



The Lost Sheep

Luke 15:4-7

Suggested setting: Kings & Kingdoms Units 5-6 puppet sketches take place around a forest campfire under a night sky with moon and stars on backdrop. Option: String a strand of white lights overhead to create a starry night effect. Adjust setting and puppet names according to available puppeteers and resources.

Characters: Ranger Ryan the Lion is the wise, fatherly forest ranger. He wears a badge and a ranger hat. He gathers everyone at the campfire to tell the lesson's parable. Delbert the Donkey and Lello the Lamb are good friends who love to sit around the campfire and listen to Ranger Ryan tell the stories Jesus told.

Leader (Stands at puppet window.)
Look at this wonderful campfire! I bet my friend Ranger Ryan built it. I love to sit around the campfire and listen to his stories. Have you ever gathered around a campfire? (Children respond.)
Let's call Ranger Ryan and invite him to join us. Can you all roar with me? Roooaar! (Ranger Ryan pops up near campfire.)

Ranger Ryan
Roooaar! Ranger Ryan here. Hello, boys and girls. Come on and let's gather by the campfire. I'd love to tell you one of my special stories. Would you like that? (Children respond.)

Leader
We sure would! We're excited to hear your stories. What kind of stories will you tell us?

Ranger Ryan
I'll tell you stories Jesus told.

Leader
Oh, those are the best stories of all!

Ranger Ryan
That's because His stories help us understand the kingdom of heaven. Now, the story I'm going to tell you today is about a lost sheep.

Leader
A lost sheep? I know someone who loves to hear stories about sheep. Boy and girls, do you think we should call Lello? (Children respond.)

Leader & Children
Hellohhhhhhhhhhh Lello!

Lello (Lello pops up near campfire.)
Yeahhh. (bleating) Hello, everyone!

Leader
Hello, Lello. This is Ranger Ryan. He was just about to tell us a story we think you'll enjoy.

Lello

Ohhhh, I love stories.

Ranger Ryan

This is a story Jesus told. He said, "Suppose a shepherd has a hundred sheep and loses one of them..."

Lello

Oh no. A lost sheep?

Ranger Ryan

"Won't the shepherd go and look for the one lost sheep until he finds it?"

Lello

Yes! And then what?

Ranger Ryan

Jesus said, "When he finds it, he will joyfully put the sheep on his shoulders and go home. Then he will call his friends and neighbors. The shepherd will say, 'Be happy with me! I've found my lost sheep!'"

Lello

Yeah! What a good shepherd!

Leader

That was a great story, Ranger Ryan.

Ranger Ryan

There's more! Jesus said the kingdom of heaven is just like that happy shepherd.

Lello

Really?

Leader

Yes! There is a happy celebration in heaven when anyone turns away from wrongdoing and follows Jesus!

Lello

Yeahhhh, I love that story.

Ranger Ryan

It's one of my favorites, too, Lello. Well, my little ones, it's time for me to check on the other campfires in the forest.

Leader

Will you meet us back here next time?

Ranger Ryan

Yes, I'd love too. See you arrrrround. (Pronounced with a friendly roar.)

Lello

Yeah. Bah-bye every-bahhh-dy.

Leader & Children

Bye, Ranger Ryan! Bye, Lello!

(All exit.)