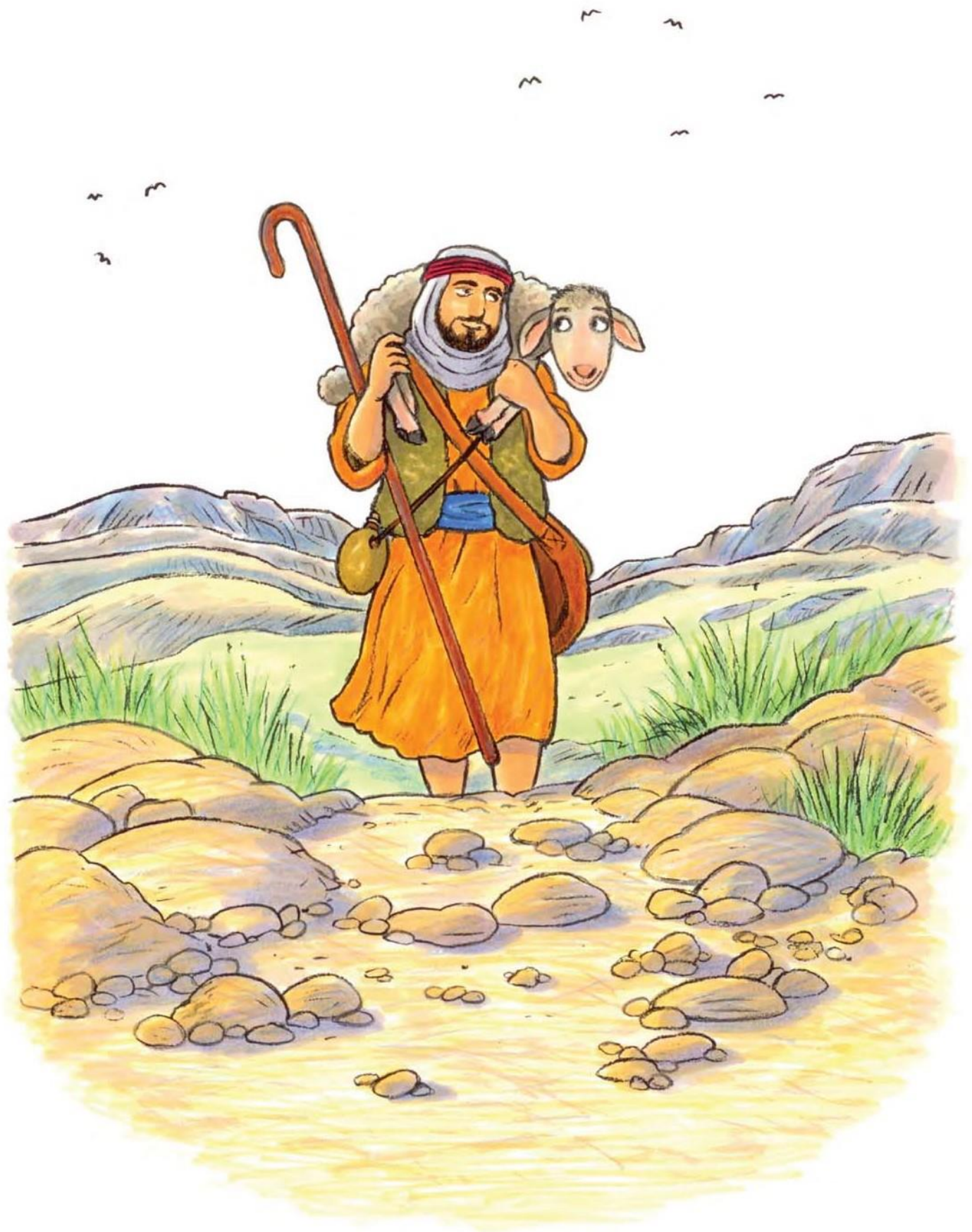


THE GOOD SHEPHERD AND THE LOST SHEEP

Luke 15:1-7



Contents

Message	Jesus seeks out souls like a good shepherd who lost his sheep.
Learning Objectives	The children will learn: <ul style="list-style-type: none">■ Sheep feel safe and secure in the presence of their shepherd.■ Jesus' love for us is as great as the love of a good shepherd for his sheep.■ Jesus loves all, even those who leave Him.■ Everyone is special to Jesus.
Bible Text	Luke 15:1-7

The good shepherd and the lost sheep



Jesus told them, "If a shepherd has a hundred sheep and one runs away and gets lost, does he not leave the ninety-nine behind to go and look for the one that is lost?"

He looks everywhere until he finds it. When he has found the sheep, he is happy. The shepherd lifts it onto his shoulders and carries it home. He shouts to all his friends and neighbours, 'Rejoice with me. I have found the lost sheep.'

There will be just as much joy in heaven over a sinner who repents.

God will be more pleased with this one than with the ninety-nine righteous people who do not need to repent."

When Jesus spoke, everyone drew near to Him. Even the tax collectors and the people who were not good people came.

The Pharisees and scribes complained that Jesus treated everyone, even sinners, with love.

The Good Shepherd and the Lost Sheep

Suggestions for the Teacher

Lead-In

Show the picture to the children. Discuss with them what they see. Ask what she/he may feel....

Let some of the children play the story in a role-play. Instruct them before.

Provide disguise, a hat, a shepherd's crook. Some children play the 99. One is the lost sheep.

The children sing an appropriate hymn.

Lesson Instructions

Begin telling the story...

Discuss with the children...

- Who are the sheep in the parable? (We are the sheep of Jesus.)
- Who is the lost sheep? (People who turn away from God)
- What does Jesus do for them? (He looks for them; he wants to draw them back into His fold.)
- Jesus loves all people. We, too, can count on His love.

Have the children repeat...

- Sheep feel safe in the presence of their shepherd.
- Jesus' love for us is like the love of a good shepherd for his sheep.
- Jesus loves all, even those who leave Him.

Real-Life Application (explain the following)

- Jesus loves us, as a good shepherd loves his sheep.
- "There is much joy in heaven over a sinner who repents".

<p style="text-align: center;">Repeat the Message Jesus seeks out souls like a good shepherd who lost his sheep.</p>
