

WEEK 2 | ELEMENTARY (4-5) | Family Lesson Guide

Need to Know: God Is My Shepherd

Bible Story: David

Bible Reference: Psalm 23



READ THE BIBLE

DO Read the **Bible Story Cards** aloud to the group.

- SAY**
- *What was the shepherd's job? (To love and protect the sheep) Right! A shepherd takes care of his sheep, and because God takes care of you and me, we can call Him our good Shepherd.*
 - *Do you think God will ever leave us? (No) That's right! The Bible tells us that He is always with us and there isn't anything He wouldn't do to keep us safe.*

LET'S PRACTICE

OPTION 1: SAVE THE SHEEP

- DO**
1. Place **Pasture Cards** in the center of the group, pasture-side up.
 2. If you have enough in your group, divide into two teams.
 3. Allow teams to take turns selecting one Card. If the Card has a sheep on the back, read it aloud and let the team keep it. If it has a wolf, return it to the pasture.
 4. The team with the most sheep in the end wins!
 5. Have kids say: **God Is My Shepherd**

OPTION 2: DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. *Isaiah 53:6 says, "We all have wandered away like sheep. Each of us has gone his own way. But the Lord has put on Him the punishment for all the evil we have done." What do you think this verse means?*
2. *Psalm 95:7 says, "He is our God, and we are the people he cares for, his sheep that walk by his side. Listen to his voice today." What do you think that verse means for your life?*
3. *John 10:4 says, "He brings all of his sheep out. Then he goes ahead of them and leads them. The sheep follow him, because they know his voice." How do we know our Shepherd's voice?*

LET'S PRAY

PRAY

Dear God, thank You for being our Shepherd. Please help us trust You are always loving, guiding, and protecting us! We love You! In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.

MEMORIZE IT

SAY

In this series, we're learning all about the different names of God. That's because there is a promise in God's Word, the Bible, that tells us what happens when we know His name. This Bible verse says: (Pause to allow kids to repeat)

***"Those who know Your name
trust in You,
for You, O Lord,
do not abandon
those who search for You."
Psalm 9:10***

DO

Have everyone put their feet in the middle of the group. Going around the circle, have each person say one word of the verse while stomping one of their feet. The person who stomps their foot on "9:10" is out. Play until only one foot remains, or as time allows.

Place **drawing utensils** in the center of the group. Give each child the **Crossword Puzzle** and **Word Search Activity Sheets** to complete.



David

Psalms 23

There's a guy in the Bible named David. When he was younger, he was a shepherd. Shepherds were the people who took care of sheep by leading them to food in green pastures and making sure they had water to drink from the streams.

If a sheep wandered away from the flock, the shepherd would go find it and bring it back.

If a sheep fell down between the rocks and the shepherd couldn't reach it, the shepherd would use his crook to help rescue the sheep and lift it to safety.

Shepherds also protected the sheep from harm, such as wolves or even thieves.



Being a shepherd really helped David learn a lot about God, and he wrote all about it in Psalm 23. Here's what David wrote ...

"The Lord is my Shepherd. I have everything I need. He gives me rest in green pastures. He leads me to calm water. He gives me new strength. For the good of His name, He leads me on paths that are right."



Then David wrote:

“Even if I walk through a very dark valley, I will not be afraid because You are with me. Your rod and your shepherd’s staff comfort me. You prepare a meal for me in front of my enemies. You pour oil of blessing on my head. You give me more than I can hold. Surely Your goodness and love will be with me all my life. And I will live in the house of the Lord forever.”



Just like a shepherd loves and protects his sheep, God does that for us, too! God will tell us the right way to go, and He'll make sure we have all we need. If we ever feel scared or alone, we can trust that He is there with us!



A shepherd loves his sheep. What is one way you know God loves you? (Allow responses) We know our Shepherd loves us because He takes care of us, He knows us by our names, and He speaks in a kind way to us.

Wk 2 - 4-5 - Pasture Cards



A good shepherd provides for his sheep. God is our good Shepherd and He is constantly taking care of our needs. What is one thing you can thank God for providing for you? (Allow responses) Thank you for sharing! We can never tell God, "Thank you," too much for all He has given to us.

Wk 2 - 4-5 - Pasture Cards



A good shepherd protects his sheep. When you're in a situation where you feel afraid or worried, how can you trust your Shepherd? (Pray, read your Bible, sing worship songs) Sheep are weak animals who can't defend themselves against danger. When God called us His sheep, it was because He knew that our weakness would make us need Him more. Because He is a good, loving Shepherd, He protects us!

Wk 2 - 4-5 - Pasture Cards



A good shepherd rules over their sheep. Do you think it's a good thing or a bad thing that God rules over us? (Allow responses) Because God is all-knowing and in control of everything, we can trust Him to be in charge of our lives. Just like sheep need a shepherd, we need God to rule over us and lead us every day.

Wk 2 - 4-5 - Pasture Cards



God's Word tells us what it means for God to be our Shepherd. Psalm 100:3 tells us that He made us and we belong to Him. What does it mean that we belong to God? (Allow responses) When we know we belong to God, we know that He will never leave us, forget us, or do anything to hurt us. The Bible tells us that we are more important to God than anything else in the world, so we can trust He'll always take good care of us!

Wk 2 - 4-5 - Pasture Cards



John 10:11 says, "The good Shepherd gives His life for His sheep." What do you think that means? (Allow responses) God loved us so much that He gave His only Son to pay for the wrong things that we do. God did this to show us that there is nothing He wouldn't do to save us, His sheep!

Wk 2 - 4-5 - Pasture Cards



Sheep are helpless on their own. They sometimes get stuck or wander off by themselves. As a good Shepherd, God is our helper. What are some things you can ask God to help you with? (Allow responses) **There is no limit to what God can help us with. All we have to do is ask!**

Wk 2 - 4-5 - Pasture Cards



If a shepherd doesn't lead the sheep to graze in the field, they would never eat, and they would always be hungry. What is one thing that you need that you can ask our good Shepherd, God, to give to you? (Allow responses) **Those are all great things that you can ask God for.**

Wk 2 - 4-5 - Pasture Cards



On their own, sheep don't make good decisions. When you make a wrong choice, who is the best person to lead you back to the right things? (God) **That's right! Our God and Shepherd loves us, so we can trust Him to lead us to the right things. Even if we've messed up, He'll always bring us back.**

Wk 2 - 4-5 - Pasture Cards



Sheep are weak. They can't do anything on their own. Do you think it's a good thing or a bad thing to be weak? (Allow responses) **Well, the Bible actually tells us that God's power is made perfect in our weakness. That means when we are weak, He is strong. When we think we can't keep going or we want to give up, our good Shepherd is always there to help us!**

Wk 2 - 4-5 - Pasture Cards



Do you think a sheep knows what's best for itself? (No) **That's right! Just like the sheep, we may think we know what's best for ourselves. But who really knows and does what's best for us?** (God, our Shepherd) **Yes! Our Shepherd always does what's best for us!**

Wk 2 - 4-5 - Pasture Cards



Think about your friends and family. How do you know their voices? (Allow responses) **The more we spend time with someone, we start to recognize their voice. In the same way, we get to know God's voice when we spend time with Him. What can you do to spend time with God?** (Read your Bible, pray, and worship Him) **The more time we spend with our good Shepherd, the more closely we'll be able to follow Him!**

Wk 2 - 4-5 - Pasture Cards



Wk 2 - 4-5 - Pasture Cards



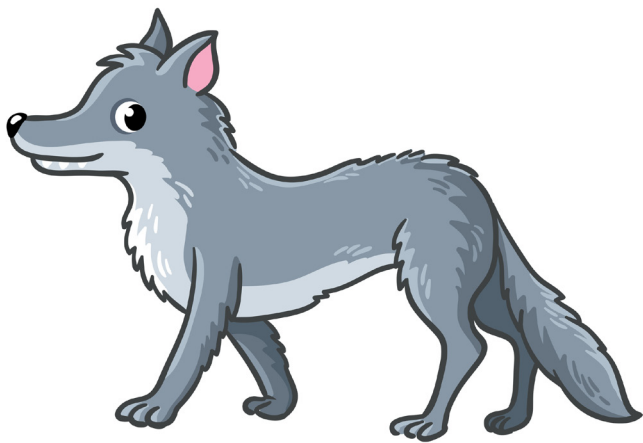
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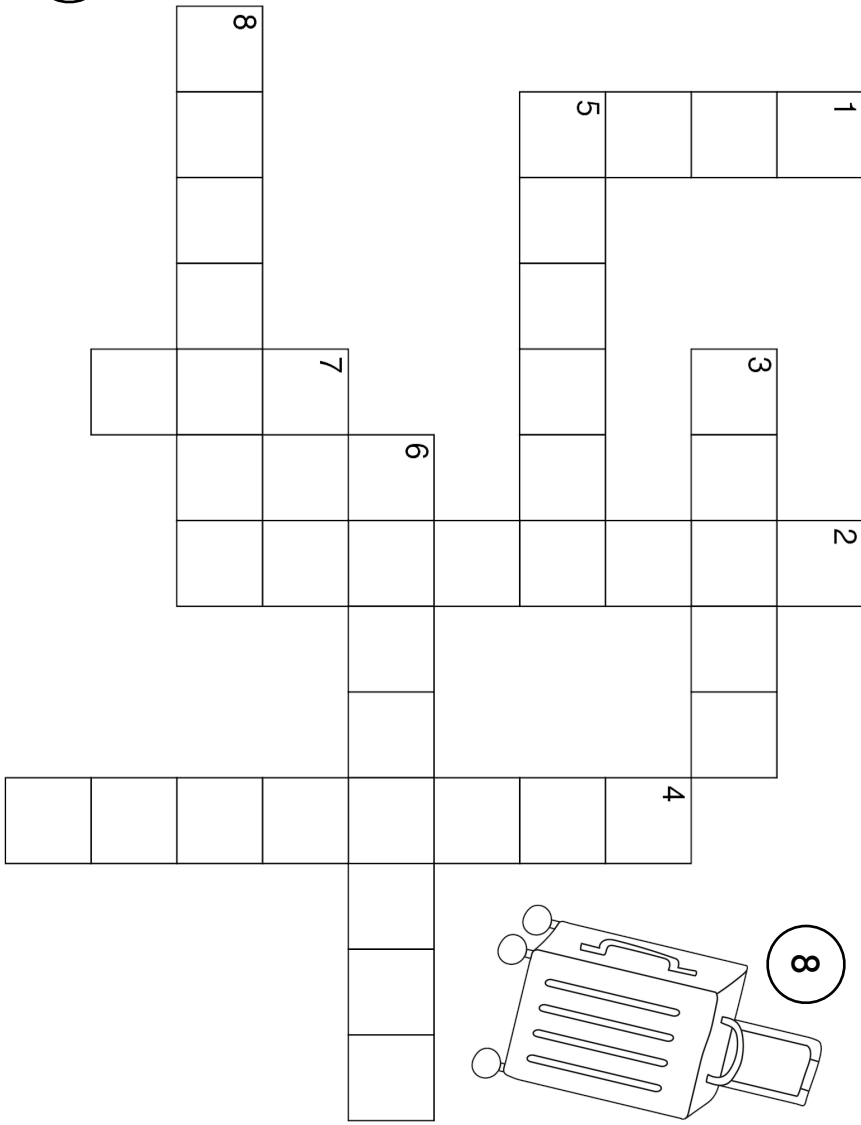
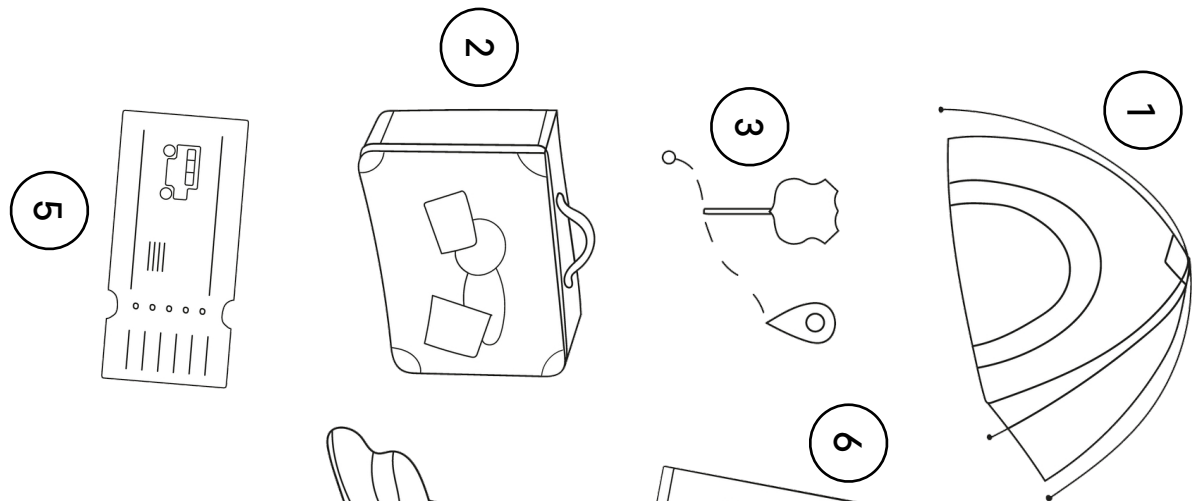
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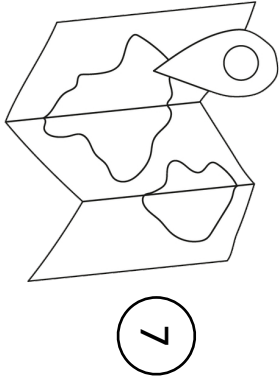
Wk 2 - 4-5 - Pasture Cards

Series Memory Verse: "Those who know Your name trust in You, for You, O Lord, do not abandon those who search for You." Psalm 9:10 (NLT)

Week 2 • Today's Need to Know: God Is My Shepherd
Today's Bible Story: David (Psalm 23)



Word Bank			
ticket	map	route	
passport	tent	suitcase	
baggage	airplane		



Australian Animals

L D I H M M P L A T Y P U S J B G
 E W B Y Q A W B J Y X O C E Q B H
 V J C F Z G O I P O S S U M L X N
 D L H M C P M L Y E Q S R Y W V A
 G T P L D I B B L C Y U B D B S Z
 C F C T R E A Y M H F G J O S R L
 X M Q O F J T M C I N A X D W R E
 E K M Z R E K I W D U R R T H N G
 Y A Z Z K S V D A N M G F K A S J
 Z N G O A N A I L A B L D O Y Y Y
 W G U R A C Y N L C A I J A E I Y
 U A S X R V J G A J T D M L M U V
 R R L R V G X O B Z J E J A U P Q
 Q O E W N L F G Y B G R M N R H G
 K O C Q G O K C R O C O D I L E R
 U V A S Z L Y I W T R E E F R O G
 W H I M R G Y W A I Q J J G U F Y

bilby	crocodile	dingo	echidna
emu	goana	kangaroo	koala
magpie	numbat	platypus	possum
sugar glider	tree frog	wallaby	wombat