WEEK 12: JESUS IS … THE GOOD SHEPHERD Part 2

AIM: To show that we can trust Jesus at all times. He will never leave us or break his promises or disappoint anyone who trusts Him.

SONG: The Lord is my Shepherd, I'll walk with Him always,
He leads me by still waters, I'll walk with Him always,
Always, always, I'll walk with Him always,
Always, always, I'll walk with Him always.
(sung to the tune of The Cuckoo. Can be sung in rounds)

OPENING IDEA: TRUSTING MEANS OBEYING
Arrange with another worker before the session to stand in a particular location during this segment with a small reward (eg, lolly or sticker). Ask the children for a volunteer, but tell them they have to be willing to do whatever you ask them without asking any questions. Choose one volunteer and give them instructions, eg. ‘Go outside the door and stand perfectly still until someone approaches you.’ The worker waiting outside will approach the child and reward them for their willingness to trust and obey and send them back inside. While the child is gone, the leader can be discussing with the rest of the children what it really means to trust someone, eg. Imagine you are blind and wanted to cross a very busy road without traffic lights. You would need to ask for help and then really trust that the person would get you across the road safely.

When the child returns, ask him/her to tell the children what happened. Discuss how trusting Jesus will give us ‘rewards’, both here on earth as well as in heaven.

STORY: PSALM 23
1. Use some sort of visual aid, eg. flannelgraph, flashcards, story book, video.
2. Hand out Psalm 23 memory verse sheets and read verses through several times, firstly all together, then boys only, followed by girls only, or read loud then soft, fast then slow, or select individuals to read.
3. Spend some time discussing what each verse means for the child of God.
4. Use a piece of cardboard, fold it in half, have the children make a collage scene on one half, using cotton wool balls and scraps of material, etc. and on the other half, glue the Psalm 23 memory sheet. In a semi-folded position this will make a picture for the children’s dressing table or desk.
5. Encourage the children to memorize the Psalm during the week. Have a special prize for those who succeed.
How well do you know the 23rd Psalm? Try filling in the crossword puzzle without using your Bible.

The Lord is my (1 across); I shall not (12).

He maketh (13) to lie (7) in green (2): he leadeth me beside the still (8 down).

He restoreth my (24): he leadeth me in the (4) of righteousness for his name’s (18).

Yea, though I (8 across) through the (20) of the (5 down) of (3), I will (23) no (15): for thou art with me; thy (7) and thy (5 across) they (16) me.

Thou preparest a (10) before me in the (21) of mine enemies: thou (11) my head with (6); my (19) runneth over.

Surely (14) and mercy (1 down) follow me all the (25) of my (22): and I will dwell in the house of the (9) for ever.
PSALM 23

The Lord is my Shepherd,
I shall not want,
He makes to lie down in green pastures,
He leads me beside still waters,
He restores my soul.
He leads me in paths of righteousness
for His name’s sake.
Even though I walk through the valley
of the shadow of death,
I will fear no evil,
for You are with me,
Your rod and your staff they comfort me.
You prepare a table before me
in the presence of my enemies.
You anoint my head with oil;
my cup overflows.
Surely goodness and mercy will follow me
all the days of my life,
And I will dwell in the house of the Lord, forever.
My Good Shepherd: 
Jesus’ Little Lamb

Bible Story: The Lord Is My Shepherd (Psalm 23)

Materials

White construction paper
Scissors
Marker
Paper plate
Glue
Black construction paper
Cotton balls
Paper clip
Tape (optional)

Directions

1. Draw and cut an oval out of white paper. Use a marker to draw on an eye and mouth. Glue the oval onto the paper plate for a head.
2. Cut an ear and four feet out of black paper and glue them to the paper plate.
3. Glue cotton balls over the plate and head.
4. Tape or glue a paper clip to the back of the lamb and hang it on your wall. Let the lamb remind you that Jesus, your Good Shepherd, watches over you all the time.

Suggestions

1. Instead of cotton, coil or swirl pieces of white yarn over the lamb.
2. For a class project, make a flock of sheep to go on a bulletin board or a large piece of poster board. Add the lettering, “I Am Jesus’ Little Lamb.”
3. Use in connection with David and his sheep, or Jesus’ parables of sheep and shepherds.
Jesus Christ is the **G** _ _ _ _

**S** _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ . His sheep and lambs can t _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ to Him at all times. He will never f _ _ _ _ them. He will never break His **P** _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ . He wants the best for His sheep. The Lord Jesus Christ provides every need of the believer like a caring shepherd provides rich green pastures and clear, still waters for his sheep. A shepherd who loves his sheep knows their names. The Good Shepherd l _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ His sheep so much, He not only knows their n _ _ _ _ , He knows everything about them and His love for them n _ _ _ _ changes.