

## Basic

# The Teaching of Jesus

## Your name is known

### I am the good shepherd

John 10: 1-18

#### Teaching aim

To show that Jesus is the Good Shepherd Who cares for us each day.

#### Memory verse

"I am the good shepherd. The good shepherd lays down his life for the sheep. John 10:11

#### Activities

- Under 8s Activity Sheet "The Teaching of Jesus - 1".
- Over 8s Activity Sheet "The Teaching of Jesus - 2".

#### Resources

##### Music

- JP 244 The Lord is my shepherd  
JP 245 There is a green hill far away  
JP 138 Jesus I will come with you  
JP 96 If you want joy, real joy, wonderful joy

#### Prayer points

Thank God that:

- He sent Jesus to die so that we can have our sins forgiven.

Pray for:

- Listening ears when your leader is talking about Jesus.
- Friends who do not come to CE.

#### Setting the scene

Jesus often used well known things to teach his hearers important lessons. In today's lesson, He talks about true and false shepherds and how they look after the sheep.

#### Jesus leads

Read John 10:1-6. Jesus compared two kinds of shepherds. See if you can spot the difference.

**Q.** How did Jesus describe the man who climbed into the sheep pen instead of coming in through the gate? - *thief, robber*

**Q.** How did Jesus describe the man who came in through the gate? - *true shepherd*

**Q.** What was the main difference between the two men? - *The one thought about the sheep the other thought only about himself.*

When the watchman opened the gate of the sheep pen for the shepherd, the sheep listened to his voice. He called each one of them by their name and led them out. In the land of Palestine the true shepherd would know each sheep by name. They would follow him because they knew his voice but they would never follow a stranger because they didn't know his voice. There will be different voices calling you. Some will try to lead you in the wrong direction. You must listen to Jesus' voice and follow Him.

#### Jesus guards

Read John 10:7-10. Jesus tried to make his message clear to his listeners. He told them that He would guard His people from danger. The leaders who came before Him did not protect them from harmful things. The people didn't listen to these false teachers. He told them that those who came to Him would be safe. The false shepherd was a thief who was only interested in killing and destroying the sheep. Jesus, the Good Shepherd, had come to protect and to give life in all its fullness. He loved them so much that He came to die for them. We must all come to Jesus to have our sins forgiven. We need Jesus to protect us from wrong things and bad people.

#### Jesus cares

Read John 10:11-18. Jesus told His listeners who He was - He was the Good Shepherd.

**Q.** What did He say the Good Shepherd does? - *lays down His life for the sheep.*

Jesus would give His life for His people by dying on the cross to save them from their sins.

**Q.** Why did the false shepherd not care for the sheep under his care? - *They didn't belong to him; he was looking after them for someone else who paid him.*

When the false shepherd saw a wild animal coming, he ran away, leaving the flock to be attacked and scattered. He didn't care what happened to the sheep as long as he was safe. Jesus again reminded His listeners that He was the Good Shepherd, that He knew His own sheep and they knew Him just as His Father knew Him and He knew His Father.

**Q.** What did Jesus say again that He would do for His sheep? - *Give His life for them.*

His Father had told Him to do this and He obeyed.

Jesus died on the cross to save sinners. If we trust in Jesus, He will look after us and give us all we need. Do you know Jesus as your Good Shepherd? If you haven't asked Jesus into your heart, why not do it now and start following Him?

#### Summing up

Jesus told His listeners about the difference between a false shepherd and a true shepherd. The false shepherd didn't care for the sheep, he only looked after them for the money and left them when danger approached. The true shepherd had a special relationship with the sheep, He knew each of them by name and they knew His voice, trusted Him and followed Him.

Jesus is the Good Shepherd Who died to save us from our sins because He loved us so much.

Have you heard Jesus' voice and are you following Him?

# I am the good shepherd

## Match the Shapes

Copy the the words in the bottom shapes into the top ones to find what Jesus said.

lays down

the good shepherd

sheep

I am

The good shepherd

his life for the

Put a tick in the box next to the correct answer. There may be more than one correct answer.

- Jesus described the man who climbed into the sheep pen instead of coming in through the gate as.  
 The true shepherd       The false shepherd       A thief
- Jesus described the man who came in through the gate as -  
 The true shepherd       The false shepherd       A thief
- The false shepherd didn't care for the sheep under his care because:  
 They didn't belong to him       He was only hired       He didn't like them
- What Jesus said He would do for His sheep.  
 Give His life for them.       Care for them       Protect them

# I am the good shepherd

Find the missing words in the wordsearch and then place them in the grid.

1. The man who does not enter the sheep pen by the gate is a t\_\_\_\_\_ and a r\_\_\_\_\_.
2. The man who enters by the gate is the s\_\_\_\_\_ of his sheep.
3. The t\_\_\_\_ shepherd calls his own sheep by n\_\_\_\_ and leads them out.
4. The true shepherd goes on ahead of the s\_\_\_\_\_ and they follow him because they know his v\_\_\_\_\_.
5. The sheep will never f\_\_\_\_\_ a stranger; in fact, they will r\_\_\_ away from him.
6. Jesus said He was the G\_\_\_\_\_ S\_\_\_\_\_.

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

The letters left over in the wordsearch tell us \_\_\_\_\_

