

SABBATH SCHOOL

Preteen Sabbath Instruction Program — Teacher's Outline

Level 2 • Unit 5 • Week 4

THE LOVE OF JESUS – JESUS PROTECTS US

OBJECTIVE:

To show that Jesus cares for us and has the power to guide and protect us.

ATTENTION GETTER:

Supplies: Picture of shepherd (see end of lesson)
Poster board
Pictures of lambs (one for each child)
Crayons
Scissors
Glue

Prepare: Color shepherd, cut out and glue onto poster board.

Do: Show the children a picture of a strong shepherd. Give the children pictures of lambs to cut out. Have the children put their names on their lambs, and then temporarily attach them to the poster around the shepherd.

Ask: Why do you think the sheep stay around the shepherd?

Answer: Because they know he will take care of them. They love him, and he loves them.

BIBLE LESSON:

Say: Jesus Christ is sometimes called our Shepherd. Jesus said, "I am the good shepherd. The good shepherd gives His life for the sheep" (John 10:11). When He was in human form, He gave His life for us so we can follow Him and call God our Father.

Ask: What do you think a good shepherd should do?

- Say: Let us see what good shepherds do now, and compare them to how Jesus is a good shepherd.
First, he must always be with his sheep, he must never leave them alone and unprotected. The shepherd must care for the sheep night and day, in all weather and all seasons. Jesus, our Shepherd, is always there for us.
- Ask: Is being a shepherd a very important job?
Say: Yes, the job of shepherding is a very important position. The sheep are very important, because people depend on their sheep for a living. Jesus' job as shepherd is very important too. The job was given to Him by the heavenly Father. Jesus is to be the shepherd of God's people. God wants His people to become part of His family.
- Ask: Is a good shepherd mean? Would you see him pushing and poking the sheep along?
Say: No, the shepherd does not follow the sheep pushing them along. The shepherd walks in front of the sheep, always watching for danger, and ready to defend them.
- Ask: How does Jesus lead us, His sheep?
Say: He has gone before us, showing us the way through this world of dangers. He is an example for us. He watches for danger and helps us when we face trouble.
- Ask: Where does a good shepherd lead his sheep?
Say: The shepherd leads the sheep to good places where they will be safe and have green grass to eat. If we follow Jesus, our good shepherd, He will lead us into the kingdom of God, where we will always be safe and happy.
- Ask: Do you think a shepherd knows each one of his sheep?
Say: Yes, shepherds know each one of their sheep well, because they were there when they were born, and they own most of them. Jesus knows us, His sheep, well. He is always with us. He said, "I am the good shepherd; and I know My sheep, and am known by My own" (John 10:14).
- Ask: The shepherd knows his sheep. Is it important that the sheep know and trust the shepherd also?
Say: The sheep keep their heads down as they eat the green grass to which the shepherd has led them. But, when danger is near, they lift their heads up and look to the shepherd for help by sounding a bleating cry.
- When we are in danger, we must also look up to our Shepherd Jesus, and ask for help with a prayer. We must know and trust our Shepherd, Jesus.
- Ask: Should the sheep always listen to the shepherd?
Say: Yes, then they can follow the shepherd, so that they will stay alive and be happy. The sheep should do as the shepherd says.

We must hear and do what our Shepherd, Jesus Christ, says. God said, "This is my beloved Son, in whom I am well pleased. Hear Him!" (Matthew 17:5). We can hear Him by reading what He says in our Bibles.

Ask: Does the good shepherd care when the sheep are tired?

Say: Yes, the shepherd must watch that the sheep do not get too tired.

Jesus makes sure that we stop and rest on the Sabbath day. It is one of His commandments, given for our good.

LESSON APPLICATION:

Supplies: Picture of sheepfold and shepherd

Crayons

Glue

Do: Give each child a picture of a sheepfold and shepherd at the entrance.

Say: At night, to protect the sheep the shepherd takes them to a sheepfold, or corral, to keep them safe. He stands at the one narrow entrance and lets the sheep in one by one. He does this so that he can count them, and check them over to see if they are all right.

Jesus watches us when we go to bed at night, and checks us to see if we are all right. It is good to tell Him "thank you" before we go to sleep.

Do: After the children have colored the sheepfold, have them take the lamb they placed by the shepherd at the beginning of the lesson and paste it in the sheepfold.

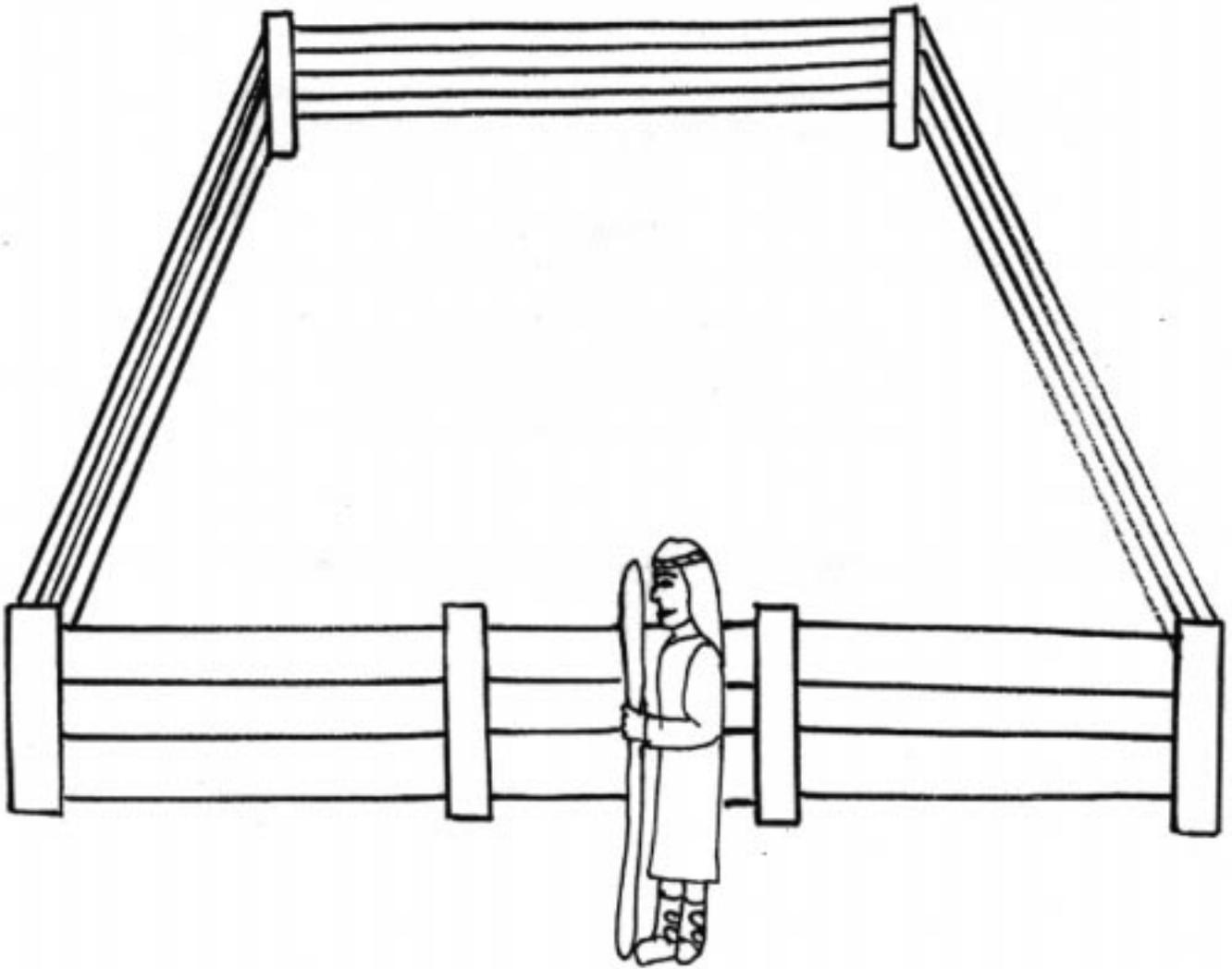
Music:

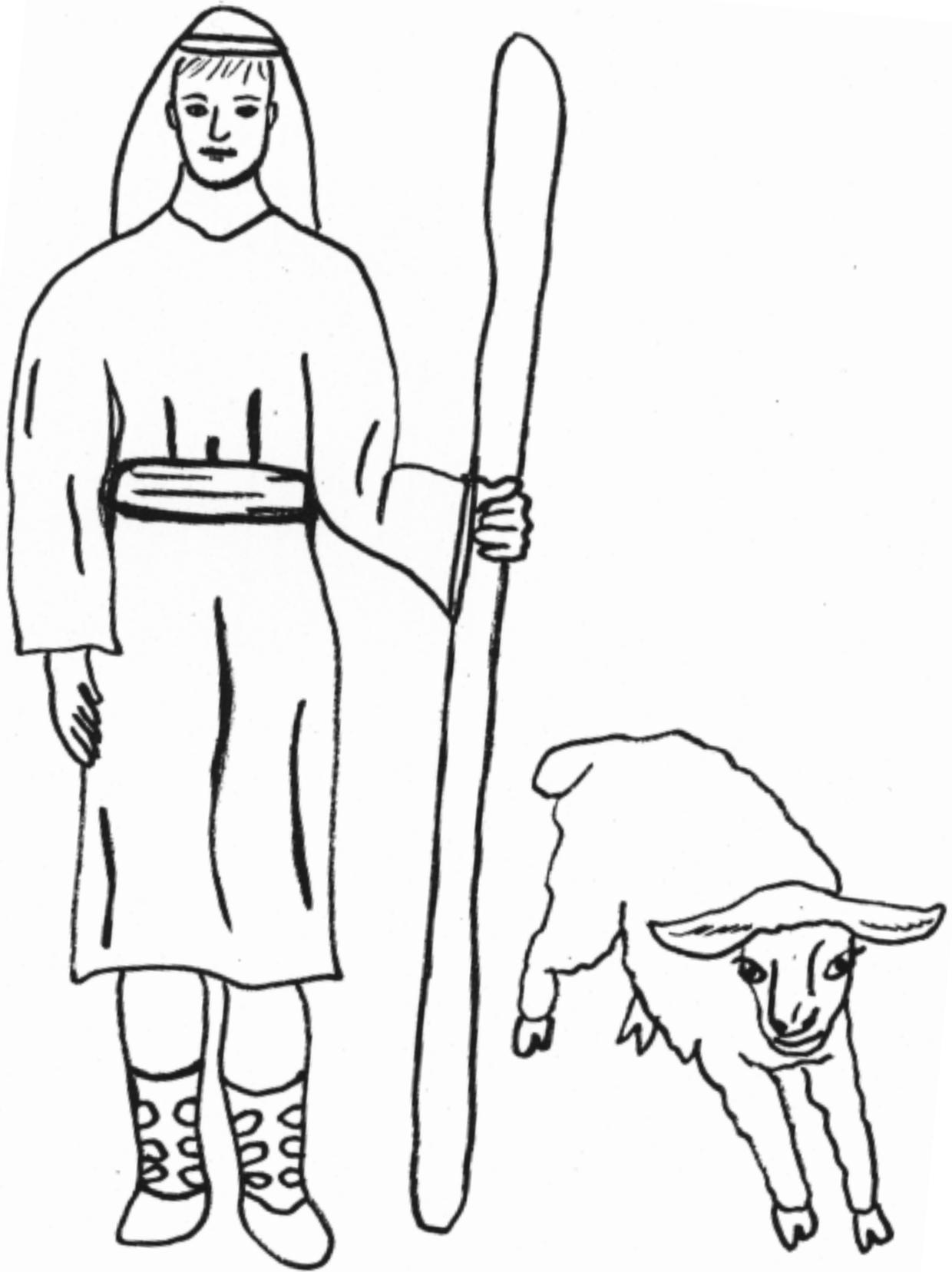
Sing the following words to the tune of "Mary Had a Little Lamb."

Jesus has little lambs, little lambs, little lambs,
Jesus has little lambs; they keep all His commands.
Everywhere that Jesus goes, Jesus goes, Jesus goes,
Everywhere that Jesus goes, the lambs are sure to go.

MEMORY VERSE:

John 10:11 "I am the good shepherd. The good shepherd gives His life for the sheep."





family activity

THE POINT:

Today we talked about Jesus being the Good Shepherd. We learned what good shepherds do, and how Jesus does good things for us. He talks to us and leads us, as a shepherd leads his sheep, by His words in the Bible.

ASK ME...

What are some of the things a shepherd does to take care of his sheep?

Does a shepherd follow his sheep, pushing and poking them along? How does a shepherd lead?

Does a shepherd know all of his sheep?

FAMILY TOGETHER TIME:

Read some of Jesus' words from the Bible. If you have a red-letter Bible, point out that all Jesus' words are shown in red letters.

Read some of the following scriptures together: Psalm 23; Luke 15:3-7; John 10:1-5.

MEMORY VERSE:

John 10:11 "I am the good shepherd. The good shepherd gives His life for the sheep."