

BEHOLD YOUR KING



BEFORE YOU BEGIN

A FEW MOMENTS TO PREPARE.

USE THESE ICONS TO HELP YOU NAVIGATE THIS WEEK'S LESSON



TALK TOGETHER

Family conversations with God's Word.



MORE TO EXPLORE

Answers to kids' questions.



THRU-THE-WEEK SHEET

Post it on the fridge. Use it all week.



COLORING PAGE

Keep little hands busy before, during and after your family conversation.



WHO CAME TO SEEK AND SAVE THE LOST?

HAVE YOU EVER BEEN LOST? WHAT DID IT FEEL

LIKE? HOW DID YOU FIND YOUR WAY? Being lost is a scary feeling. It's hard to know which path to take, who to ask for help or what to do next. When the Bible talks about someone being lost, it doesn't mean you need GPS or a map to guide you. The Bible uses the word "lost" to talk about people who wandered far away from God and were lost because of their sin.

When God created the first people, they lived with Him in the garden of Eden. They knew God's voice and spent time with Him. They lived in perfect fellowship with Him.

But soon, Adam and Eve sinned, they disobeyed God, and this broke their fellowship with Him. They were lost; they had wandered away from God just like a sheep that wanders away from its shepherd.




From the very beginning, God had a plan to give His people a Savior, a Shepherd who would lead them back to Him. Many years after the garden of Eden, God's people, the Israelites, were not following God. They were wandering far away from Him and were lost in sin. * But a special messenger of God, a prophet named Ezekiel, told the people that God wouldn't let them stay lost forever. God would send a Shepherd to guide them back to Him. **Let's read about it in Ezekiel. Can you help me find Ezekiel chapter 34, verses 11-12? Ezekiel is in the Old Testament.**

FOR THUS SAYS THE LORD GOD: BEHOLD, I, I MYSELF WILL SEARCH FOR MY SHEEP AND WILL SEEK THEM OUT. AS A SHEPHERD SEEKS OUT HIS FLOCK WHEN HE IS AMONG HIS SHEEP THAT HAVE BEEN SCATTERED, SO WILL I SEEK OUT MY SHEEP, AND I WILL RESCUE THEM FROM ALL PLACES WHERE THEY HAVE BEEN SCATTERED ON A DAY OF CLOUDS AND THICK DARKNESS.

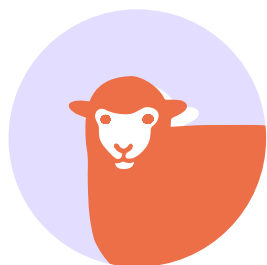
EZEKIEL 34: 11-12.



When Jesus came to Earth hundreds of years after Ezekiel wrote these words, He fulfilled God's promise to send a Shepherd to save His lost sheep, * the people who had wandered far away from Him and were lost in their sin. He did this for a man named Zacchaeus and he continues to do this today for people like you and me. Let's read the story of what happened with Jesus and Zacchaeus. **Can you help me find Luke 19, verses 1-10? Luke is in the New Testament and is one of the four Gospels.** 

HE ENTERED JERIGO AND WAS PASSING THROUGH. AND BEHOLD, THERE WAS A MAN NAMED ZACCHAEUS. HE WAS A CHIEF TAX COLLECTOR AND WAS RICH. AND HE WAS SEEKING TO SEE WHO JESUS WAS, BUT ON ACCOUNT OF THE CROWD HE COULD NOT, BECAUSE HE WAS SMALL IN STATURE. SO HE RAN ON AHEAD AND CLIMBED UP INTO A SYCAMORE TREE TO SEE HIM, FOR HE WAS ABOUT TO PASS THAT WAY. AND WHEN JESUS CAME TO THE PLACE, HE LOOKED UP AND SAID TO HIM, "ZACCHAEUS, HURRY AND COME DOWN, FOR I MUST STAY AT YOUR HOUSE TODAY." SO HE HURRIED AND CAME DOWN AND RECEIVED HIM JOYFULLY. AND WHEN THEY SAW IT, THEY ALL GRUMBLED, "HE HAS GONE IN TO BE THE GUEST OF A MAN WHO IS A SINNER." AND ZACCHAEUS STOOD AND SAID TO THE LORD, "BEHOLD, LORD, THE HALF OF MY GOODS I GIVE TO THE POOR. AND IF I HAVE DEFRAUDED ANYONE OF ANYTHING, I RESTORE IT FOURFOLD." AND JESUS SAID TO HIM, "TODAY SALVATION HAS COME TO THIS HOUSE, SINCE HE ALSO IS A SON OF ABRAHAM. FOR THE SON OF MAN CAME TO SEEK AND TO SAVE THE LOST".

LUKE 19 1-10



Zacchaeus wasn't well-liked.

He charged people too much money in taxes and was a greedy man. But when Jesus saw Zacchaeus, He saw one of His sheep, lost in sin. Instead of accusing or ignoring him, Jesus came near to him and even stayed in his home! When Zacchaeus came face to face with Jesus, he realized he was a sinner. Zacchaeus repented * of his sin and had a change of heart. He turned from his sin and toward following Christ's ways.

We can also be lost and wander away from God. Sometimes we follow sin instead of following God's ways. But Jesus, our Good Shepherd, loves and cares for us, just like a shepherd cares for his sheep. He loves and cares for us so much that He came to die on the cross for our sin, making our relationship right with God so we don't have to be lost anymore (John 10:15). **Jesus, our Good Shepherd, came to seek and save the lost.**

END OF TALK TOGETHER

★ THRU-THE-WEEK SHEET

WEEK OF APRIL 3, 2022

♥ MEMORIZE

"FOR THE SON OF MAN CAME TO SEEK AND TO SAVE THE LOST."

LUKE 19:10

Q: WHO CAME TO SEEK AND SAVE THE LOST?

A: JESUS, OUR GOOD SHEPHERD



PRAY

DEAR FATHER,
THANK YOU FOR SENDING US JESUS, OUR GOOD SHEPHERD, TO SEEK AND SAVE THE LOST. HELP US TURN FROM OUR SIN AND FOLLOW YOU. AMEN.

CREATE

Draw the outline of a sheep and help your younger kids glue on cotton balls for the wool. Remind your children Jesus is the Good Shepherd who came to seek and save the lost.

WATCH!

Help your kids understand the relationship between sheep and their shepherd. Search "sheep and shepherd" videos online. Encourage your children by explaining that Jesus, our Good Shepherd, cares for us just like the shepherds in the videos care for their sheep!

OBSERVE!

Jesus was in Jericho when He went to Zacchaeus' home. Ask your big kids to research facts about Jericho and look up its location on an online map. Then encourage them to share what they learned with the rest of your family.

COUNT



When Zacchaeus realized his sinfulness, he returned four times the amount of money he took from people. Give each of your children one coin. After "stealing" their one coin, return a few minutes later and give them back four coins. Explain that Zacchaeus turned from his sinful ways toward following Christ's ways.



SING

Scan here to listen to this playlist throughout the series to worship our King Jesus Christ.

SHARE

Share with your children the story of how Jesus was your Good Shepherd who sought you out and brought you back to Him.


Talk About



MORE TO EXPLORE

WHY DO I STRUGGLE WITH SIN?

Sin is when we choose to do things our own way instead of God's way. When we sin, it creates separation between us and God. It hurts our relationship with Him. Because God loves us so much, He made a plan to save us from our sin and a way for us to be forgiven and close to Him again. Jesus, our Good Shepherd, sacrificed Himself to pay for our sins, removing the separation between us and God. Those who know and love God are able to spend forever with Him!

WHAT DOES IT MEAN TO BE LOST IN SIN?

Ezekiel and Luke used a lost sheep to illustrate that people are separated from God because of sin. God sent Jesus to seek and save sinners just as a shepherd seeks and saves a lost sheep. Jesus died on the cross to pay for our sin and rescue those who believe in Him.

WHAT IS REPENTANCE?

After realizing his sinfulness, Zacchaeus not only stopped being greedy, but he also returned four times the amount of money he took from people. When Zacchaeus became a follower of Christ, he changed his mind and his heart about his sinful ways. This is called repentance. When you repent of sin, you

change your mind about your sin and seek forgiveness. The most important act of repentance is changing your mind about Jesus! He isn't just another person, but the Savior who came to Earth to save us from our sin. When we trust Him, we become a child of God.

WHY ARE PEOPLE CALLED SHEEP IN THE BIBLE?

It may sound funny for people to be called sheep in the Bible. Jesus often used common things as illustrations to help people understand His teaching. The people in Jesus' day lived close to sheep and shepherds and understood their relationship. In fact, David was a shepherd before he became king of God's people! Shepherds were in charge of caring for the needs of their sheep, protecting them from danger and leading them toward safety. Jesus leads us lovingly like a shepherd leads sheep. He cares for all our needs, protects us from the danger of sin and never leaves one of us behind. Jesus, our Good Shepherd, loves us so much that He died in our place so we can spend eternity with Him!

For further reading:

Read more about Jesus, our Good Shepherd, in **John 10: 1-18 and Luke 15:1-7.**



TALK TOGETHER



MORE TO EXPLORE

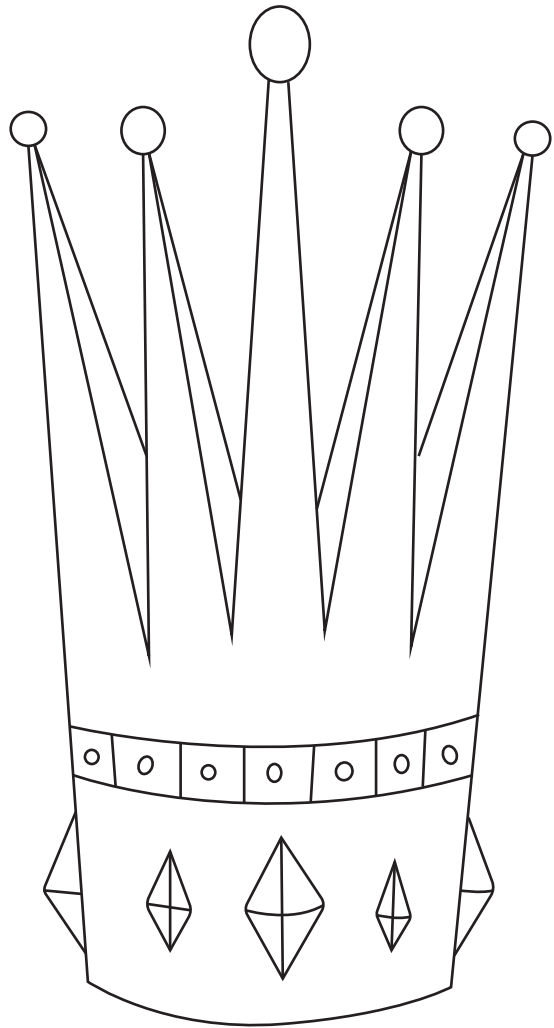
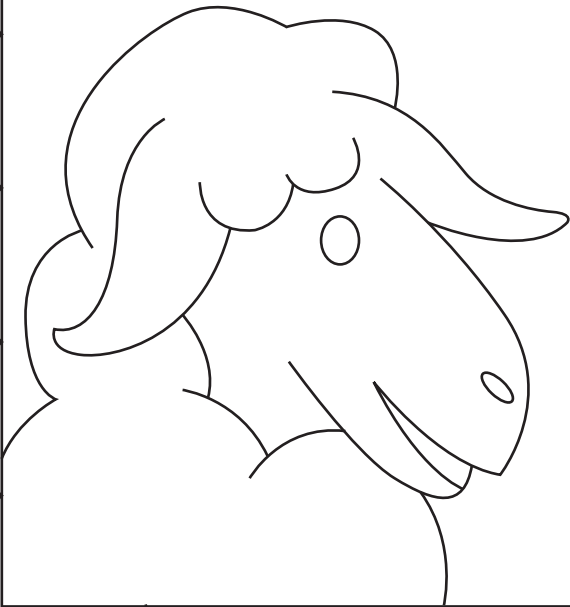


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Talk About




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