

Topic: RE - The Lost Sheep – click on the link on the website for the full lesson.



The Lost Sheep

Jesus liked to tell stories that had special meanings. One time he told this story.

"Pretend you are a shepherd," Jesus said.
"You have 100 sheep.
You take good care of them.
You show them where the sweetest grass is.
You show them where the coolest water is.
You know each one of your sheep.
And you love them all.



Every night as you take them to their pen,
you count your sheep.
You want to be sure they are all there,
safe and sound.
When you count '100,'
you know they are all there.
You close the gate and the sheep sleep safely.



But one night, you are counting . . .
95, 96, 97, 98, 99 . . . 99?
Only 99 sheep?
You count again, but there are only 99 sheep.
The other sheep must be lost!
Do you say, 'Oh well, at least I have 99 sheep?'
No, you go to find that lost sheep.



You look and look and look.
and when at last you find it,
you carry it home on your shoulders.
You are so happy that you call your friends.
'Look,' you say, 'I found my lost sheep!'



Then Jesus told the special meaning of this story.
"God is like the shepherd," he said.
"God loves his people.
If one of them disobeys him,
he's like the lost sheep.
But when he is sorry and comes back to God,
God is happy.
God is like a shepherd who has found
his lost sheep!"

Questions

What does the parable of the Lost Sheep tell us about God loving people?
What lesson was Jesus trying to teach the people with this parable?
What is a parable?
What does the parable of the Lost Sheep tell us about God loving people?
Who is the shepherd a picture of?
Who are the sheep? What is the lost sheep a picture of?
What other parables did Jesus tell?

Ideas and further links

You might want to retell the parable of the lost sheep. You could make masks for the shepherd and the sheep and act out the story. You could also draw a story map to help you remember the parable of the lost sheep, here is one example to help you create your own story map.