



Lesson  
**48**

1st-4th

# PARABLE OF THE LOST SHEEP

July 19 & 20

**GOD PURSUES US**



## LESSON GOAL:

**Background:** Jesus used many stories, called parables, to teach people something bigger about who Jesus is and how he wants us to live. In this parable, Jesus is illustrating God's love and care for people. In this story, a shepherd with 100 sheep leaves the 99 of them to search for one that is lost.

**Lesson Goal:** For kids to understand that God loves and cares about each of us, individually. He pursues us, even when we do bad things and turn away from Him.

**Luke 15:1-7**

## ANNOUNCEMENTS:

### Awana

Wednesday, September 10th  
Rockrimmon, Heights & Monument

**THEME FOR THIS SERIES:**  
Farmer Pete



## KEY VERSE:

"The Word became a human being.  
He made his home with us. We have  
seen his glory."

**John 1:14, NIRV**

## MISSION FOCUS:

### PB&J DRIVE

This month, we are preparing for the school season with a mission that's sticky and sweet! We are gathering peanut butter and jelly for families in need.

PB&J is super important for families getting ready to go back to school. That's why we are partnering with our ACTs ministry to serve kids and families right here in our community, and YOU get to be a part of it.

From now until August 2<sup>nd</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup>, bring a peanut butter and jelly to help share God's love with those in need!



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.



I'm so glad to see you today, *(insert child/parent name)*!

Grab today's **Lesson Card**. Look up the Bible passage in your own Bible or a classroom Bible and leave your card there as a bookmark. Then, 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: God Pursues Us!

Help kids connect relationally by asking them about their week, then discuss the lesson topic for the day and read the Bible passage together.



Let's take turns sharing 3 words about our week. I'll go first!  
*Share your 3 words then invite the next child to share.*



Today, we are learning about how **God Pursues Us**. This story comes from the Bible in **Luke 15:1-7**. Can you open your Bible to the passage with me so we can read it together?



Read the Bible passage aloud or pick a child to read it aloud.



## 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, a shepherd, us

**2. What is the problem?**

The shepherd lost one of his sheep

**3. What will God do?**

The shepherd searched until he found the one lost sheep - just like God pursues each of us who are lost until we are found in Him!

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:** sheep cardstock, cotton balls, glue, markers/crayons, God statement sticker



### DO:

Pass out one cardstock sheep craft per child. Have them take the cotton balls and glue them on their sheep. Then allow them to decorate their picture around the sheep. Have the child put the God statement sticker on their craft.



### SAY:

God pursues us! We are going to learn about a special story today. The lost sheep! Just like the sheep in the story, God pursues us and wants a relationship with us. Let's make a special craft to prepare us for this lesson today.



## 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



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:** Where Would I Be

**SONG 2:** The One



## 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.



## BLESSING

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

*May you trust that God will pursue you because God loves you SO much!*



## TRANSITION

After the blessing, the Host should dismiss the kids to return quietly to their classroom (if applicable) and transition to Respond.



# WORSHIP RESPONSE



## REFLECT: God Pursues Us!

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:** none



#### SAY:

Jesus used this parable to teach an important lesson about listening and believing God's Word. Today, we learned how God pursues us, just like the good shepherd pursued the one lost sheep! God loves and cares about each of us, individually. He pursues us, even when we feel far way from Him.



#### DO:

- Ask the kids to quietly participate in the following activity. Say:
  - ***God pursues us! That means that God won't stop looking for us until He finds us. Why? Because God loves us THAT much!***
  - ***Let's act out what it means that God pursues us!***
    - Invite all the kids to cover their faces with their hands. Then, teachers/LITs can walk around and tap each one and say "God pursues you! God loves you!" as you "find" the lost kids.
  - ***As you go into this week, remember that God loves you and God pursues you!***
- Close the time by praying over the kids.



## BLESSING

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



#### SAY:

*May you trust that God will pursue you because God loves you SO much!*

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, a shepherd, us

**2. What was the problem?**

The shepherd lost one of his sheep

**3. What did God do?**

The shepherd searched until he found the one lost sheep - just like God pursues each of us who are lost until we are found in Him!

**4. Why does this matter to me?**

God pursues and loves me, even when I feel lost or do bad things.

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

Example: I can thank God for pursuing me; I can ask God for forgiveness when I turn away or sin; I can share God's love with someone else who might be lost



## PRAY: Connect Relationally

Help kids understand the power of praying together. Use the Prayer Tags from Check-In to write down prayer requests to take home and pray for during the week.



**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 them the announcement card and ensuring they take their weekly **Lesson Card**.