



Lesson
48

2s & 3s

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



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, our mission is something sticky and sweet! We get to be big helpers and bring peanut butter and jelly to help families get ready for school.

Our church friends—called the ACTS ministry—share what we bring with kids and families right here in our community, and YOU get to be a part of it.

From now until August 2nd & 3rd, bring 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 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: 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.



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, 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!



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



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: He's Got the Whole World

SONG 2: My Jesus

SONG 3: I Thank God



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

God pursues us! That means that God won't stop looking for us until He finds us. Why? Because God loves us THAT much! ***Invite all the kids to hide around the room or cover their faces. Then, teachers/LITs can walk around and tap each one and say "God pursues you! God loves you!" as you "find" the lost kids.*** God loves you and God pursues you!



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!

BIBLE STORY

Hamilton's Prop: sheep (hide near story time before starting)



INTRODUCTION - HAMILTON

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



SAY:

Hi Hamilton! **Hamilton waves as he's looking for something frantically.** What are you looking for, Hamilton? **Hamilton whispers in your ear.** Oh no! You lost your new sheep toy? We can help you find it! **Invite kids to look around until someone finds the little sheep.** Yay! We found it! That reminds me of one of Jesus' special stories He told in the Bible. Do you want to listen to our story with us to learn more? **Hamilton nods excitedly.** Friends, if you're ready to hear our Bible story today, 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:

When Jesus lived on earth, He told lots of different stories called parables to help followers know how to live. Can we all say parable together? Parable! Today's parable is called the Parable of the Lost Sheep.

Here's what Jesus taught: **(Have Hamilton act out the story with the sheep as you read it)**

- A man has 100 sheep and one goes missing, so what does he do? He leaves the 99 sheep to go look for the one sheep that's lost. **Can you pretend to look for a lost sheep?**
- When the man finds his one lost sheep, he will be so excited as he puts the sheep on his shoulder and goes home.
- When the man gets home, he will call all his friends and neighbors to tell them the good news. He will invite them to celebrate with him over his found sheep! **Let's clap to celebrate!**

The man didn't stop looking until he found his lost sheep and God does the same thing with us because He loves us. God pursues each of us. And when we are found, God celebrates in heaven that we have been found! God loves us and God pursues us!

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 kids remember the God Statement for the day by repeating it aloud and doing the hand motions.



SAY:

Today our God statement is **God Pursues Us!**

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:

God (hand vertical in front of face then move down to chest)

Pursues Us (point to self)



ACTIVITY- Find the Sheep

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

Supplies: small sheep cutout



SAY:

Even when we do bad things or wander away from God, He still loves us and wants to find us. Just like the sheep in our story today, the shepherd left all the other sheep to find the one that was lost! Let's play a game to help us remember this story.



DO:

Pick a child to hide the sheep cutout. Then, all the kids can work together to find the hidden sheep. When the sheep is found, have the kids say "God pursues us!" Play until all kids have had a turn to hide the sheep.

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, utilize the prayer station 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.