A FEW MINUTES FOR YOU · THE LOST SHEEP

On His shoulders

Everything you need to share The Lost Sheep at home this week: a few minutes for you, a few minutes with your kids, and simple ways to keep the story going at the table, in the car and at bedtime.

Read Luke 15:1–7 before the kids wake up, or during nap time. (Luke 15:1–7)

Jesus told this story because people were grumbling about who He ate with. The story isn't only about wandering sheep; it's about the shepherd's heart.

Notice what the shepherd doesn't do. He doesn't scold the sheep or make it limp home on its own. He puts it on his shoulders, joyfully.

Some days you may feel like the one that wandered: worn out, behind, far from where you meant to be. Jesus does not meet you with a lecture. He comes looking, and He carries.

And some days your child will be the one that wandered. How you go after them, with joy and not just correction, is one of the clearest pictures of God they will ever see.

REFLECT

Where do you need to let Jesus carry you this week? Which of your kids needs you to go looking for their heart?

PRAY

Good Shepherd, thank you for coming after me. Carry me when I'm tired, and help me go after my kids' hearts with your joy. Amen.

Little Lantern

THIS WEEK WE'RE LEARNING



The Lost Sheep

Luke 15:1–7

Every single one matters to God.

"Rejoice with me, for I have found my lost sheep!" Luke 15:6

ASK AT DINNER

Who could our family include or welcome this week?

PRAY

Jesus, thank you for finding us. Help us love people the way you do. Amen.

✂ Cut here. One card for the fridge, one for the car.

Little Lantern

CAR-RIDE CARD



On the way

The Lost Sheep · Luke 15:1–7

Listen: Play the Listen version of The Lost Sheep on the way.

ASK

1. How many sheep did the shepherd have?
2. What did he do when one was lost?
3. Who is like the shepherd?

"Rejoice with me, for I have found my lost sheep!" Luke 15:6

Keep the story going

BEDTIME ROUTINE

Lantern-out in five steps



1. Lights low. Play the Listen version of The Lost Sheep (Little for ages 3–5, Big Kid for 6–9), or read it from the app.
2. Ask one question: “Did anyone feel left out today? How could we help?”
3. Say the verse together with the motions: “Rejoice with me, for I have found my lost sheep!”
4. Pray: “Jesus, thank you for loving me and always finding me. Amen.”
5. Lights out. You can say: “God is with you, even in the dark.”

KITCHEN

Sheep snack

Count out marshmallow ‘sheep’ on a plate. Hide one under a cup and go find it before eating.

LIVING ROOM

Hide the sheep

Take turns hiding a stuffed animal. The ‘shepherd’ searches, then carries it home on their shoulders and shouts “Rejoice with me!”

OUTSIDE

Park shepherd

At the park, play follow-the-shepherd: one leads, everyone follows, and the shepherd keeps counting to make sure no one is lost.

IN THE CAR

Car-ride story

Play the Listen version, then ask: “What did the shepherd do?” and “Who is like the shepherd?”

SIBLINGS

Two ages at once

The older child plays the shepherd and carries the little one (piggyback) home.

THE LOST SHEEP · STICKER CHART

My every-one-matters week

Each day, notice someone and include them, like the shepherd noticed the one. Add a sticker or color a sheep!

Monday	Idea: Invite someone to play	
Tuesday	Idea: Sit with someone new	
Wednesday	Idea: Help find something that's lost	
Thursday	Idea: Say a kind word to someone quiet	
Friday	Idea: Pray for a friend by name	
Saturday	Idea: Make a card for someone lonely	
Sunday	Idea: Thank Jesus for finding me	

"Rejoice with me, for I have found my lost sheep!"

Luke 15:6

THE LOST SHEEP · MINI-BOOK

Make a mini-book

Print the next page on one sheet (landscape, actual size). One sheet folds into an 8-page book kids can “read” to siblings and grandparents.

STEP 1

Fold

Fold the sheet in half the long way, then in half twice more the short way, so you have 8 little panels. Unfold.

STEP 2

Cut

Fold it in half the short way again. Cut along the middle crease from the fold to the center, just one panel deep.

STEP 3

Open

Unfold. Fold the long way again and push the ends together so the cut opens into a diamond.

STEP 4

Flatten

Keep pushing until it flattens into a little book. The cover is on the front. Read it together!

Little Lantern

The Lost Sheep

This book belongs to _____

One evening, Jesus was eating dinner with people nobody else wanted to sit with.

There was once a shepherd.

When the sun went low, the shepherd counted his sheep, one by one, as they walked past his staff.

The shepherd didn't say, oh well, I still have 99.

“Rejoice with me, for I have found my lost sheep!”

Luke 15:6

Every single one matters to God.

Little Lantern

The shepherd brought Pip back to the flock.

There you are, Pip," said the shepherd.

Trace the big idea

Trace the letters with a crayon or pencil. Then say it out loud!

EVERY

SINGLE ONE

MATTERS TO

GOD.



Every single one matters to God.

Find the one



Roll five fluffy sheep and put one on each circle. Hide one sheep while a friend closes their eyes, then go find it like the shepherd!

1 2 3

4 5

“Rejoice with me, for I have found my lost sheep!” Luke 15:6