! He helps us, leads us, and protects us every day!

We can trust and follow Him because **Jesus is our shepherd!**

6:40-6:55pm
9:40-9:55am
11:40-11:55am

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.



SAY IT OUT LOUD!

Help the students remember the God Statement for the day by repeating it aloud and doing simple motions to help them remember the phrase.



SAY:

Today our God statement is **Jesus is Our Shepherd!**

Let's say it together in a fun way to help us remember it.

Say it loudly, softly and in a fun voice. Then do the hand motions.



DO:

Use simple hand motions to help kids remember the God Statement as you say it together.



ACTIVITY- Follow the Shepherd

If you have extra time at the end of your lesson and small group time, the students can participate in this activity that reinforces the daily lesson.

Supplies: none



SAY:

Today we learned that a shepherd leads sheep and helps keep them safe. Jesus leads us too! Lets play a follow the leader game and practice following our shepherd together.



DO:

Invite the kids to stand up and follow you around the room like sheep following the shepherd. Lead them through simple actions like:

- *Walking slowly*
- *Tiptoeing*
- *Hopping over "rocks"*
- *Find a hiding spot*
- *Gather to the "pen"*
- *Go to sleep*
- *Say "baah"*

Encourage kids to stay close and follow the shepherd as you guide them safely around the room. After each action, encourage kids to say "Jesus is my shepherd!" Remind them that Jesus leads and cares for us every day!

6:55-7:10pm
9:55-10:10am
11:55am-12:10pm

EAT & PLAY

The goal of this time is to provide a snack, introduce kids to structured classroom games, have free play and to encourage interaction and participation with others.



SNACK

Check your classroom roster to ensure none of your kids have allergies, then offer each child a snack and water (provided in your classroom).



GAME IDEAS

While your class can participate in free play for most of the remaining classroom time, please try to lead at least one structured activity with your class.



DO:

- Play “I Spy” focusing on color, shape, and letter recognition
- Freeze Dance
- Duck, Duck, Goose
- Hot Potato
- Charades
- Odd One Out Game
- Hokey, Pokey
- Popcorn Parachute Game
- Read a book or a story out of picture Bible
- Gather paper and crayons and practice drawing

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 Explore craft or play classroom games until their parent comes to pick them up.

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