

September Week 1

Overview Card

The Parable of the Lost Sheep



Key Question:
Bottom Line:
Memory Verse:

Who loves you?
God loves me.
“Nothing can separate us from God’s love”
Romans 8:39, NIV

Bible Story:

God loves us more than a shepherd loves His sheep.
The Parable of the Lost Sheep*
Luke 15: 1-7

Coloring Page:

Jesus tells the story of the lost sheep.

Music:

Who Knows Best
Hosanna Rock
Great Big God

**the Jesus
Storybook Bible:**

“Running away”
page 272



September Week 1

ACTIVITY

Hide the Sheep



1. Hide the Sheep

What You Need: "Sheep" (from the Activity Pages on the Web site), white cardstock, scissors, and tape.

What You Do:

At the start of the activity: Copy "Sheep" onto white cardstock and cut out about 20 sheep. Tape the cutouts all over the room, being careful not to tape them in very obvious spots.

During the activity: Place children into small groups. Explain that there are lost sheep all around the room and ask them to find as many as they can.

What You Say:

At the start of the activity: "Can you help me find my sheep? (Pause.) They are all lost in this room. Sheep can be tricky to find because they like to hide, so look closely!"

At the end of the activity: "Thank you so much for finding all my sheep! Today we are going to hear a true story from the Bible about someone else who lost his sheep. Are you ready to hear our Bible story for today? (Pause.) Me too!"



September Week 1

ACTIVITY

Ball of Love



2. Ball of Love

What You Need: A medium size rubber ball.

What You Do: Stand or sit in a circle with the children. If you are standing, you will toss the ball to each other. If you are sitting, you will roll the ball to each other. Begin the game by saying, "God loves (*insert child's name*)!" Toss or roll the ball to the child you call out. Ask the younger children to toss or roll the ball back to you so you can repeat this with each child. Older children can keep the game going by choosing another friend, saying, "God loves (*insert friend's name*)," and then tossing or rolling the ball to the person they call out. Keep the game going as long as the children are having fun.

What You Say:

At the end of the activity: "God loves (*insert child's name*), and God loves (*insert another child's name*), and God loves ... (*continue this until you've named all the children*). God loves all of us! We are all very special to Him. **Who loves you? [Bottom Line] God loves me!**"



September Week 1

ACTIVITY

The Missing Piece



3. The Missing Piece

What You Need: Large Piece Puzzle.

What You Do: Take away one piece of the puzzle before the activity begins and hide it somewhere in the room. Stand or sit in a circle with the children. Put the puzzle together with the children. Once they notice that a piece is missing, search the room for the missing piece and once found complete the puzzle.

What You Say:

At the end of the activity: "The shepherd really loved his sheep in our Bible story today. What did the shepherd do when he saw that one of his sheep was missing? You're right! He went looking for it! He loved his sheep and didn't want anything bad to happen to it.

"Do you know what my favorite part of this story is? God loves you, and **[Bottom Line] God loves me MORE** than that shepherd loved his sheep. That's right! The Bible says **[Bottom line] God loves me more!** Say that with me! **[Bottom Line] God loves me more! Who loves you? [Bottom Line] God loves me!**



September Week 1

CRAFT

Story Sheep



4. Story Sheep

What You Need: "Sheep" (from the Activity Pages on the Web site), white cardstock, scissors, glue sticks, cotton balls, and craft sticks.

What You Do:

Before the activity: Copy "Sheep" onto white cardstock for each child and cut out the picture.

During the activity: Give each child a sheep picture. Instruct them to cover the inside of their sheep with glue. Next, show them how to pull the cotton balls apart to make them fluffy and then press them to the area where they put glue. The goal is to cover their sheep picture with fluffy cotton to give it the look and feel of a sheep. The last step is gluing a large craft stick to the bottom of the sheep picture.

What You Say: "The shepherd really loved his sheep in our Bible story today. What did the shepherd do when he saw that one of his sheep was missing? You're right! He went looking for it! He loved his sheep and didn't want anything bad to happen to it.

"Do you know what my favorite part of this story is? God loves you, and **[Bottom Line] God loves me MORE** than that shepherd loved his sheep. That's right! The Bible says **[Bottom line] God loves me more!** Say that with me! **[Bottom Line] God loves me more! Who loves you? [Bottom Line] God loves me!** And now you have your very own little sheep to remind you that God loves you and **[Bottom Line] God loves me MORE!**"



September Week 1 - Clubhouse

GAME

Shepherd,
Shepherd,
Where's Your
Sheep



GAME: Shepherd, Shepherd, Where's Your Sheep?

What You Need: Small Toy Sheep

What to Do:

Have the children sit in a circle. Select one child to be the **shepherd**. The **shepherd** sits in the center of the circle with his eyes closed. Have the other children put their hands behind their backs. The leader walks around the outside of the circle and secretly places the sheep in the hands of one of the children. Once the sheep is hidden, lead the children to say, "***Shepherd, shepherd where's your sheep?***" Then the **shepherd** in the circle has 3 chances to guess who has the sheep behind his back. The child who has the sheep goes to the center of the circle and closes his eyes and is now the new **shepherd**. The leader then walks around the outside of the circle and places the sheep again in the hands of one of the children.

Alternate Activity:

Instead of the leader placing the sheep, let the children pass the sheep around the circle. The **shepherd** in the center has his eyes closed. When the leader says, "***Shepherd, shepherd, where's your sheep?***" the sheep is no longer passed and all the children put their hands behind their backs. Whoever has the sheep at that point keeps it hidden behind his back. The **shepherd** in the circle has 3 chances to guess who has the sheep behind his back.



September Week 1 - Clubhouse

GAME

Sheep Roundup Game



Game: Sheep Roundup Game

What You Need: Empty box, Cotton Balls, Plastic Spoons, Music

What to Do:

Give each child a plastic spoon. Place an empty box near the center of the room. Scatter white cotton balls all around the room. Ask children to pick up the cotton balls with their spoons and drop the cotton balls in the box.

What to Say:

You'll have to move fast—we can only herd our sheep back safely to the “sheep pen” as long as the music is playing. Thank your children for being good shepherds who love their sheep—just like **God loves us!**

