

OVERVIEW CARD THE LOST SHEEP

Key Question: Who loves you? **Bottom Line:** Jesus loves you?

Memory Verse: "How wide and long and high and deep is the

love of Christ." Ephesians 3:18, NIV

Bible Story: God cares about me.

The Lost Sheep Luke 15:3-7

Coloring Page: Jesus tells the story of the lost sheep.

Music: Get Down Remix

The Lord's Army Everywhere We Go

Story: The Beginners Bible Handout

The Lost Sheep Pages 412 to 417

Service Time: 74 minutes





Wide and High

What You Need: A large piece of art paper, a marker, tape, and scrap paper.

What You Do: Tape the art paper to the wall in a vertical line, beginning at the floor. You will use it to record how high the children can jump. Make sure to write the children's names beside their recorded jumps. Then begin to lead the children in a variety of wide and high activities, such as the following:

- Open your mouths as wide as you can.
- Stretch your arms out to the side as wide as you can.
- Stretch your legs as wide apart as you can.
- Jump as high as you can in front of the paper so I can mark how *high* you jumped.
- Ball up a piece of paper and see how high you can throw it.

(Note: Add more wide and high movements if time allows. Revisit favorite actions that the children want to try again.)

What You Say: "You can really jump high! Wow! Your mouth is SO wide! Did you see how high that paper went? Our Bible verse this month says, 'How wide and long and high and deep is the love of Christ,' Ephesians 3:18. Nothing is wider or higher than Jesus' love for you. Jesus loves you THAT much! Who loves you? Jesus loves me!"





Deep and Wide

What You Need: No supplies are needed.

What You Do: Have the children spread out in front of you. Teach them the following song and motions. After you sing it with them a few times and they know the words, challenge them to sing it very quickly and then very slowly. Also do versions of the song in low voices and then in high, squeaky voices. Be creative and come up with your own versions to sing the song that will keep their attention. The sillier the better! For example, sing while standing on one foot, sing with your eyes closed, or even whisper the song.

What You Say:

During the activity: "Deep (hold arms out vertically) and wide (hold arms out horizontally), deep (hold arms out vertically) and wide (hold arms out horizontally), there's a fountain flowing (wiggle fingers in a vertical motion) deep (hold arms out vertically) and wide (hold arms out horizontally)."

At the end of the activity: "Whew! That was fun! I love being silly! Today we talked about something that IS deep and wide. Do you remember what it was?"





Here, There, and Everywhere!

What You Need: "My Sheep" (from the Activity Pages on the Web site), and tape (optional).

What You Do:

Before the activity: Make enough copies of "My Sheep" so that, when cut apart, each child will have his or her own sheep picture.

During the activity: Make sure each child has a sheep picture. Tell the children to listen closely as you call out a direction. Their job is to hold their sheep wherever you tell them to hold it. Some examples include telling the kids to hold their sheep up, down, over their heads, under their feet, in their hands, on the floor, in front of them, behind them, etc.

What You Say:

At the start of the activity: "Does everyone have their fluffy little sheep? Great! You are going to be your little sheep's shepherd. Your job is to help your sheep do the right thing. That means you have to listen very carefully to what I say so you'll know what to do. Got it? Here we go!"

During the activity: "Hold your sheep OVER your head. Good job! Now have your sheep run DOWN your arm." (Continue with other directions.)

At the end of the activity: "A good shepherd loves his sheep no matter where it goes. The sheep can go here (hold your sheep up high), there (hold it out to the side), and everywhere (make a large circle with the sheep), and the shepherd still loves it and cares for it. Jesus loves you even more than a shepherd loves his sheep. It's true! No matter where you go, Jesus will love you. Who loves you? Jesus loves me."





Where Is Your Sheep?

What You Need: A stuffed sheep and a child-size chair.

What You Do: Direct the children to stand in a circle. Place the chair in the middle of the circle. Place the sheep under the chair.

Choose one child to be "It" first and have her sit in the chair. Ask the child who is "It" to close her eyes. Then choose another child from the circle to quietly take the sheep and hide it behind his back.

When the sheep is hidden, say, 'Baa, baa is what it speaks. Baa, baa, where is your sheep?'

"When the rhyme is finished, have the child in the chair guess three people who could have taken the sheep. When the turn is over, have the child in the chair return to the circle and the child who took the sheep sit in the chair. Repeat until each child has had a turn in both positions.

What You Say: "What a fun game! This game reminds me of the story we heard today. We are like God's sheep, and He will always find us if we get lost. He loves us WIDE! Jesus loves us too! Who loves you? Jesus loves me!"





Hide the Sheep

What You Need: "Sheep" (from the Activity Pages on the Web site), 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 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 heard a true story from the Bible about someone else who lost his sheep." Do you remember who that was?





CRAFT THE LOST SHEEP

Sheep

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

What You Do:

Before the activity: Copy "Sheep" onto white cardstock for each child...

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.

What You Say: "What was the shepherd looking for in our Bible story today? (Pause.) Yes! He was looking for his lost sheep. The shepherd loved all of his sheep. He wasn't going to let any of them, not even just one little sheep, go missing. Today we're going to make our very own fluffy sheep to remind us why Jesus told that story. Jesus wanted us to know that God loves us just as the shepherd loved his sheep. And Jesus loves us too. Who loves you? Jesus loves me!"

