

# We Are...Sheep

- All Pre-Class
- Arrange tables and chairs.
  - Pray for tonight's class.
  - Have music playing.
  - Take attendance.

7:00-7:20

## REVIEW

Choose an activity or activities from the following ideas:

- Review previous lessons.
  - Ask questions regarding the last few lessons using the "We Are... Review Questions" and "Jesus is...A through Z Review Questions" (in KPH binder). Reward correct answers with Starbursts, etc.
  - Play "baseball" with the review questions. Have the entire class play as one team, trying to beat a score of 20 runs (their record), or divide them into two teams and see which team can score the most runs. An incorrect answer equals an out. After three outs, it's the other team's turn to "bat" (or if playing with the entire class as one team, clear the bases of "runners" after three outs). Make sure each team gets an equal number of "at bats." Have another teacher keep track of outs and points on the marker board.
  - Play musical chairs. When the music stops, ask the player without a chair a review question. If the student answers correctly, he or she gets to stay in the game.
  - Divide the group into pairs. Give each pair one of the "mini posters" with adjectives and titles of Jesus (i.e., the "A" sheet or the "B" sheet, etc.; in KPH binder). Have each team work together to memorize every adjective or title on their sheet. Then have them come up front and recite them to the class.
  - Have a student come to the front of the class and pick a letter (A-Z) out of a bag and then try to remember all the adjectives/titles that go with that letter.
  - Play A-M or N-Z "BINGO" with adjectives/titles.
- Review other previously memorized items. Use cardboard chart and cards with books of the Bible, as well as other props.
  - "One God," "Sin and Repentance," etc., verses that students have been working on.
    - Sing verses set to song
  - Books of the Old and New Testaments
  - Divisions of Old and New Testaments

All 7:20-7:40

### BIBLE MEMORY WORK

Divide the class into four groups: two each for 5- to 7-year-olds and 8- to 10-year-olds, one teacher with each group. (To cut down on noise and confusion, two groups may leave the room to practice verses in the hallway, stairwell, or another classroom.)

Students will work on memorizing doctrinal verses. Each student will have his/her own list or booklet to work from, containing a chart for teachers to initial as students quote the verses one at a time, two at a time, etc. (Teachers: Please read instructions on the bottom Bible memory work charts or in the front of the booklets.)

Coloring pages with the 10 Commandments or other Bible verses are available (in the KPH binder) to help occupy visitors or younger/distracted students while their classmates are working on verses.

- Remind students that there will be prizes for those who pass with a score of 80 percent or better.
- Remind students that during Bible Memory Work time, everyone must be working, not distracting others. They should help each other learn the verses. It's fun working together!

7:40-7:45

### RULES & PRAYER

- Review "Power Hour Promises" with the students, reminding them of proper behavior during class.
- Pray together, thanking God for your time together and praying that each person will understand and obey God's Word and grow into a strong Christian.

7:45-8:05

### BIBLE LESSON

Teacher Prep: Read Psalm 100, Psalm 23, John 10:1-16, and Luke 15:4-6. Pray for anointing.

Items Needed: "We Are..." display board; stuffed sheep; "Sheep" Visual, and "Characteristics of Sheep" Visual.

## Introduction

During the first part of the year we learned about Jesus' titles and adjectives from A through Z. Refer to the "Jesus is...A through Z" board.

Now we are learning about some of the things that the Bible says we Christians are. Refer to the "We Are..." display board.

Listen for something that we are in this verse from Psalm 100: Read Psalm 100:3 from your Bible.

- What are we? (*His people, the sheep of His pasture*)

Show stuffed sheep.

- What do you know about sheep? (*allow a few quick responses*)

Show "Characteristics of Sheep" Visual and go over the information on it.

## Lesson

Let's talk about some ways Christians are like sheep.

Sheep need plenty of grass and clean water.

Show "Sheep" Visual and read Psalm 23:1-2 from it.

- What does "I shall not want" mean? (*I won't lack anything; I'll have everything I need*)
- Do these sheep look like they have everything they need? (*they look pretty satisfied 😊*)
- What kinds of things does Jesus provide for us? (*everything in the world He created for us: food, water, shelter, sun, rain, etc., as well as family, friends, church, books, toys, clothes, love, joy, peace, etc., etc.*)

Have a student attach the "Sheep" visual to the "We Are..." display board.

Sheep are not the most intelligent animals, and they are scared of shadows. Listen to another verse from Psalm 23.

Read Psalm 23:4 from your Bible.

- When Jesus' sheep walk through the valley of the shadow of death, why aren't they afraid? (*because He is with them; His rod and staff comfort them*)

- What are the Shepherd's rod and staff, and what are they used for? (*rod—a stick; staff—a stick with a hook on the end; these are used to fight off danger, prod sheep, and pull them back from danger*)

Jesus is with us, even at the scariest and saddest of times, so we don't need to be afraid.

Sheep are followers. Remember, they will sometimes follow whoever happens to move first. However, Jesus' sheep are not like this. Listen to these verses from John 10.

Read John 10:4-5 from your Bible.

- What keeps Jesus' sheep from following a stranger? (*they know Jesus' voice and will only follow Him, not a stranger*)
- How can we get to know Jesus' voice? (*by having conversations [listening and talking] with Him through prayer, by reading His Words in the Bible, by listening to teaching and preaching of His Word*)

Sheep are not very good at protecting themselves. We need Jesus, our Good Shepherd, to protect us. Listen to what He said in John 10:

Read John 10:11-12 from your Bible.

- What is a hireling? (*someone hired to watch over the sheep*)
- Why does the hireling run away? (*he sees the wolf coming, and he doesn't love the sheep like the Good Shepherd does*)
- What does the Good Shepherd do when He sees the wolf coming? (*He protects His sheep, He even gives His life [dies] for the sheep*)

Jesus loves us—His sheep—so much that He gave His life to save us!

Life Application

Sheep get stressed when separated from their flock.

Remember the story Jesus told about the man with 100 sheep?

- If just 1 of the 100 sheep went missing, what would the shepherd do? (*leave the 99 and go find the 1 lost sheep*)
- What does he do when he finds the lost sheep? (*carries it home rejoicing, and asks others to rejoice with him*)

The shepherd is not angry or scolding or punishing the lost sheep. He is so happy to find him!

When you sin, don't hide from Jesus, the Good Shepherd. Pray. Ask Him to forgive you. He is so happy to welcome you back to the flock!

Let's pray right now. If you need Jesus to forgive you, ask. Then let's all rejoice and thank Him for forgiving our sins, loving us, and protecting us—for being our Good Shepherd.

Lead the kids in prayer—response to lesson.

8:05-8:15

#### BIBLE SKILLS

Use the "Books of the Bible" display board to point things out as you ask these questions:

- How many books are in the Bible? (66)
- How many books are in the Old Testament? (39 [3 letters in the word "Old" and 9 letters in the word "Testament"])
- How many books are in the New Testament? (27 [3 letters in the word "New" x 9 letters in the word "Testament" = 27])
- What are the Old Testament books of Poetry? (*Job, Psalms, Proverbs, Ecclesiastes, Song of Solomon*)

Hand out Bibles. Remind students to handle Bibles carefully and to help younger students find verses.

Open your Bible in the middle. You should be in a book of Poetry.

Find the 23rd Psalm.

- Who wrote this Psalm? (*David*)
- How many verses does the Psalm have? (6)

This is a familiar Psalm that many people memorize. Let's read the entire Psalm together (or if you have it memorized, you can quote it). (*Have students read this Psalm out loud.*)

- Why was David a good person to write a Psalm about the LORD being his shepherd? (*David himself was a shepherd;*

*when a lion or a bear attacked his flock, he rescued the lambs and killed the lion or bear; he knew what it takes to be a good shepherd)*

**Now find John 10:14.** *(Have a student read this verse out loud.)*

**Jesus has a lot of sheep, but He knows and loves each of you individually.**

**Choose a couple of students to carefully collect the Bibles.**

8:15-8:30

**ACTIVITY/SNACK**

Supplies: Large and small marshmallows  
Small pretzel sticks  
Plates  
Napkins  
Drinks

Have kids make sheep out of their marshmallows and pretzel sticks. (Make an example before class to show them.) Before eating their "sheep," kids should say a prayer of thanks for their snack.

**Remind kids: Jesus is the Good Shepherd, and we are His sheep. He provides for us, watches over us, protects us, and saves us.**