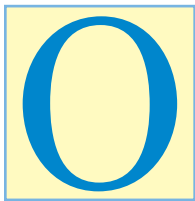


LESSON 6

REFERENCES: LUKE 15:4-7; CHRIST'S OBJECT LESSONS, PP. 186-192.

The Lost Sheep

Have you ever been in a store or at a park, and when you looked up you couldn't see your parents? Did you feel lost? Did you cry? You probably felt like the sheep in a story Jesus once told.



Once a shepherd owned 100 sheep. He took good care of his sheep. Every day he led them to green, grassy fields where they could find plenty to eat. Every day he took

them to clear, cool water where they could get enough to drink. Every day he chased away wild animals that might hurt his sheep. And every night he led them to a safe place. Before he went to bed, the shepherd counted his sheep to make sure they were all there. The shepherd loved his sheep, and the sheep felt safe in the shepherd's care.

But one night when the shepherd counted his sheep, a look



Memory Verse

"[Jesus says,] 'You can be sure that I will be with you always.'"

MATTHEW 28:20, ICB.

The Message

Jesus watches over us all the time.

of worry came over his face. Something wasn't right. He counted again, just to be sure, and then again. Something was definitely wrong. One of his sheep was missing.

The shepherd didn't stop to think about how hungry he was. He didn't worry about his sore feet. He didn't say, "I'll go look for that lost sheep tomorrow, when it's not so dark, and when I'm not tired." He didn't say, "I still have 99 sheep here. I don't really need the one that's missing." Not at all. The shepherd loved every one of his sheep, so he stopped everything he was doing to look for the sheep that was lost.

Looking for a lost sheep at night isn't easy. The shepherd bumped into rocks. He scratched himself on prickly bushes. But far away he could hear the sound of a frightened sheep crying. The poor sheep knew it was lost. It knew it wouldn't be safe until it was back with the shepherd.

The shepherd followed the bleating sound. He could tell he was getting closer and closer. And then, by the light of the moon, he could see his sheep caught in a thorny bush.



Gently the shepherd pulled apart the bush. He didn't care about the prickles that poked and scratched his hands. He just wanted to set his sheep free so he could take it safely home. And then, once it was free, the shepherd gently put the sheep over his shoulders and carried it home.

The sheep was heavy, but the shepherd didn't mind. He was happy he had found his sheep. And the sheep was happy too. It knew it was safe again now that the shepherd had found it.

Jesus is our shepherd and we are His sheep. He will take care of us just as the shepherd took care of his sheep. He loves every one of us and wants us to be with Him.

Do and Say

SABBATH

Each day this week read the lesson story and use the motions as you review the memory verse.

“**[Jesus says,]** . . . Point upward.

‘You Point to others.

can be sure Fist hits palm of other hand.

that I Point upward.

will be with . . . Arms spread out wide.
you always.”

Matthew 28:20. . . Palms together; then open as if opening a book.

Let your child hang the door hanger made in Sabbath School on their bedroom door. Help make plans to give it to someone this week.

SUNDAY

Go to a place to see animals. As you identify each animal, ask: Does Jesus watch over this animal? Help your child make the sound the animal makes. Thank Jesus for the animals.



MONDAY

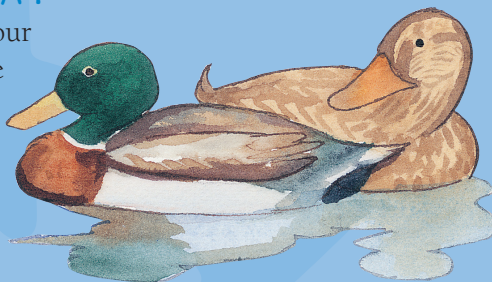
Play follow-the-leader together.

Sing the following to the tune of “Frère Jacques.”

“Jesus loves me, Jesus loves me,
I’m so glad, I’m so glad!
He will never leave me, He will never
leave me,
I feel safe, I feel safe.”

TUESDAY

Help your child make noises a lamb makes (baa, baa) and other animals



(ducks—*quack*; geese—*honk*; chicks—*cheep*). Say: Just as the mother ducks, geese, and hens watch over their babies, we watch over you. And Jesus watches over all of us.

WEDNESDAY

Help your child “read” the pictures in the lesson story. Ask: Who is watching over us right now? Thank Jesus for watching over us all the time.

THURSDAY

Show your child a picture of Jesus. Say: Jesus is with me when I _____. (You finish the sentence.) Have your child look at the picture and say: Jesus is with me when I _____. Teach your family the song from Monday’s activity.

FRIDAY

Help your child show the pictures and tell the lesson story during worship. Sing about Jesus’ love, then thank Him for it.