

The Good Shepherd *John 10:7-11, 14:6*

The Ministry Years of Jesus: Lesson 3

Note: When you see typing in “CAPS” like this, make sure you are drawing on the sketchboard as you teach

Introduction: How many here have ever been lost? Today we are going to talk about not getting lost in a mall, but how we are lost, separated from God, and how Jesus wants to find and save us.

- 1). Jesus said we are a lot like **SHEEP** (start to draw in sheep in the pen).
 - a) We need protection
 - a) We are weak and vulnerable.
 - b) And we wander off, and walk away from God very easily. Just like sheep would wander away from their shepherd.

- 2). Jesus said He was like a shepherd.
 - a) Shepherds **LOVES** their sheep and take care of them.
 - b) Shepherds protect and defend them from wolves and predators
 - c) Shepherds even would give their life to save one of their sheep.

- 3). Shepherds built sheep pens at night to protect their sheep (explain).
 - a) At night sheep needed to be kept safe somewhere, so wolves wouldn't carry them away.
 - b) A good shepherd **WOULD LAY IN THE DOOR WAY** (draw the shepherd in the doorway) to protect the sheep.

- 4). Jesus taught that the sheep pen and the Shepherd is a lot like heaven and Jesus.
 - a) In **HEAVEN** there is only one way to get in. Just like the sheep pen had only one door, there is only one way to get into heaven. What is the only doorway?
 - b) Jesus said He is the doorway that leads into heaven. If you want to go to heaven someday, you have to go through Jesus first. You can't go some other way.
 - c) So if you want to go to heaven someday, Jesus is the door, and the way to go to heaven. **DRAW A CROSS**. You must come to Jesus.
 - d) Just like the sheep inside the pen were safe, Jesus said if you come to him to be forgiven of your sins, you would enter heaven and be safe, just like the sheep. That is why Jesus called himself the Good Shepherd.

- 5). Remember earlier Jesus said we are like sheep. Sometimes sheep don't listen to the Shepherd and wander away (**DRAW THE SHEEP BY THE CLIFF**).
 - a) Sheep get into danger because they could die.

- b) Sheep also could get into trouble by a wolf attacking them.
 - c) Jesus said Satan is like a wolf wanting to destroy us.
- 6). Does Jesus care if sheep, like you and me are lost? Yes.
- a) When one of his sheep are lost, he goes and **LOOKS** for them
 - b) When Jesus (**DRAW IN THE SHEPHERD ON THE CLIFF**) finds the lost sheep, he puts the sheep around his shoulders and brings it safely home.
 - c) This is what we call salvation boys and girls. When Jesus rescues us, and brings us safely home to heaven.
 - d) This is why we call this message: Draw in the title: **JESUS SAVES**
 - What does Jesus have to save us from? Sin.
 - Explain what sin is using the Ten Commandments.
 - Every time we sin we wander away from God like a sheep.
- 7). This is very serious boys and girls. If we wander away from God committing sin, we could die and be separated from God forever in hell.
- a) Either we are safe with Jesus, and will go to heaven. Or, we are **LOST**.
 - b) Just like getting lost in a mall is scary, it is even more scary to think about being lost, away from Jesus forever in a place called hell.
 - c) When people die, we will either be in heaven or hell.
 - d) *How will you know where you will go? The answer is, have you been saved? That's the title of this message: Jesus saves.*
- 8). How do you know if you are saved? Have you ever gone to Jesus and talked to him and said things like:
- a) Jesus I believe you are the only way to Heaven
 - b) Jesus I believe I have wandered away from you and sinned.
 - c) Jesus I want to be saved from my sins
- 9). Give an invitation for children to pray and trust in Christ as their Savior.

