

Activity: Lost Sheep, Hide & Seek



FAMILY TIME
TRAINING

Teaching Goal: Jesus cares about us when we are lost.

Scripture: Luke 15:4-7 Suppose one of you has a 100 sheep and loses 1 of them. Does he not leave the 99 in the open country and go after the lost sheep until he finds it? And when he finds it, he joyfully puts it on his shoulders and goes home. Then he calls his friends and neighbors together and says, "Rejoice with me; I have found my lost sheep." I tell you that in the same way there will be more rejoicing in heaven over one sinner who repents.

Materials: No materials

- I. Play theme song
- II. Pray
- III. Review last lesson
- IV. Lesson and discussion

- ✓ Words that are written in **bold** are when the leader is speaking. Feel free to use your own words.

A. **DISCUSSION:** Jesus liked to tell stories. One of his famous stories was about a shepherd who was watching over 100 sheep. After counting the sheep the shepherd found that one was missing! The shepherd left the 99 sheep who were safe and went looking for the 1 that was lost. When he found the missing sheep, he carried it home on his shoulders. The shepherd then had a party with his friends to celebrate finding the lost sheep.

What do you think it would feel like to be the one lost sheep? *Listen. Scary, lonely.* How do you think the shepherd felt when he found out that one sheep was missing? *Listen. Worried.* How do you think the 99 sheep felt when the shepherd left to find the lost sheep? *Listen. Okay because there were so many of them. Nervous. Happy for the lost sheep.*

In the story of the lost sheep, the shepherd represents Jesus. The sheep represent people like you and me. One of the sheep chooses not to follow or listen to the shepherd and gets lost. Here is what the story means: Jesus is our shepherd and when we are lost he cares and comes to find us.

Maybe the lost sheep represents a person who doesn't know Jesus. Or maybe it represents a person who knows Jesus but is making bad choices and stops following him. Whichever, when someone who is lost is then found, we can celebrate!

B. **ACTIVITY:** We are going to play "Lost Sheep Hide & Seek." Select one person to be the shepherd and another person or persons to be the lost sheep. Each person can have a turn being the shepherd and a lost sheep. **The shepherd will close their eyes and count to 25. The lost sheep has 25 seconds to hide and then the shepherd will come to find them.** If the child is light enough, the shepherd can carry them back on his or her shoulders. Every time

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a shepherd brings back a lost sheep repeat the meaning of Jesus' story: **Jesus is our shepherd and when we are lost he cares and comes to find us.**

V. Memorize

**Lost Sheep
Jesus will Seek**

VI. Close in Prayer

VII. Pass It On

Make an extra copy of this lesson and *pass it on* to another family.