

December Week 3



December 15 – 16, 2018

# OVERVIEW CARD

## THE SHEPHERDS

**Key Question:**

How do we know God loves us?

**Bottom Line:**

God gave us Jesus.

**Memory Verse:**

“God has given a son to us.”

*Isaiah 9:6, NCV*

**Bible Story Focus:**

The angels tell about Jesus.

The Shepherds.

Luke 2:8-20

**Coloring Page:**

Shepherds come to greet Jesus.

**Music:**

Special Delivery

Oh What a Special Night

Best Present Ever

**Bible Lesson:**

The Beginner's Bible

Shepherds Visit

Pages 277 to 281

**Story:**

J is for Jesus

By Crystal Bowman

**Memory Verse –**

**“GOD HAS GIVEN A SON TO US.”**

**Isaiah 9:6, NCV**

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# ACTIVITY 1 ALL AGES

## THE SHEPHERDS

### Being Sheep

#### **Big Idea:**

*Children will pretend to be sheep as you pretend to be the shepherd and instruct the “sheep” to go into the hula hoop (pen).*

**What You Need:** 4 Hula-hoops, a CD player, a Christmas CD, Shepherd’s Hook/Pool Noodle

#### **What You Do:**

- Guide the children to stand in front of you.
- Ask the children to pretend to be sheep, and you pretend to a shepherd.
- Remind them that a shepherd takes care of his sheep and makes sure they are safe.
- Encourage the children to get on their hands and knees and say, “baa, baa,” as they move around the room.
- **2/3 Year Olds:** Place the hula-hoops on the floor and instruct your “sheep” to go into the pens (hula-hoops). Repeat several times.
- **4/5 Year Olds:** Play Christmas music while the “sheep” roam. When you stop it, kids must race to crawl into one of the “pens.”

#### **What You Say:**

*After the Activity:* “You were amazing sheep! In our Bible lesson, we heard about angels who came to tell the shepherds some WONDERFUL news! God sent angels to tell the shepherds that God gave us Jesus! Then the shepherds went and told everyone all about Jesus. We should tell everyone about Jesus too! **How do we know God loves us? God gave us Jesus!**”

### Memory Verse –

**“GOD HAS GIVEN A SON TO US.”**

**Isaiah 9:6, NCV**

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## ACTIVITY 2 ALL AGES

THE SHEPHERDS

### Parachute – Memory Verse

#### **Big Idea:**

*Children will play with the parachute while practicing their memory verse.*

**What You Need:** Parachute and cotton balls/white pom poms

#### **What You Do:**

- Place the cotton balls onto the center of the parachute.
- Have the children form a circle and grab onto the sides of the parachute.
- Start shaking the parachute slowly and then shake the parachute faster and faster until all of the cotton balls have fallen off the parachute.
- Collect the cotton balls and start again.
- Once you have done this a couple of times have the children say their memory verse while shaking the parachute, "God has given a son to us." Isaiah 9:6
- Clean up all the cotton balls and **Bring it Back to Jesus\***.

#### **What You Say:**

*After the activity:* "Wow! That was so much fun! In our Bible lesson, we heard about angels who came to tell the shepherds some WONDERFUL news! God sent angels to tell the shepherds that God gave us Jesus! Then the shepherds went and told everyone all about Jesus. We should tell everyone about Jesus too! **How do we know God loves us? God gave us Jesus!**"

**Memory Verse –**

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**Isaiah 9:6, NCV**

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## ACTIVITY 3 ALL AGES

### THE SHEPHERDS

#### Hot Potato

##### **Big Idea:**

*Play a game of Hot Potato with a cotton ball to represent a sheep.*

**What You Need:** White Pom Pom/Cotton Ball or Toy Sheep, CD Player, Christmas CD

##### **What You Do:**

- Invite the children to sit in a circle with you.
- Give one child a white pom pom/cotton ball/toy sheep
- Remind them that shepherds, like the ones in our story, take care of sheep.
- Turn the music on and ask the kids to pass the “sheep” while the music plays.
- Once the music stops the child holding the sheep will repeat the bottom line, **“God gave us Jesus.”**
- Repeat several times.
- Collect the sheep and **\*Bring it Back to Jesus.**
- **Option with 4/5 Year Olds:** Choose one child to sit in the middle and be the shepherd. Ask the child in the middle to close his eyes while you give the sheep to one of the other children in the circle. All of the children in the circle will put their hands behind their backs. Lead the children in asking the shepherd where his sheep is. Then the child in the middle will get one guess at who has the sheep. Give each child a turn sitting in the middle.

##### **What You Say:**

*After the Activity:* In our Bible lesson, we heard about angels who came to tell the shepherds some WONDERFUL news! God sent angels to tell the shepherds that God gave us Jesus! Then the shepherds went and told everyone all about Jesus. We should tell everyone about Jesus too! **How do we know God loves us? God gave us Jesus!”**

#### Memory Verse –

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# **CRAFT**

## STICKER SCENE



### **Manger Scene**

**What You Need:** Nativity Sticker Scenes

#### **What You Do:**

- Give each child a Nativity sticker scene.
- Hold up an example of a completed scene.
- Point to the shepherds and ask the children who you are pointing to.
- Review the Christmas story as the children create their stickers scenes.
- Collect the scenes, put them in the bags and **\*Bring it Back to Jesus**

#### **What You Say:**

*After the activity:* "Great job listening and creating your manger scenes! They look awesome!" In our Bible lesson, we heard about angels who came to tell the shepherds some WONDERFUL news! God sent angels to tell the shepherds that God gave us Jesus! Then the shepherds went and told everyone all about Jesus. We should tell everyone about Jesus too! **How do we know God loves us? God gave us Jesus!"**

**Memory Verse –**

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# STORY/PRAYER TIME

## THE SHEPHERDS

### Story/Prayer Time

**What you Need:** Parent Take Home Card, Coloring Sheet, Storybook, “J is for Jesus”, Playdoh, Cookie Cutters, Rolling Pins, and Sticker Roll

**Read:** Have the children sit at the table while you read the book, “J is for Jesus.” The Children can either play with **playdoh** or color the Shepherds Come to Greet Jesus **coloring sheet** to keep their hands busy while you read.

**Review:** Ask the kids some questions and give them a sticker when they answer.

- Go from child to child and have them repeat the memory verse for a sticker.
- Ask the children the Bottom Line question for a sticker.
- Using the Parent Take Home card, ask each child individually the questions pertaining to this week’s lesson and give out a sticker.

**Pray:** Ask the kids to bow their heads and fold their hands while you pray. Here is a sample prayer you can use if you choose:

*“Dear God, thank you for the good news the shepherds brought to others.... that Jesus was born! Help us to tell others about the wonderful gift of your son. We love you, Amen.”*

**Memory Verse –**

**“GOD HAS GIVEN A SON TO US.”**

**Isaiah 9:6, NCV**