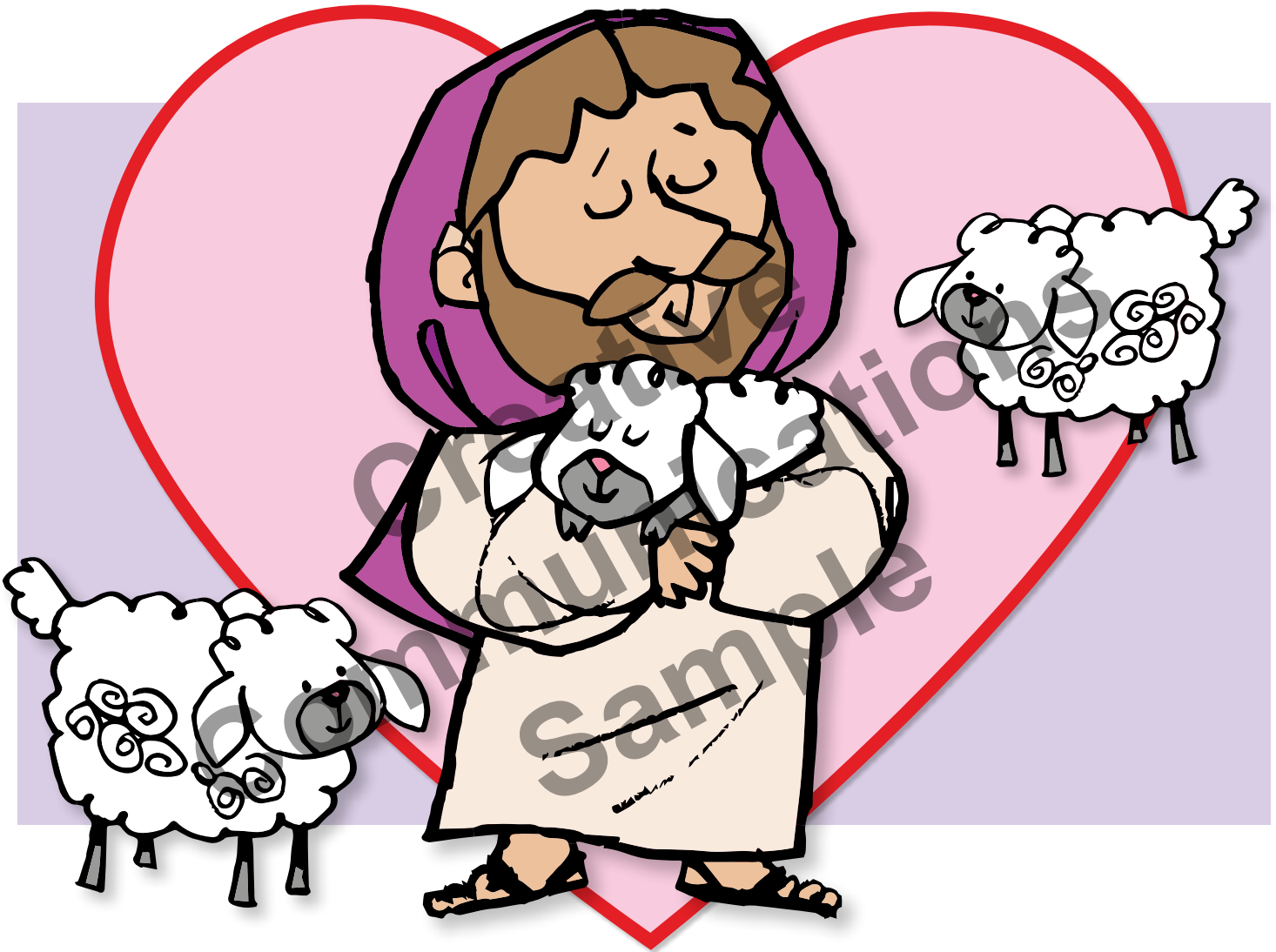


Jesus Loves Me!

CHILDREN'S SERMONS FOR THE SIX SUNDAYS IN LENT AND EASTER



- **The Lord is My Shepherd** •
- **Moses the Shepherd** • **David the Shepherd** •
- **The Lost Sheep** • **The Good Shepherd** •
- **The Lamb of God** • **Easter Surprise!** •

Jesus Loves Me!

The Lord is My Shepherd

A Children's Sermon for the First Week of Lent - Psalm 23

Good morning, boys and girls. As you may already know, a new season has begun at church. It is the season of Lent! We have just begun to count 40 days of worship, prayer and praise as we remember Jesus' journey to the cross. And that was a loving thing for Jesus to do for us, wasn't it?

We just learned on Ash Wednesday, the first day of Lent, that sin had marked us all, like the ash crosses we wore marked our heads. We were all marked for death. But God did not want that for us. God created us to be close to him, alive in paradise forever. God loves us so much that he sent his son, Jesus. Jesus lovingly went to the cross in our place. Jesus paid the price for our sin so that each of us might be forgiven and free. Jesus loves us so much that he gave everything, even his life, to be with us in a heavenly home forever. What an amazing love Jesus has for us.

I think it would be great this Lent to think of ways we can show Jesus that we thank him for that gift of love. I think it would be great if we could find a way to show Jesus that we love him, too.

On Valentine's Day (this year it just happens to be Ash Wednesday) you may have written a poem or sent a note to someone that you love. King David, that great king from the Bible, loved to write poetry. He wrote songs and poems to the Lord about many things: poems to tell God he was sorry, poems to thank God for the many gifts God gives and poems to simply say how much David loved the Lord.

One of his most famous poems, the 23rd Psalm, is a special kind of love song. In it, David calls the Lord "My Shepherd." For David, that name was a real term of endearment. You see, when David was young, he was a shepherd. He knew just how much the sheep need a good shepherd to guide them and keep them safe and well fed. A good shepherd gives the sheep everything they need. A good shepherd will fight off a lion or a bear if necessary, risking his or her own life. A good shepherd will lead the sheep safely to pasture and, even more importantly, safely back home again. And a truly good shepherd, David knew, did not do these things just because it was his or her job. A good shepherd cares about each sheep in the flock. A good shepherd loves the sheep.

All these things that describe a good shepherd, David said, are true of "the Lord, my Shepherd."

Well, if the Lord is our loving shepherd, I guess that makes each of us sheep! And what do good sheep do? They follow! A great way for us to show our love for Jesus this season of Lent is to follow him. And in the coming weeks, I'll share with you more about what being a loving follower of a really Good Shepherd means.

Join with me in praying a poem about our good shepherd, Jesus, boys and girls.

I am Jesus little lamb. Ever glad at heart I am, for my shepherd gently guides me, knows my needs and well provides me, loves me every day the same, even calls me by my name. Amen.

Activities for the First Week of Lent

The Lord is My Shepherd

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

He Restores My Soul

Find the hidden words that remind you of the loving care our Shepherd gives us.

- SLEEPY
- REST
- DREAM
- FIELD
- BED
- LAMB
- STILL

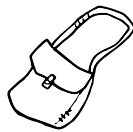
A Shepherd's Tools

Draw a line from each word to the correct shepherd's tool. Then complete the Bible verses.

SLING



STAFF




ROD




POUCH



I will fear no evil, for you are with me;

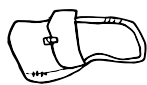
your  and your

, they comfort me.

Psalm 23:4

[David] chose five smooth stones

from the brook and put them in his

shepherd's .

His  was in his hand.

1 Samuel 17:40

Coloring Sheet for the First Week of Lent

The Lord is My Shepherd

A Lesson from
Psalm 23

**The Lord is my shepherd,
And I am his sheep!
I'll always be
happy indeed.
I know that
he leads me and
loves me each day.
And gives me just
what a sheep needs!**



Jesus Loves Me!

Moses the Shepherd

A Children's Sermon for the Second Week of Lent - Exodus 3, 14

Good morning, girls and boys. We're taking time each week this Lent to thank God for the amazing love he showed in sending his son, Jesus. We thank Jesus for saving us when we were trapped in sin. Jesus came to lead us out of that captivity and to a new life, free to be with him forever. What a great and loving gift that is! What a good and loving shepherd we have in Jesus. How wonderful to know that the Good Shepherd, Jesus, loves us so much!

There are many shepherds named in the Bible, of course—some very good ones, in fact. One of the most well known was named Moses. Perhaps you know his name, but maybe you did not know that Moses was a shepherd.

Moses was taking care of his father-in-law's sheep one day, high on a mountain, when he saw an amazing sight. There was a bush, lit as though on fire and yet not burning up. The Lord called to Moses from the bush. "Moses, you will lead my people out of slavery in Egypt to the new land I promise to give them," the Lord said.

"H-h-how will I do this?" Moses asked. Perhaps he thought, "I'm just a lowly shepherd, after all." But as God told Moses what to do, it became clear that the very skills Moses learned as a shepherd would be the most useful skills needed to lead—or shepherd—God's people out of the land of Egypt.

In fact, all Moses needed to bring with him, God explained, was his shepherd's staff. With that staff, Moses showed the king of Egypt that God was truly in control. With that staff, Moses led the people safely through the dangerous waters of the Red Sea. With his shepherd's staff, Moses led the way to food and fresh water. When he raised that shepherd's staff, Moses kept the enemies of God's people on the run. Those sound like the kinds of things any good and loving shepherd would do for the flock, whether it be a flock of sheep or a flock of people.

People living at Jesus' time liked to remember the story of shepherd Moses. Moses' story helped them remember that God saved his people when they were trapped in Egypt. Shepherd Moses reminded them just how much God loves and cares for his people.

Today we thank God for Moses, a good and loving shepherd to God's people, and a good reminder to us all that God kept the promise to free his sheep, I mean people, from captivity.

Let's pray: Day by day, at home, away, Jesus is my staff and stay. When I hunger, Jesus feeds me, into pleasant pastures leads me; when I thirst, he bids me go where the quiet waters flow.

Activities for the Second Week in Lent

Moses the Shepherd

God Shows His Power

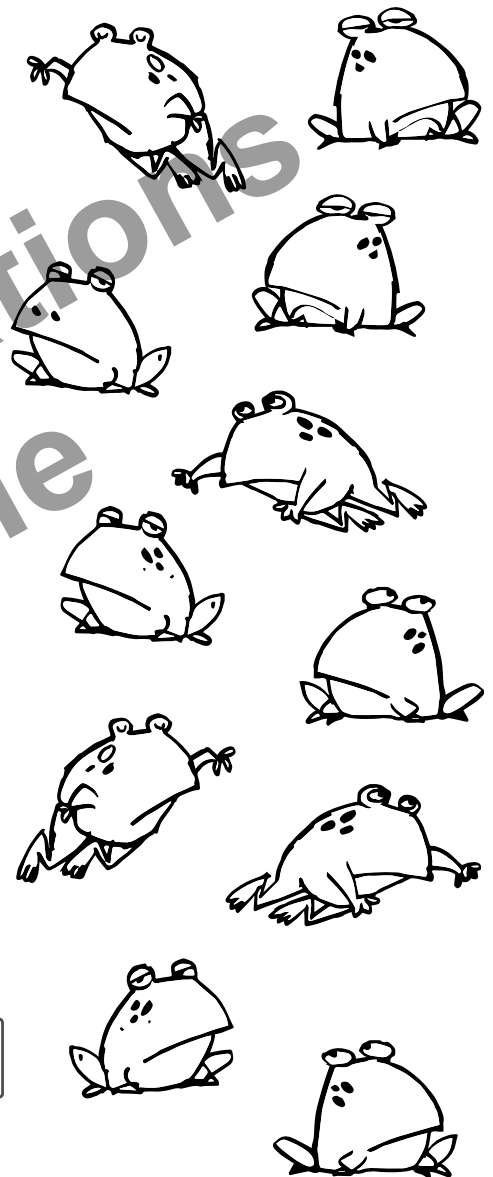
God sent 10 plagues to the land of Egypt to convince King Pharaoh to free God's people. Find these things that God sent.

FROGS · FLIES
HAIL · GNATS
DARKNESS
SORES
LOCUSTS

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

Flip Flop Frog

God sent a flock of frogs to bug old Pharaoh. Which frog does not have a flip-flopped match?



Across what body of water did Moses the shepherd lead God's people?

E = A = T =

R = S =

D = H =

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Coloring Sheet for Easter Sunday

Easter Surprise • Feed My Sheep

A Lesson from
John 21

**Jesus loves me; this I know.
All my life he is my guide.
Help me, Lord, to be the lamb
always at my shepherd's side.**

