

ELEMENTARY: THURSDAY

Bible Story: The Story of the Lost Sheep • Luke 15:1-7
Bottom Line: I can have confidence to make a difference.

Memory Verse: "My command is this: Love each other as I have loved you." John 15:12 (NIV)

CRAFT:

CONFIDENCE TELEPHONE

Kids are incredible storytellers. This simple and quick craft turns into a great way to have fun telling a story. Once complete, they will be able to tell today's Bible story to their whole family using light! What a great way to end an incredible week of VBS!

What You Need:

Two paperclips
Two paper cups
About 3 yards of string
Pin

What You Do:

Step 1: Using a pin, poke a small hole in the center of the base of both cups.

Step 2: Tie one paperclip to one end of the string. Pull the other end of the string through the hole in one of the paper cups. The paperclip should be inside the paper cup.

Step 3: Insert the other end of the string through the hole in the bottom of the second paper cup. Insert it from the outside end of the cup. Pull enough string through the hole to enable you to tie the second paperclip to the end of the string.

Step 4: Pull the cups apart so that in each cup the paperclip rests flat on the floor of the cup and the string is tight.

Step 5: Take one cup, and have a family member take the second cup. Walk away from each other until the string is taut. Take turns speaking into the cup while the other listens thru their cup.

What You Say:

"You are a storyteller! And when you tell the story of Jesus, you are making a difference. You can tell people how much Jesus loves them. Today's craft is a fun way to be confident and tell your family and friends about The Lost Sheep. Now that you know how to make these, you can make your own about any Bible story you want to tell. Let's say today's [Bottom Line] together: "I can have confidence because I can change."

GAME:

1. HIDE-AND-GO-SEEK MY SHEEP (INDOOR OR OUTDOOR ACTIVITY)

What You Need: no supplies needed

What You Do:

Select one family member to be the Shepherd while all other members are sheep.

Instruct the Shepherd to hide their eyes and count to 20 while all the sheep scatter and hide.

After counting to 20, the Shepherd begins to seek for their sheep.

Once all sheep are found, the last sheep discovered becomes the Shepherd and the game begins again. Play until everyone has had a turn to be the Shepherd.

What You Say: "How did you feel as a lost sheep? (Pause to let your family respond.) How did you feel once you were found? (Pause to let your family respond.) When it was your turn to play the Shepherd, how did you feel when you found each of us? (Pause to let your family respond.) As a Shepherd, you ensured that all of your sheep were found and safe. Jesus does the same for us and we get tell others about Him!

[Make it Personal] (Talk about a time when you told someone about the Great Shepherd—Jesus. Be sure to help the younger members of your family understand that they don't have to wait until they are grown-ups to make a difference for others by telling them about Jesus!)

"We can have confidence to help other people by telling them about Jesus. Let's say our Bottom Line together: [Bottom Line] I can have confidence to make a difference."

2. WHERE ARE MY SHEEP? (OUTDOOR ACTIVITY)

What You Need: cones, chairs or other items to mark off the playing area; blindfold What You Do:

This is a lost sheep version of "Marco Polo."

Using the cones or chairs, mark off an area that all members of the family must stay inside.

Have one person stand in the middle of the area. They are the shepherd.

Blindfold the shepherd.

The object of the game is for the shepherd to "find" all of their sheep by touching them.

The shepherd calls out, "Where are my sheep?" and the sheep must say, "BAA" each time to lead the shepherd to them.

Once all sheep are "found," another member of the family gets to be the shepherd.

Play until all members have had a turn to be the shepherd.

What You Say: "After Jesus told the parable of the lost sheep, He explained what it meant. God does not look at one person and say, 'This person is more important than anyone else. She's the greatest in My kingdom.' In the same way, He doesn't look at another person and say, 'This person is not important. He is the least in My kingdom.' Every single person—even the littlest child—is important to God. He does not want even one single person to be lost. We can have confidence that we can make a difference by telling others about God's love and making sure they know just how important they are to God. Let's remind ourselves of today's Bottom Line: [Bottom Line] I can have confidence to make a difference."