

MAIN POINT:

Jesus said, 'I Am the Good Shepherd!'

MEMORY VERSE:

"I am the good shepherd. I know my sheep and my sheep know me." John 10:14

BIBLE STORY SUMMARY:

In the book of John, Jesus made seven "I Am..." statements. The fourth was "I Am the Good Shepherd." Because many people in that day were shepherds or were familiar with shepherds, Jesus spoke in a way they would understand. He told them how a good shepherd knows his sheep by name. The good shepherd will protect his sheep. If a bear or a lion comes, the shepherd will protect the sheep, even to the point of giving his life for the sheep. The sheep know their shepherd's voice and respond to it. If a hired hand is caring for the sheep, the sheep do not respond in the same way as the shepherd. If danger comes, the hired hand will run away sparing his own life over the sheep. In the same way Jesus is the Good Shepherd and we are His sheep. He knows us and we know Him. He lays down His life for his sheep.

WATCH IT

Find the lesson video on our website: <https://cchurch.ca/childrens-online>

DO IT → SHEEP VERSE HOLDER CRAFT

Supplies:

- White foam pieces (4 per child, see last pages for template)
- Black foam circle – 1.5 inch (1 per child)
- Verse template (1 per child, see last page)
- Googly eyes (2 per child)
- Wooden spring-style clothespins (2 per child)
- Black Sharpie
- Glue stick
- Scissors

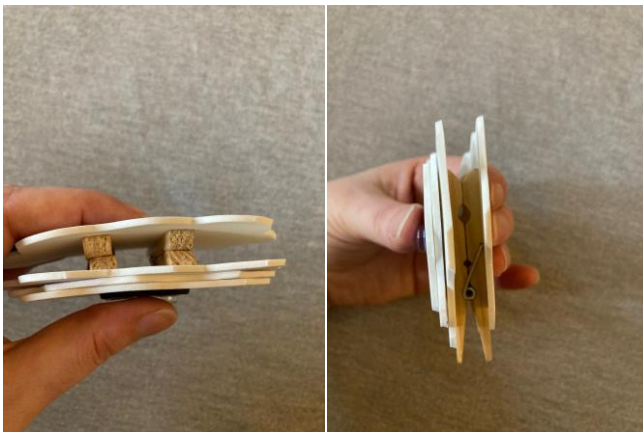
Activity Instructions:

- Cut out the foam using the templates.
- Layer the two smaller white foam pieces onto one of the larger ones. Add the black circle onto the top to make the sheep's face. Glue all in place.
- Glue the googly eyes onto the sheep's face.

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- Glue the clothespins to the back of the sheep with the clipping parts pointing up. You will want a small part of the clothespins to stick evenly out of the bottom as feet, so it can stand.
- Colour the feet black with the Sharpie.
- Glue the second, large white foam piece to the back of the clothespins.



- Clip the verse card into the clothespins to hold it, then stand the sheep on a nightstand or table top to remind you that Jesus said, “I Am the Good Shepherd.”

TALK ABOUT IT:

Do this section with your child while they are assembling their craft.

1. **How would you feel if someone who was supposed to protect you, ran away when trouble came?** (Abandoned, scared, angry). **How would you feel if someone stepped in to protect you and laid down their life for you?** (Grateful, overwhelmed, happy.)

2. **Jesus is the good shepherd. Today we learned that He protects us and provides for us. Think of a time when you felt that God was protecting you, or a time when He provided for your family.** (Encourage them to share and share examples from your own life.)

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3. **Jesus is our good shepherd. He protects us and cares for us. He knows each of us by name. Jesus wants us to spend time talking to Him, and listening, so that we know His voice and want to follow Him. This week, be listening for God's voice. We can hear God's voice in our heads sometimes, telling us to do something that's right, or telling us that we shouldn't do something because it's wrong. Can you remember a time when you felt God telling you something? Maybe you heard Him telling you to include someone who was feeling left out of a game. Maybe you were just about to sneak a treat when you heard God's voice telling you not to.** (Encourage them, that if they haven't ever heard His voice, that they can start now to practice listening. Share a time from your own life when you heard God's voice.)

FAMILY PRAYER:

Dear God, thank You that Jesus is the good shepherd. Thank You that He knows us, protects us, and cares for us. We want to know Him just like a sheep knows their shepherd. We love You. In Jesus' name, Amen.

OFFERING:

Our Children's Ministries offering from January to March will be going to our Compassion Kids! Lluvia and Ulises live in Mexico, and our offering will help provide them with clothes, school supplies, and other important items.

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