



## R.E. LESSON PLAN - WATFORD SCHOOLS TRUST

<b>LESSON TITLE</b> The Bible – Parable of the Lost Sheep	<b>LEARNING STAGE</b> KS1 (suggested year 1)	<b>WST TEACHER/DATE</b> Mrs Tricia Bastable Mrs Johanna Jordan
<b>AIM:</b> To understand that Christians read the Bible to learn about what God is like. <b>LEARNING OBJECTIVE:</b> To explore a story (Parable of the Lost Sheep) from the Bible that Jesus told and understand how it helps Christians to believe what God is like. (Luke 15:4-7; Matthew 18:10-14)	<b>MAIN AREA/S OF LEARNING</b> (Herts R.E. Agreed Syllabus 2017-22) Beliefs and practices Sources of wisdom <b>Other AOL covered:</b> Human responsibility and values Identity and belonging Ultimate questions	<b>LESSON RESOURCES</b> <b>WST provides:</b> <b>Video lesson:</b> Worksheets and sheep craft templates can be downloaded from <a href="http://www.watfordschoolstrust.org/lesson-plans">www.watfordschoolstrust.org/lesson-plans</a>  <b>School to provide:</b> Pencils Scissors Pritt sticks

### Introduction

Johanna introduces the theme of the lesson by looking for her lost glasses. She asks whether the children have ever lost something. Losing something precious can be upsetting, but finding it can be a great relief.

In today's lesson we are going to learn about a story in which someone lost something really precious. But then he found it again!

Tricia explains that the story comes from the Bible, the special (holy) book for Christians. The Bible is full of stories about God, about God's special son Jesus and about his followers. The most important message in the Bible is that God loves everyone. When Jesus came to earth he told people all about God in special stories called Parables. A parable is a story with a hidden meaning. Today we will be looking at one of these parables: the Parable of the Lost Sheep.

### Main content

Johanna asks if children know what a shepherd is and explains how a shepherd looks after sheep. In the time of the Bible shepherds and sheep were a common sight. A shepherd would provide food and water for sheep, protect them and keep them out of trouble. Sheep tend to listen to their shepherd and follow him wherever he takes them. By the end of the day, the shepherd brings his flock back to the sheep pen.

Jesus uses this picture of a shepherd looking after sheep in one of his parables.

Tricia reads the story of the Lost Sheep from The Lion Storyteller Bible, by Bob Hartman (Lion Hudson). The story is illustrated with pictures from [www.freebibleimages.com](http://www.freebibleimages.com) and video clips of Johanna's daughter dressed as a shepherd looking for her lost sheep.

When the shepherd has found his lost sheep, Tricia asks how the shepherd might have felt? *The video can be paused to allow answers.*  
The shepherd in the story was so excited that he organised a party and called all his neighbours to come and celebrate with him.

Johanna explains what the story is about. She reminds the children that it was a special story - a parable - with a hidden meaning.

Jesus told this story as some people looked down on other people whom they considered to be 'sinners'. Those people thought that Jesus shouldn't even be spending time with those 'bad' people.

But Jesus said that God is like a shepherd. Just like the shepherd looks after his sheep - looks after them - protects them - and rescues them when they are in trouble..... God looks after people. Not just good people, but especially people that have made poor choices in life, and now want to change. And just like the shepherd went to look for the lost sheep and gave a party when he found it, God is happy, when people come back to him to say 'sorry' for their poor choices. He wants people to listen to him, just like the sheep listen to the shepherd's voice.

Jesus told this story to help people understand how much God loves people. God cares and loves people just like a shepherd loves and cares for his sheep.

### **Activity**

Johanna invites children to reflect on the story by drawing a picture of a shepherd looking after sheep (worksheets can be downloaded on our website) or by making a craft sheep. Johanna's daughter shows how to make a craft sheep from a paper plate, cotton wool and black paper (template can be downloaded from our website).

### **Deeper Questions - Possible follow up/class discussion suggestions**

Further explore and discuss what Christians believe God is like.

Explore another parable Jesus told. Does it have a similar message?

### **Class teacher's notes**

For further lesson plans, resources and support material visit  
[www.watfordschoolstrust.org](http://www.watfordschoolstrust.org) or email [info@watfordschoolstrust.org](mailto:info@watfordschoolstrust.org)

