



The Lost Sheep

Lesson Aim: To know Jesus watches over us.

THE WORSHIP

Who God Is: The King Who Teaches

THE WORD

Bible Story: Luke 15:4-7

What He Has Done: Jesus taught that God finds those who are lost.

THE WAY

Bible Memory Verse: "Sing praises to God, sing praises." Psalm 47:6

Unit 5: The King Who Teaches—Parables 1			
	Bible Story	What He Has Done	Lesson Aim
23	The Lost Sheep, Luke 15:4-7	Jesus taught that God finds those who are lost.	To know Jesus watches over us.
24	The Growing Seed, Mark 4:26-29	Jesus taught that God made the plants grow.	To know God makes us grow.
25	The Wise Builder, Matthew 7:24-27	Jesus taught that the wise man builds his house on a rock.	To know God wants us to make wise choices.
26	The Good Shepherd, John 10:14-16	Jesus taught that He is the Good Shepherd.	To know we belong to Jesus.
27	The Lost Coin, Luke 15:8-10	Jesus taught that the woman rejoiced when she found her lost coin.	To know heaven rejoices over each of us.

TEACHER'S ENCOURAGEMENT

This week, read Hebrews 4:16. Please join us in praying, "Thank You, Lord, for the way You draw us to You and teach us. Fill us with Your Spirit that we might teach the children. Amen."

TEACHER'S TIP

Jesus is our shepherd and we are His sheep. Today, remind the children that Jesus is the Good Shepherd. Just as a shepherd watches over his sheep, Jesus is always watching over us.



**THE WORSHIP
THE WORD &
THE WAY**

Segment	Minutes	Activity	Supplies
THE WELCOME	Up to 15	Welcome	Treasure chest, sticker of a sheep
		Coloring Center: The Lost Sheep	Coloring pages of a shepherd and his sheep, cotton balls, glue sticks, crayons or markers
		Play-Dough Center: Lost and Found	Play-dough, cookie cutters, play-dough tools
		Activity Center: Search for the Lost	Soft, toy sheep
		Game Center: Circle Praise	None
	Up to 5	Prepare for Worship	None
THE WORSHIP	Up to 20	Worship Sheet music and recordings for Bible Memory Verse Songs available at ResourceWell.org. Additional Song Suggestions: "The Wise Man and the Foolish Man"	Praise music, optional: musical instruments Unit 5 Bible Memory Verse Song: "Sing Praises" Other Bible Memory Verse Song Suggestions: "Be Still and Know" "He Is Mighty to Save" "How Wide?" "I Am with You" "I Will Listen" "Let Everything That Has Breath" "Praise Time: Love the Lord Your God"
		Offering	Baskets
		Worship Illustration	<i>The Adventures of Delbert and Lello</i> puppet script or storybook: Kings & Kingdoms Unit 5, Lesson 23
THE WORD	Up to 10	Watch the Word: Luke 15:4-7	Teacher's Bible with bookmark at Luke 15:5-6a Visual: Picture of the Bible story; soft, toy sheep
THE WAY	Up to 25	Craft: Lost and Found Sheep	Sturdy white paper (or felt), label, large craft stick, cotton balls, glue or tape, crayons or markers, optional: pink pompom or button for the nose
		Game: Search for the Sheep	Ten pictures of sheep (Toy sheep or large cotton balls can be substituted for pictures.)
		Game: The Shepherd Will Find You	Blanket or large sheet
		Snack: He Is Watching Over You	Animal crackers
	Final 5	Final Five	Ponder, Pray & Play for 2-3's: Unit 5, Lesson 23
GOT TIME?	Up to 10	Say & Do: Luke 15:4-7	None
	Up to 10	Game: Praise Dance	Unit 5 Bible Memory Verse Song "Sing Praises"
	Up to 10	Game: Circle Praise	None
	Up to 10	Story Time	Any story about sheep and shepherds

RESOURCES: Supplemental materials are available at ResourceWell.org.



Jesus as the King who teaches

THE WELCOME

WELCOME

Welcome each child as they arrive. **Hello _____.** I'm glad you are here! **Come open the Treasure Chest to find today's treasure.** Child unlocks the Treasure Chest to receive a sticker* of a sheep. **Let this sticker of sheep remind you of sheep and the shepherds who care for them. We have a shepherd who cares for us, too! Jesus is our Good Shepherd.**

*Families will be encouraged to keep each child's crafts and stickers for the next ten weeks (Lessons 23-32) in a "Kingdom Stories Treasure Box." See the Craft page and Ponder, Pray & Play card for details.

Teacher's Note: These activity centers are designed to reinforce the lesson through hands-on learning experiences either individually or in small groups with the guidance of the teacher. Choose the Bible Activity Centers that best suit the children in your class. Set up the activity centers around the room before children arrive. Allow children to move freely among them.

COLORING CENTER: THE LOST SHEEP

SUPPLIES

Coloring pages of a shepherd and his sheep, cotton balls, glue sticks, crayons or markers

DO

Children glue a cotton ball on a sheep and color their picture as they talk about today's story.

TALK ABOUT

What animal do you see in this picture? (A sheep.) **What does a sheep say?** (Baa.) Explain to the children that the man in the picture is called a shepherd; a person who takes care of sheep. **What do you think would happen if the shepherd lost his sheep?** (The shepherd would find the sheep.) **Jesus is our shepherd and we are His sheep. He is always watching over and caring for us.**

PLAY-DOUGH CENTER: LOST AND FOUND

SUPPLIES

Play-dough, cookie cutters, play-dough tools

DO

Encourage children to make sheep and a sheep pen with the play-dough while discussing today's Bible story.

TALK ABOUT

Once Jesus told a story about a shepherd who searched for his lost sheep. Let's make some sheep and a sheep pen with the play-dough. We can pretend to take them for a walk and then bring them back to the pen for the night. Count the sheep with the children before taking them out of the pen. Count them again when they are returned. **Are any of the sheep missing?** (No.) Take the sheep out again, but this time, hide a sheep in your hand or lap. When the sheep return, count them again. **Are any of the sheep missing?** (Yes.) **Can you find the missing sheep?** Help the children locate the missing sheep. **You are a good shepherd; you took care of the lost sheep.**

THE WELCOME *continued...*

ACTIVITY CENTER: SEARCH FOR THE LOST

SUPPLIES

Soft, toy sheep

DO

Choose a child to hide the sheep. Have the other children close their eyes or turn their faces to the wall. When the sheep is hidden, say this rhyme to signal to the children that it's time to find the sheep. Play as many times as you like, choosing a different child each time to hide the sheep.

**Little lamb, little lamb where did you go?
We will find you. Ready, set, go!**

TALK ABOUT

You did a great job searching for the lost sheep. Have you ever lost something? (Children respond.)
What did you lose? (Children respond.) **How did you feel when you lost it?** (Children respond.) **Did you find it? How did you feel when you found it?** (Children respond.)

GAME CENTER: CIRCLE PRAISE

SUPPLIES

None

TALK ABOUT

We can praise God by thanking Him for the things we love. He gives us so many good things. Let's praise and thank God for all of those good things!

DO

Children sit in a circle. Choose one child to stand in the center. The children who are seated chant:

"Name of standing child, sings praises to our King!"
"Name of standing child, what is the praise you bring?"

The child who is standing says: **"I praise God for individual praise!"** (Mom, Dad, pet, flowers, church, Bible, etc.) Choose another child to stand in the center. Play until each child has had a turn giving praise.

PREPARE FOR WORSHIP

It's time for Praise Time. Let's sing a "Clean Up Song" as we put things away. Praise children as they help clean.

**Clean up! Clean up! Everybody, everywhere!
Clean up! Clean up! Everybody do your share!**

BIBLE MEMORY VERSE SIGN LANGUAGE

(For visual demonstrations, see www.signingsavvy.com)

"Lord,	Make "L" shape with right index finger and thumb. Move "L" from left shoulder to right hip as a royal sash.
You know	(know) Open hand with palm facing down, fingertips tap the forehead two times.
that I	(I) Point to self.
love You."	(love) Fists closed, both arms move to the body and cross in front of the chest.
John 21:17	Hold hands open, as if holding a Bible.

Adding sign language or motions to the Bible Memory Verse helps children recall what they are learning.



Jesus as the King who teaches

THE WORSHIP

Supplies: Praise music, optional: musical instruments

Teacher Tip: To help children identify time set aside for worship, designate a special corner or area for singing, collecting offering, and watching the worship illustration. Play "Praise Time: Love the Lord Your God" as children move to that designated area.



Insert each child's name **are you ready for Praise Time? It's our time to sing praise to King Jesus who teaches us about His kingdom. Let's pray.** Have children bow their heads and close their eyes. **Dear Jesus, thank You for teaching us about Your kingdom. Help us to listen and obey. Amen.**



Today, we will hear the story Jesus told about the shepherd who looked for and found his lost sheep. Just as the shepherd cared for his sheep, Jesus promises to watch over us wherever we go. Sing: "I Am with You."

Jesus is watching over us right now. Let's thank Him by giving our money offering to the church. Play: "Let Everything That Has Breath" as background music while collecting the offering.



I heard we have a new friend here today. He likes stories, too. Let's see who he might be! Perform *The Adventures of Delbert and Lello* puppet script or read storybook: Kings & Kingdoms Unit 5, Lesson 23.



We have a new Bible Memory Verse today. Psalm 47:6 says, "Sing praises to God, sing praises." Say it with me. Practice the verse together. **Now, let's say it with the motions.** Practice the verse several times with the motions.

"Sing praises to God,

One open flat hand moves back and forth along the other forearm.
The index finger comes off the mouth, followed by clapping hands together.
(God) The open right hand, with fingers together and palm facing left, moves upward and then down the center of the face with fingers facing up.

sing praises."

One open flat hand moves back and forth along the forearm.
The index finger comes off the mouth, followed by clapping hands together.

Psalm 47:6

Hold hands open, as if holding a Bible.



Let's sing our new Bible Memory Verse Song and praise King Jesus for His goodness in helping us as we choose to follow Him. Sing Unit 5 Bible Memory Verse Song: "Sing Praises."



The lost sheep

THE WORD

Supplies: Teacher's Bible with bookmark at Luke 15:5-6a; picture of the Bible story; soft, toy sheep

Before the children arrive, hide the soft, toy sheep somewhere in the Bible Time area where it can be easily found by the children. If you have a large class and would prefer they not get up to search for the sheep, place it somewhere where it can be partially seen from where the children will sit for Bible Time.

Before we begin our Bible Time, let's say our Classroom Promise with the motions.

With my eyes on my teacher;	Point to eyes.
My mouth quiet as can be,	Place index finger over mouth as quiet sign.
I will listen to hear,	Cup hand around ear.
How God loves you and me.	Hug self, point to others, and then self.

Let's reach deep in our pockets and pull out our listening ears. Reach in your pocket and cup your hands behind your ears as if listening.

I need your help today. I brought a sweet, little toy sheep with me, but I lost it! That makes me very sad. Can you help me find my sheep? Allow one or more children to help you search.

Oh, thank you for helping me find my sheep! I'm so happy now. My sheep is not real but some people care for real sheep. They are called shepherds. In our story today, a shepherd loses one of his sheep. Let's find out what happens. Handle the Bible as a special treasure, leaving it open to Luke 15:5-6a.



WATCH THE WORD: LUKE 15:4-7

Read the story below or retell the passage in your own words. To illustrate the story, show a picture of the Bible story from a children's Bible, the coloring page, or other source.

- **People came from everywhere**
- **To hear this story Jesus shared.**
- **Jesus told of one lost sheep,**
- **That far away did roam.**
- **The shepherd left his flock to seek**
- **And bring his lost sheep home.**
- **When his lost sheep was found,**
- **The shepherd called his friends.**
- **He gathered everyone around**
- **To celebrate right there and then!**
- **Just as the shepherd cares for his sheep,**
- **Jesus cares for you.**
- **He is your Good Shepherd,**
- **Watching over everything you say and do.**

What will the shepherd do if he loses a sheep? (Search for it.) The shepherd always watches over his sheep. Who is your Good Shepherd? (Jesus.) Jesus is always watching over you.



Jesus cares for His sheep

THE WAY

Teacher Tip: Craft and games can be presented at the same time in different areas or one at a time depending on class size and teaching style.

Kingdom Stories Treasure Box: Encourage families to use the instructions on the Ponder, Pray & Play card to make a Kingdom Stories Treasure Box to store children's Kingdom Stories Treasures for the next ten weeks (Lessons 23-32). Children should place their Treasure Chest Sticker on the outside of the box and their parable story crafts inside. Create a Kingdom Stories Treasure Box for the classroom to review the stories each week.

CRAFT: LOST AND FOUND SHEEP

Purpose: To remind children of the story of the lost sheep.

Supplies: Sturdy white paper (or felt), label, large craft stick, cotton balls, glue or tape, crayons or markers, optional: pink pompom or button for the nose

Prepare: Cut a 3-inch oval for the front of the sheep and a 1½-inch circle for the back of the sheep. On the label, print:

**The Lost Sheep
Luke 15:4-7**

Directions:

1. Draw eyes and a nose on the oval as the sheep's face. Optional: Glue on a pink pompom or a button for the nose.
2. Glue a cotton ball to the back of the sheep for a tail.
3. Glue front and back of the sheep to opposite sides of a craft stick.
4. Attach the label to the bottom of the craft stick.
5. **Let's pretend we are shepherds. Place your sheep behind your back and let's say this rhyme together:**

**Little lamb, little lamb where did you go?
We will find you. Ready, set, go!**

6. On the word, "go," lead the children in pulling the sheep out from behind their backs to "find" them.

Craft Discussion:

- **What will a good shepherd do if he loses one of his sheep?** (Search for it.) **The shepherd does not want to lose any of his sheep. He will leave the other sheep safe in their pen to search for the lost one.**
- **Who is your Good Shepherd?** (Jesus.) **Jesus cares for you and watches over you everywhere you go.**

THE WAY *continued...*

GAME: SEARCH FOR THE SHEEP

Purpose: Children will search for lost sheep and celebrate like the shepherd did.

Supplies: Ten pictures of sheep (Toy sheep or large cotton balls can be substituted for pictures.)

Prepare: Hide one of the sheep where children can find it later.

Teacher Tip: This game can also be played by choosing one child to be the shepherd for each round of play.

Directions:

1. Display 9 sheep.
2. **Pretend you are shepherds. Here are your ten sheep. Can you count the sheep with me?**
Children repeat each number after you.
3. **Oh, no! We are missing a sheep. Quick, see if you can find the missing sheep!**
4. Children search for the missing sheep. When it is found, place it with the other sheep.
5. **You found the lost sheep! Let's celebrate.**
6. Children cheer.
7. Play again, as time allows.

GAME: THE SHEPHERD WILL FIND YOU

Purpose: To help children understand Jesus will find them.

Supplies: Blanket or large sheet

Just as a shepherd watches over his sheep, Jesus always watches over you. What does a sheep say? (Baa.) Let's pretend we are sheep with their shepherd.

Directions:

1. Choose one child to be the shepherd.
2. Remaining children crawl on the floor as sheep making sheep noises.
3. Hold up blanket or large sheet to hide one sheep (child).
4. Ask: "Child's name **is lost! Who will find child's name?**"
5. Remaining sheep say, "**The shepherd will find child's name.**"
6. The shepherd moves the blanket or large sheet to reveal the lost sheep.
7. Play again until each child has a turn as the lost sheep or the shepherd.

THE WAY *continued...*

SNACK: HE IS WATCHING OVER YOU

Purpose: Children will enjoy a snack as they review the story of the Lost Sheep.

Snack Suggestion: Animal crackers

Directions:

1. Serve snack and drink.
2. **Let's sing the "Blessing Song."** Sing to the tune of "Frere Jacques" or other familiar tune.
God our Father, God our Father. Once again, once again.
Thank You for our blessings. Thank You for our blessings. Amen. Amen.
3. Lead discussion below while children enjoy their snack.
 - **Who watches over sheep?** (Shepherds.)
 - **What will a shepherd do if he loses his sheep?** (Search for it.)
 - **Do you think the shepherd is happy when he finds his lost sheep?** (Yes.)
 - **Who is always watching over you?** (Jesus.) **That's right. Jesus is your Good Shepherd. He loves and cares for you very much.**



When only 5 minutes remain, begin this segment.

FINAL FIVE MINUTES

BIBLE MEMORY VERSE

Gather children in a circle sitting or standing and practice the words and motions.

"Sing praises to God,	One open flat hand moves back and forth along the other forearm. The index finger comes off the mouth, followed by clapping hands together. (God) The open right hand, with fingers together and palm facing left, moves upward and then down the center of the face with fingers facing up.
sing praises."	One open flat hand moves back and forth along the forearm. The index finger comes off the mouth, followed by clapping hands together.
Psalm 47:6	Hold hands open, as if holding a Bible.

PRAY

Let's pray together. Say a closing prayer with the children.

PLAY

Allow children to play with selected toys or centers or choose a book to read to them.

DISMISSAL

Have children take home their coloring page, craft, and a copy of the Ponder, Pray & Play for 2-3's.



If time remains, choose from the connected activities below.

GOT TIME?

SAY & DO: LUKE 15:4-7

Purpose: This pantomime version of the Bible Story helps children remember the Bible Story details.

Supplies: None

Directions: With each phrase, the teacher says the phrase and acts it out with hand motions; then repeats the same phrase and motions with the children.

- **Jesus told of one lost sheep,** (Raise index finger.)
- **That far away did roam.** (Walk in place.)
- **The shepherd left his flock to seek,** (Hand on forehead in searching pose.)
- **And bring his lost sheep home.** (Pretend to carry sheep in arms.)

- **When his lost sheep was found,** (Point to eyes.)
- **The shepherd called his friends.** (Cup hands around mouth, as if to shout.)
- **He gathered everyone around,** (Beckoning motion.)
- **To celebrate right there and then!** (Clap three times.)



BIBLE MEMORY VERSE ACTIVITIES

"Sing praises to God, sing praises." Psalm 47:6

GAME: PRAISE DANCE

Purpose: To help children memorize and review the Unit 5 Bible Memory Verse.

Supplies: Unit 5 Bible Memory Verse Song "Sing Praises"

Jesus loves to hear you sing praises to Him. Praises are words that say how great Jesus is. Let's praise Him together as we dance and sing our Bible Memory Verse Song!

Directions:

1. Play and sing: "Sing Praises."
2. Encourage children to sing, dance, and create motions to help remember the words to the song.

GOT TIME? *continued...*

GAME: CIRCLE PRAISE

Purpose: Children stand to praise God for something in their life. Some praise examples include: family, friends, pets, toys, teachers, favorite activities, etc.

Supplies: None

We can praise God by thanking Him for the good things He gives us. Let's praise and thank God for all of those good things!

Directions:

1. Children sit in a circle.
2. Choose one child to stand in the center.
3. Seated children chant: "Name of standing child sings praises to our King!"
"Name of standing child, what is the praise you bring?"
4. Standing child says, "**I praise God for child's individual praise.**"
5. All the children clap and shout "**We praise God!**"
6. The child in the center chooses another child to stand and sits back down in the circle.
7. Play until each child has had a turn giving praise.



STORY TIME

Gather the children and read a favorite story. This can be a Bible Story, a chapter from *The Adventures of Delbert & Lello*, or a story about sheep and shepherds.

PONDER, PRAY & PLAY

Unit 5, Lesson 23: The Lost Sheep

PONDER! Jesus told the story of how the shepherd searches for his lost sheep (Luke 15:4-7). How did the shepherd feel when he found his sheep? (Happy.) Jesus is our Good Shepherd. He watches over us just as the shepherd watched over his sheep.

PRAY! Pray this prayer each day this week: "Lord, thank You for finding us when we are lost. Thank You for being such a good shepherd to us. Amen."

PLAY! Find and decorate a box to be your Kingdom Stories Treasure Box. Use it to store your crafts and treasure chest stickers for the next ten weeks. During the week, review Jesus' stories with your treasures.

BIBLE MEMORY VERSE

"Sing praises to God,	One open flat hand moves back and forth along the other forearm. The index finger comes off the mouth, followed by clapping hands together. (God) The open right hand, with fingers together and palm facing left, moves upward and then down the center of the face with fingers facing up.
sing praises."	One open flat hand moves back and forth along the forearm. The index finger comes off the mouth, followed by clapping hands together.
Psalm 47:6	Hold hands open, as if holding a Bible.